



## NAG 1 CURRICULUM

### HEALTH AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION POLICY

#### Rationale:

Learning about the physical and emotional aspects of growing up, including sexuality, is an integral part of everyday life. The perception young people have about themselves as sexual beings affects their expectations, aspirations, social roles and involvement in living and learning.

#### Purposes:

- To assist students to develop skills in making positive relationships.
- To assist students to develop values which build healthy communities.
- To assist students to gain accurate and honest information about sexuality.
- To assist our students (when appropriate) to understand sexual growth and behaviour and through that knowledge to protect them from the consequences of their choices.
- To provide role models of appropriate behaviour with regard to acceptable physical contact.
- To assist our students to make informed choices regarding personal relationships, sexuality and sexual behaviour.
- To acknowledge the specific needs of our students.

#### Guidelines:

For selected students, as and when appropriate and in consultation with parents/caregivers:

- Sexuality education will be an integral part of a comprehensive health education programme (\* parents/ caregiver have the right to withdraw their child from tuition)
- Parents and caregivers will be provided with information and opportunities to discuss programmes.
- Staff will be provided with professional development as appropriate.

Community agencies will be utilised when required and will consult with the class teacher and Health and the Senior management Team. The Principal will be informed and will give final approval about the content of their contribution.

- After consultation, (at least every two years \*\*) between the Board of Trustees and the community, the Senior Management Team will prepare a Sexuality Education Statement to be adopted by the Board of Trustees.

\* refer to Education Act 1989 60 A – Release from Tuition in specified parts of health curriculum

\*\* refer to Education Act 1989 60 B – Consultation about treatment health curriculum.

Ratified

BOT:

*Harvey*

Principal :

*W Podd*

Date:

30/07/2019

Review Date:

May 2020



## **HEALTH AND SEXUALITY CURRICULUM PROCEDURES**

Sexuality Education will form part of the Health and Physical Education programme for each class group and, as with other areas of the curriculum, the students will receive a well planned course of study and if necessary individual guidance.

Class teachers will be provided with long and medium term planning overviews of the Health and Physical Education Curriculum. Teachers will be responsible for their own short term planning.

Student specific Sexuality Education programmes will be written by the class teacher in consultation with the Principal and the Health and Physical Education Co-ordinator and parents.

The co-ordinator will have specific responsibility for overseeing planning, review and development of schemes of work and policy, together with the co-ordination of appropriate resource identification, purchase and allocation.

The students of the school will be taught in a variety of groupings including small, large, mixed and single sex groups, or as individuals according to the professional opinion of their teachers taking into account the content of the lesson, student needs, and student/parental preferences.

In order for a well informed and caring Sexuality Education programme to be delivered, all staff will be supported by a programme of training. The training will be regularly monitored, evaluated and reviewed.

### **Specific Issues**

The school believes that staff should not give contraceptive advice; their role is only to offer information to students, carers and parents.

The school may at some point use the services of outside agencies to support the delivery of its schemes of work. These agencies will abide by the terms of the attached Sexuality Education Policy.

The staff and Board of Trustees of Wilson School wish all students to have access to the full range of curriculum experiences. Parents who wish to withdraw their son/daughter from any part of the Sexuality Education Programme should make their wishes known to the Principal. Students who are not to participate in a Sexuality Education Programme will continue to participate in timetabled Health and Physical Education lessons which may include abuse prevention.

The school recognises that from time to time students may spontaneously ask the staff questions related to the area of Sexuality Education and that staff will respond either immediately or seek further professional advice.

Whilst confidentially will, from time to time, be a feature in the implementation of the schemes of work, in appropriate circumstances the Wilson School Health and Safety Policy



and the Staff and Student Protection Procedure will apply. In any incidents of disclosure, again the Staff and Student Protection procedure will apply.

### **Parental Involvement**

The school will, as a matter of good practise, give opportunities to discuss all aspects of the student's future work, including Sexuality Education, with parents/caregivers at IEP/ITP meetings and at specific consultation meetings.

The Sexuality Education element of the Health and Physical Education programme will, as with all curriculum documentation, be freely available to parents/guardians and funding agencies.

Care will be taken to ensure that the personal beliefs and values of staff do not influence learning programmes of students. The religious and cultural concerns of parents will be recognised and staff and families will work together to ensure that the student receives appropriate and relevant information without deviating from the programme as a whole.

