



## **RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY (YEARS 7 TO 13)**

This policy should be read in conjunction with all other College policies, in particular the Safeguarding (Child Protection) Policy.

The teaching of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is a partnership between home and school. The College aims to provide a safe and respectful environment to learn about RSE which supports the vital role of the parent or carer. RSE at the College aims to promote healthy relationships and to allow pupils space to explore their own thoughts, feelings and experiences and to develop empathy towards, and an understanding of, others.

We recognise that our pupils, come from a diverse variety of families. All teaching at the College, including the specific RSE education, will aim to support all pupils equally and to encourage the celebration of diversity.

### **Mode of delivery and themes covered**

RSE at the College is most directly taught through Wellbeing lessons. It is also taught in a range of other lessons and assemblies, for example in Biology, Religion and Theology and Form Tutor periods and is also embedded at all times through our ethos, rules and policies. At times, RSE education is enhanced through employing the services of a sexual health nurse, whilst the College's medical centre plays a key role in provision of physical and sexual health, including by offering confidential advice on sexual health within the Safeguarding Children guidelines.

The following list of themes is intended to give an overview of some of the RSE education at the College but is not exhaustive, and the provision of RSE is responsive to the needs and questions of pupils and to current issues and events affecting our community and beyond.

- Developing healthy relationships and how to refuse, report or reject unhealthy ones.
- The consequences, benefits and risks associated with sexual behaviour including sexual health and making responsible choices about the use of contraception.
- The physical and neurological changes that occur in young people during puberty and their impact on emotions, relationships, and behaviours of young people and those around them.
- The importance of consent in relationships, including how it is given and refused.

- Developing healthy and safe online relationships and being aware of risks in this area, including communicating with strangers, viewing pornography, and publishing or sharing personal information, including but not limited to sexual content.
- Celebrating diversity as well as understanding and responding to prejudice, including but not limited to discrimination based on race, religion, gender, disability and sexual orientation.
- The law relating to sexual activity as well as producing, viewing and sharing sexual images, and in particular the law as it relates to young people.

### **Participation**

All pupils are expected to participate fully in RSE lessons, though we are sensitive to the needs of each individual student and family and will work with parents and guardians to ensure that all pupils feel comfortable in their Wellbeing lessons. Anyone with concerns should contact the Head of Wellbeing in the first instance.