



RSE POLICY

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| Policy approved & adopted by | Head of College |
| Date | Sept 2020 |
| Review cycle | Annual |
| Next Review | Sept 2024 |

This policy covers our approach to Relationships and Sex education in Valley College.

Intent:

At Valley College we aim to:

- prepare our learners for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.
- how to articulate their relationship values and to apply them in different types of relationships
- to recognise and challenge prejudice and discrimination and understand rights and responsibilities with regard to inclusion
- to manage mature friendships, including making friends in new places
- educate our learners to respect and understand themselves and others including those of the opposite sex.
- provide knowledge and information to which all learners are entitled
- clarify and reinforce knowledge which learners have already acquired.
- raise the learners' self-esteem and confidence, especially in their relationships with others.
- help learners to understand their sexual feelings and behaviour, so that they can lead a fulfilling life.
- develop the skills (language, decision making, choice and assertiveness) which are necessary in a range of situations.
- promote acceptable and appropriate behaviour in public and private situations.
- give learners the skills necessary to avoid exploitation, misunderstanding and abuse
- to recognise and manage different forms of abuse, sources of support and exit strategies for unhealthy relationships
- how to recognise, and seek help in the case of, sexual abuse, exploitation, assault or rape, and the process for reporting to appropriate authorities
- give access to information and facilities appropriate to individual needs

- ways to celebrate cultural diversity, promote inclusion and safely challenge prejudice and discrimination

Implementation:

We believe it is important that this topic is incorporated into the PSD and Citizenship curriculum every year for our learners for them to develop the knowledge and skills needed to be confident adults who know about relationships and safe sex. We want to prepare them and give them the skills to live safe and happy lives. We will ensure the best interests of our learners are maintained and we will encourage them to talk to their advocates.

If an advocate has concerns about how the college addresses RSE, they will be invited into college to discuss the situation with the Head of College.

We will create a safe and supportive learning environment for learners and will ensure that any learners who indicate they may be at risk will get the correct support they need.

If an RSE problem occurs, it will be dealt with immediately by the tutor and the Head of College and a discussion held with regards to the appropriateness of referring to external agencies for additional support eg the adult learning disability team. This would be done with due regard to the Mental Capacity Act.

Staff will ensure priority will be given to the delivery of information in ways that are supportive, easy to understand, and appropriate to individual learners.

We support the use of correct vocabulary and visual material which is clear and unmistakable. A wide range of teaching and learning styles will be employed as in all aspects of the curriculum including: group work, individual, mixed or single gender groups. Some staff may need support and training to deliver the programme sensitively and effectively. This may be achieved by INSET, outside visitors or services.

Tutors who are concerned about the safeguarding of learners will be referred to a DSL and the procedure for safeguarding will be followed on the same day. Confidentiality in such cases will be paramount.

Sessions will be differentiated to meet the needs of the learners. We treat all learners equally and everyone as an individual. This will be put into practice and can be seen during PSD/Citizenship sessions. We will use these sessions as a vehicle to address diversity issues.