



Charity No: 1169903

Date of Policy: 21st January 2022

Date renewed: 9th January 2024

Date to be renewed 31st January 2025

The Prout Bridge Project Sex and Relationships Policy.

Purpose of the Policy:-

- To provide staff with a clear policy and practical guidance in relation to sex and relationships work with young people.
- To provide clarity of the legal framework that impacts on delivering this area of work.

Statement of policy on sexual and relationships education.

- The Prout Bridge Project does not condone or promote sexual activity amongst young people, particularly those under the age of 16 years.
- The Prout Bridge Project is committed to the health and safety of the young members, and will take action to safeguard their welfare.
- The Prout Bridge Project works towards the following educational aims in respect of sex and relationships education:-
 - To enable young people to make healthy and informed choices by increasing knowledge, challenging attitudes and developing personal and social skills.
 - Where appropriate to provide accurate and relevant information about sex, sexual health and relationships.
 - To increase understanding amongst young people about the possible consequences of sexual activity;
 - To seek to minimise the risks faced by those who are sexually active, and those who are potentially sexually active.
 - To widen understanding about health, social and cultural issues.

Young people and the law

Young people under the age of 16 are committing an offence if they are engaging in sexual activity.

Sex education and the law.

There is no legislation that requires organisations to seek parental permission to inform them of the inclusion of sex education in the youth club programme. However, it is reasonable where possible that the club will give parents some advanced warning of the issues to be discussed.

In informal unplanned conversations regarding advice and information about sexual health matters, the following should be noted with regard to the law:

- It is not unlawful for a youth worker to give information and advice to someone under the age of 16 about contraception or related matters, or to advise a young person to seek help from a doctor or other professional.
- It would only be unlawful where it could be proved that advice was given to a young person with the intention of facilitating intercourse with someone under the age of 16 that would otherwise not take place.
- There is no law to stop under 16's buying condoms from pharmacies or vending machines.