



## SEX EDUCATION

### **The statutory requirement**

Section 46 of the Education (No 2) Act requires that the Local Education authority, the Governing Body and the Head Teacher of the School shall take such steps as are reasonably practicable to secure that sex education is given to all registered students in such a manner as to encourage those students to have due regard to moral considerations and the value of family life.

At Heathcote School this is taken to mean helping students to develop their self-awareness within a legal and responsible moral framework, which emphasises respect for self and other people and is in line with the school aims.

### **Putting the requirement into effect**

Sex education is taught as part of the Science syllabus and as part of the Personal and Social Education (PSE) course, into which it is fully integrated. It also arises naturally in the teaching of other subjects, notably English, Drama and Religious Education.

Students are encouraged and expected to be actively involved in the learning process, e.g. by taking part in class and group discussions. Seriously meant, spontaneous questions that arise in the course of sex education are responded to appropriately, having regard to their suitability for classroom discussion and the age and need of the students.

The programme may involve the participation of suitably qualified visitors.

### **Rights of withdrawal from Sex Education Lessons**

The aspects of sex education that form part of the National Curriculum are compulsory for all students. These aspects are biological in nature. Parents or carers have the right to withdraw their child from all other aspects of sex education topics not specified by the National Curriculum. To do so, parents or carers must put their request in writing to the Head Teacher.

### **Further information**

Further information can be obtained from the Heads of Year/Learning Manager who will also be pleased to discuss the course in more detail with you.