

The Grey Coat Hospital **Sex and Relationship Education Policy**

At The Grey Coat Hospital, Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is part of a balanced, cross-curricular Personal, Social and Health Education programme supported by the Christian foundation and ethos of the Hospital. We intend this programme to complement parental responsibilities and we see it as an integral part of each individual student's emergence into adulthood.

We affirm in our teaching traditional Christian values and seek to promote a Christian understanding of marriage and family life. At the same time we recognise the diverse religious and social conditions to be found in a late twentieth-century pluralist society. Our aims are to:

- Offer students information, as fully and broadly as possible with the benefit of an enlightened Christian background.
- Allow students to grow into independence of choice and judgement.
- Enable students to understand the relationships they are forming in terms of personal growth and commitment.
- Develop a thoughtful concern for others and a sympathetic awareness of ethical choice.
- Build upon knowledge of Christian values as they affect our understanding of marriage, family life and personal relationships.
- Encourage a respect for diversity of culture and religious conviction.

We will promote respect for self and others, countering ignorance and prejudice and the pressures of exploitation by:

- Encouraging the development of self esteem and the valuing of each other
- Creating a positive and secure environment for open discussion and constructive critical thinking.
- Offering opportunities to share and explore feelings, attitudes and values.
- Developing and practising interpersonal skills.
- Providing relevant information.

The programme will be reviewed at regular intervals and in the light of National Curriculum requirements.

Parents or guardians have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of any sex education provided, but not from teaching the biological aspect of human growth and reproduction necessary under National Curriculum Science.