

Helping young people to
experience positive relationships
and good sexual health – the role
of schools & colleges

Child Health & Well-being
Conference

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Young people receive support from a variety of sources

- Parents, schools, peers, media campaigns, websites, helplines, health professionals, student support workers and IAG services all have a role to play in helping young people make safe and responsible choices in relation to sex and relationships
- Patchy provision across the piece:
 - Nearly half of young people say they get no or little information from parents – especially the case for boys;
 - 40% of young people say the SRE they received at school was either 'poor' or 'very poor' (UKYP report)
 - IAG often too focused on learning and career choices, rather than wider lifestyle choices
 - overall 37% of young people said they wanted more and better information on sex and relationships (Tellus 3) – scored higher than smoking, alcohol, drugs, healthy eating etc

The role of Schools & Colleges

- Providing a planned, progressive programme of PSHE throughout KS1 to KS4 (including good SRE)/Tutorial & enrichment programmes in FE
- Helping young people access specialist advice and support when they need it (through on-site provision or good referral systems to provision outside the school)
- Building aspirations among those at high risk of teenage pregnancy – understanding the underlying risk factors
- Effective wider pastoral support arrangements

National Policy Developments

- Children's Plan – vision for 21st century school
- Every Child Matters outcomes – Ofsted assessment of school/college role in helping C&YP achieve 5 ECM outcomes
- New duty to promote well-being/well-being indicators
- Decision to make PSHE statutory
- Healthy FE initiative

Why making PSHE statutory matters

- Not a 'silver bullet', but....
- Gives PSHE equal status to other National Curriculum subjects
- Ensures a more consistent offer to all young people
- Lever for encouraging stronger focus on workforce development
- Dedicated curriculum time
- Investment in resources to support delivery of PSHE programmes
- Better partnerships with external professionals/agencies

Workforce Development

- ITT
- CPD: PSHE CPD programme/Other CPD
- Inset
- Advanced Skills Teachers

External contributors to SRE

- Mainstream partner organisations
- Voluntary & Community Sector
- School nurses – Child Health Strategy
- Quality Assurance
- Promotion through SRE guidance

Other Issues

- New SRE guidance
- Involving young people
- Maximising impact of wider programmes
- Leadership
- Parents
- Post-16 SRE

Benefits of on-site provision

- young people can access services at times and in places that fit with their daily lives
- Less need to take time off to attend clinic appointments
- Helps prevent young women dropping-out due to early pregnancy (one research study said 10% of female apprentices left courses due to pregnancy)
- Helps young people avoid/tackle early any sexual health concerns that might be impacting negatively on their learning