

## Sexuality and Relationships Policy Aurora Foxes

<b>Policy Reference:</b>	FOX10
<b>Version Number:</b>	7
<b>Applies to:</b>	Aurora Foxes
<b>Associated documents:</b>	N/A
<b>Approved by:</b>	Principal
<b>Implementation date:</b>	February 2026
<b>Next review due by:</b>	February 2027
<i>This policy has been reviewed to ensure it promotes safeguarding and does not present barriers to participation or disadvantage any protected groups</i>	

# Aurora

## 0. Summary of Changes Since Previous Version

- Reframed policy intent to reflect Aurora Foxes' three-year Work Ready, Life Ready journey and whole-college approach.
- Updated terminology to reflect adult students and specialist FE context.
- Clarified links between RSHE, PfA, Tutorials, WRLR and residential practice.
- Strengthened safeguarding language to reflect autonomy, proportionality and professional judgement.
- Added reference to the Aurora Group Personal and Sexual Relationships Policy (A67).
- Embedded use of recognised safeguarding frameworks, including the Brook Traffic Light Tool.

## 1. Aims

This policy sets out how Aurora Foxes supports students to understand sexuality, relationships and personal wellbeing as part of their Preparing for Adulthood journey.

Its aims are to:

- Provide a clear statement of how sexuality and relationships education is delivered across the whole college.
- Promote dignity, equality, autonomy and informed choice for adult students.
- Support safe, respectful relationships while balancing independence with safeguarding.
- Clarify the responsibilities of staff in supporting students' personal development.
- Ensure consistency across education, residential life, therapy and community learning.

## 2. Legislation and statutory requirements

This policy is informed by:

- Mental Capacity Act (2005)
- Human Rights Act (1998)
- Equality Act (2010)
- Health and Social Care Act (2008)
- National Relationships, Sex and Health Education principles

This policy should be read alongside the **Aurora Group Personal and Sexual Relationships in Care Homes, Residential Colleges and Domiciliary Care Homes Policy (A67)**, which provides the overarching safeguarding and ethical framework for supporting adult relationships in residential settings.

Aurora Foxes recognises that most students are adults on arrival. Staff support students to make informed choices while considering individual vulnerability, capacity and safeguarding responsibilities.

Aurora Foxes recognises that a small number of students may be under the age of 18. In these cases, sexuality and relationships education is delivered in line with safeguarding guidance for young people, ensuring learning remains age-appropriate, developmentally

# Aurora

informed and consistent with statutory expectations while maintaining the college's Preparing for Adulthood approach.

## 3. Scope

This policy applies to all environments where learning and development around relationships takes place, including:

- Tutorials and Preparation for Adulthood sessions
- Work Ready, Life Ready personal development
- Residential routines and PDHW
- Vocational learning and community engagement
- Therapeutic interventions and informal learning

Sexuality and relationships education supports students to:

- understand healthy relationships and consent
- recognise risk and exploitation
- develop emotional awareness and communication
- respect diversity and individual identity
- navigate adulthood safely and confidently

## 4. Intent: Sexuality and Relationships at Aurora Foxes

Sexuality and relationships education forms part of the college's wider personal development curriculum and contributes directly to our mission of preparing students to be **Work Ready and Life Ready**.

Learning is delivered through a whole-college approach to personal development, where every member of staff contributes to modelling respectful behaviour, supporting independence and reinforcing safeguarding principles.

Students revisit key themes across their three-year journey, progressing from understanding identity and safety, to managing complexity and independence, and preparing for adult responsibility.

## 5. Roles and responsibilities

### 5.1 Principal

Provide strategic leadership and ensure practice aligns with legislation, safeguarding expectations and Aurora Group policy.

### 5.2 Head of Education / Assistant Head of Education

Provide strategic oversight of RSHE, ensuring learning is inclusive, appropriately sequenced and aligned with EHCP outcomes and Preparing for Adulthood themes.

## **5.3 Preparation for Adulthood Programme Lead / RSHE Lead**

Lead the planning and coordination of RSHE across the college, including tutorials and PfA delivery. Support staff with guidance and ensure consistent implementation across education, residential and community contexts.

## **5.4 Head of Care**

Embed relationship learning through residential routines, Personal Development Health and Welfare activity and the wider 24-hour learning model.

## **5.5 Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**

Ensure safeguarding principles underpin RSHE, advising staff on consent, online safety, exploitation and professional boundaries.

## **5.6 Therapy Team**

Provide specialist input that supports emotional regulation, communication and relational understanding, contributing to personalised strategies and interventions.

## **5.7 Sexual Health Team and External Specialists**

Provide targeted sexual health education, workshops and 1:1 support, working collaboratively with education, residential and safeguarding teams to ensure learning is developmentally appropriate.

## **5.8 Tutors, House Teams and Support Staff**

Model respectful relationships, reinforce learning in everyday interactions and support students to make informed choices across hotel, home and community environments.

## **6. Context**

Aurora Foxes is a specialist residential college for young adults aged 16–25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Many students arrive with varied prior experiences of relationships education and may require structured, practical learning to develop confidence, independence and understanding.

Within a residential environment, students have increased opportunities to develop friendships, explore identity and practise independence in real-life contexts. Sexuality and relationships learning therefore forms an important part of the college's wider Preparing for Adulthood approach.

Learning takes place across education, residential routines, vocational environments and the community. This 24-hour curriculum model enables students to develop skills gradually, revisit learning over time and apply knowledge in authentic situations, supported by staff who model respectful behaviour and clear boundaries.

# Aurora

The college recognises that students are adult learners with rights, choices and aspirations. Education focuses on empowering students with knowledge, confidence and self-advocacy while ensuring safeguarding remains proportionate and supportive.

## 7. Implementaton

Sexuality and relationships education is embedded across:

- Preparation for Adulthood learning blocks
- Weekly Tutorials
- Work Ready Life Ready programme
- Residential PDHW activities
- Targeted therapeutic and sexual health support

Learning takes place through discussion-based sessions, experiential activities and real-life scenarios within hotel, home and community contexts.

Topics may include:

- Healthy relationships and consent
- Sexual health and wellbeing
- Online safety and sexting awareness
- Emotional resilience and relationship change
- Identity, diversity and inclusion

## 8. Safeguarding and Proportionate Practice

Aurora Foxes balances autonomy with safeguarding, recognising students as adults while providing education, guidance and proportionate support.

The college uses recognised safeguarding frameworks, including the Brook Traffic Light Tool, to support professional judgement when responding to sexualised behaviours. Staff consider developmental stage, capacity and individual vulnerability to ensure responses remain educational, supportive and proportionate.

Professional boundaries are maintained in line with Aurora safeguarding and staff conduct expectations.

## 9. Support, Advice and Communication

Students can seek advice from:

- Head of Care
- Head of Education
- Preparation for Adulthood Programme Lead / RSHE Lead
- Therapy Team
- Sexual Health Team

Parents and carers may request information about RSHE themes and discuss concerns with college staff, recognising student autonomy and confidentiality where appropriate.

## 10. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure alignment with:

- Aurora Group policy
- safeguarding practice
- curriculum development
- student voice and feedback