

SEX EDUCATION

Sex Education is an area of the National Curriculum which is handled in a very sensitive manner in the context of the school ethos to reflect the Orthodox Jewish point of view. This is based on the teachings of the Torah and Talmud.

The programme of study is delivered within a cross-curricular framework. The secular teachers present the factual knowledge in consultation with the Jewish Studies teachers, who provide the Jewish attitude to aspects of sexual morality.

The Jewish attitude to the sanctity of marriage and family life is emphasised throughout the curriculum.

Sex Education is covered through the following three routes:

The Jewish Studies Curriculum

Relevant Biblical and Talmudic texts are used by experienced Jewish Studies teachers to discuss the Torah attitude to many aspects of sexual morality including inter-gender relationships, homosexuality, rape and Torah attitude to the family (eg, the Flood and its causes; the destruction of Sodom; the family life of the Patriarchs and Matriarchs; the chapters in Leviticus dealing with immoral relationships, and likewise in the relevant Talmudic texts).

The Biology Curriculum

The National Curriculum Science Orders sets out the Sex Education topics which must be taught to all pupils. These topics and information about HIV/AIDS are taught by the Biology Department.

PSHE

Year 9 pupils are given information about contraception and sexually transmitted diseases by a member of the Science Department, together with a member of the Jewish Studies Department.