



# Policy Statement on Relationships and Sex Education

Revised: March 2021

## **Acer Trust Relationships and Sex Education Policy Statement**

The Acer Trust is committed to its students' academic, cultural, social, emotional and moral development and to preparing them for the responsibilities and experiences of adult life. An important part of this development and preparation is the provision of sex and relationships education (SRE).

Each school within the Acer Trust has its own individual Relationship and Sex Education Policy. There are, however, key principles which underpin all of them.

In every Acer Trust school, we see RSE as helping to prepare young people for an adult life in which they can:

- Develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviour;
- Be aware of their sexuality and understand and respect all human sexuality;
- Have the confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and others and to respect individual conscience and the skills to judge what kind of relationships they want;
- Understand the arguments for delaying sexual activity;
- Understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within sexual and other social relationships;
- Have sufficient information and skills to protect themselves and, where they have one, their partner from unintended or unwanted conceptions and from sexually transmitted infections including HIV;
- Understand the reasons for not having unprotected sex;
- Avoid being exploited or exploiting others;
- Avoid being pressured into unwanted or unprotected sex;
- Access confidential sexual health advice, support and, if necessary, treatment;
- Know how the law applies to sexual relationships.

Across Acer Trust schools, we aim to provide a programme of progressive, differentiated learning, providing clear information that meets the needs of all students, whatever their developing sexuality. We promote:

- An atmosphere which encourages questions and the discussion of sensitive matters, which counters myths, prejudice and discrimination and which promotes tolerance and respect.
- An understanding of the importance of loving relationships between consenting partners, the value of family life, the implications of parenthood and the needs of the very young.
- An atmosphere of tolerance and understanding that recognises the cultural and religious influences on individual sexuality and promotes respect for them.

All member schools must create their own RSE Policy which adheres to the [DfE Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education \(RSE\) and Health Education \(2019\) guidance](#) and sets out very clear requirements for the RSE curriculum. The policy must be developed and reviewed in consultation with parents, meet the needs of the pupils and reflect the community the member school serves. This must be approved by the Governing Body of each school.