



The Eddystone Trust HIV & Sexual Health Conference September 2011

Young people, sex, sexual health & HIV

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No outsiders

"Everyone is an insider, there are no outsiders - whatever their beliefs, whatever their colour, gender or sexuality."

Archbishop Desmond Tutu - 2004

Report to the UN General Assembly - July 2010

"The right to education includes the right to sexual education, which is both a human right in itself and an indispensable means of realising other human rights, such as the right to health, the right to information & sexual & reproductive rights."

Item 69, paragraph 19



Context - young people's lives

- High rates of unemployment
- University fees
- Sexualisation of the media
- Riots
- Cuts to youth provision
- Binge drink more than European peers
- Are more depressed
- Most tested
- Gangs & personal safety
- Tendency to obesity

Context – young people's sexual health

- High rates of teenage conceptions - locally & nationally
- 65% of young LGB people report experiencing homophobic bullying at school - *Stonewall 2007*
- 95% of gay pupils hear derogatory phrases such as 'dyke' or 'poof' in school - *as above*
- Young people aged 16 - 24 are age group most at risk of being diagnosed with a STI - *HPA*
- In 2007, 702 young people were diagnosed with HIV representing 11% of all new diagnoses - *HPA*



SRE in schools - currently

- The statutory Science curriculum includes **biological** aspects of puberty, reproduction & the spread of viruses. This applies to primary & secondary schools
- There is also a requirement for secondary schools to teach about HIV, AIDS & STIs as part of Science
- SRE is part of PSHE which is not compulsory.
- Both primary & secondary are **legally obliged to have an up to date SRE policy**. The policy should describe their SRE provision. In primary, a decision not to teach SRE should also be documented in the policy.
- **It is the responsibility of the school governors to ensure the policy is developed & made available to parents/carers.**
- Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from non statutory SRE **but not from Science**.
- Schools have a legal duty to ensure the wellbeing of their pupils SRE contributes to this duty



Context - policy & guidance

- DfE Business Plan - teenage conception rate is an impact indicator
- "Call to End Violence Against Women & Girls Action Plan" - discusses prejudiced based bullying
- "Healthy Lives, Healthy People" - DH
- "Positive for Youth" - DfE consultation
- "No Vaccine, No Cure" - House of Lords Select Committee - 09/11 - supports statutory SRE
- SRE Guidance - 2000
- **On going DfE review of SRE/PSHE**



Polly Toynbee

"This neglect of the young makes the financial deficit pale beside the cost of the future social deficit. In unemployment, crime, mental health and social breakdown, the damage done will cascade on, down future generations."

September 2011

A decorative graphic consisting of six circles arranged in a horizontal line. The first circle is solid light purple and contains the text 'The Vision'. The second circle is an outline. The third circle is solid light purple. The fourth circle is an outline. The fifth circle is solid light purple. The sixth circle is an outline.

The Vision

"That all young people are provided with the PSHE that gives them the knowledge, skills and attitudes to make positive, safe, healthy and responsible choices."

A decorative graphic at the top of the slide consists of six circles arranged in a horizontal line. The first circle is solid light purple and contains the word 'Reflection'. The second circle is white with a light purple outline. The third circle is solid light purple. The fourth circle is white with a light purple outline. The fifth circle is solid light purple. The sixth circle is solid light purple.

Reflection

- Think back to SRE you received either in school or elsewhere.
- Share with your table what it consisted of & how useful it was.
- Be prepared to share with the entire audience!!

Definition of SRE



"SRE is learning about sex, sexuality, emotions, relationships, sexual health and ourselves.

Learning about SRE should be:

- An integral part of life long learning
- An entitlement for all young people
- Provided within a holistic context"



Building blocks for SRE - knowledge

- How bodies develop & work
- Sexuality
- The law
- Reproduction
- Sexual health
- Support services
- Personal safety



Building blocks for SRE - skills

- Personal
- Communication
- Negotiation
- Practical
- Decision making
- Problem solving



Building blocks for SRE - values & attitudes

- Accepting & exploring values
- Understanding wider values systems
- Developing a critical awareness
- Acquiring feelings of respect
- Placing sexual relationships in context

SRE in Torbay - good practice

- Starts in EYs & KS 1
- Recommends that real names for body parts are used
- Is age appropriate
- Reflects the established needs of children & young people
- Utilises experiential learning
- Is delivered through an established PSHE curriculum NOT drop down days
- Is delivered by those trained to do so & who want to deliver it



Challenging Homophobia in Torbay

- Building on the "No Outsiders" Project
- Part of Stonewall's Education Champions Programme
- Facilitating "Celebrating Difference - Challenging Homophobia in Primary Schools"
- Disseminating story book project

Resources for children & young people

Primary:

- "Celebrating Difference" - DVD - challenging homophobia in primary schools - staff training - *Stonewall*
- Challenging homophobia story book project incl.
 - "the Sissy Duckling"
 - "And Tango Makes Three"
 - "The Family Book" - **available from Annie or Sarah**

Primary & secondary

- "Including Different Families" - *Stonewall*
- "Working with Faith Communities." - *Stonewall*

Secondary

- "Spell it Out" - DVD - challenging homophobia in secondary schools - staff training - *Stonewall*
- "Out in School" - KS 4 curriculum resource - *Terrence Higgins Trust*



Challenging homophobia - the future

- Link to Young Women's Strategy
- Include in the Social Norms Project
- Find funding to supply participating primary schools with story books
- Include as criteria for judging best practise in health promoting schools

Effective Student Voice - Torbay

"No decision about me, without me"

- Termly Student Focus Groups/Young View
- Annual "Are You Getting it Right?" - SRE toolkit - secondary
- Annual "Listen N Plan" - SRE toolkit - primary
- TellUs 5

Ways Forward - 1



- Engage with DfE PSHE Consultation. **DEMAND STATUTORY SRE**
- Get active in a school - as a parent/carer OR governor. Request a copy of their SRE policy.
- Participate in workforce training around children & young people's issues.
- Listen to children & young people & encompass: "No decision without me"



Ways Forward 2

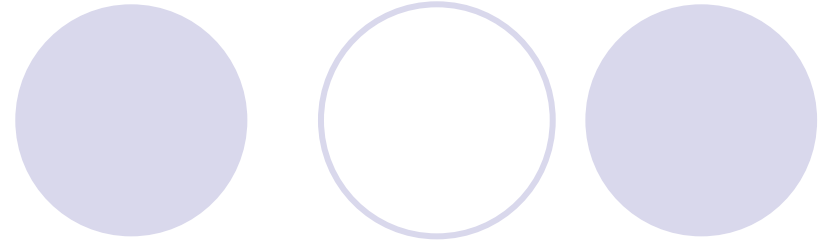
Anti-Bullying Week 2011 - 14 - 18 November

“Stop and think words can hurt”

- Materials available from www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk & incl. briefings for teachers, governors & parents/carers
- In school 37% of young people hear sexual name calling on a daily basis
- 95% of secondary school teachers & 75% of primary report hearing the phrase 'you're so gay'
- New government guidance available from www.education.gov.uk/publications

Questions

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Contact details

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More Polly

"These are dysfunctional political times when opinion polls show disproportionate wrath at the worse off and worse behaved while grand larceny from above goes unchallenged."

"These are dismally disjointed times when the cost of the banker's recession is financed out of children's futures."