CPS Sexual Health Education

The Chicago Public Schools (CPS) sexual health education curriculum builds a foundation of knowledge and skills for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. To help students make informed decisions and safe choices, the CPS curriculum covers topics such as human development, healthy relationships, decision making, abstinence, contraception and disease prevention. Use this guide to learn more about how sexual health education is implemented across the district.

FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Trained Instructors
Every school has two trained instructors who have completed the CPS Sexual Health Education Instructor training.

Taught Every Year
Sexual health education is taught to all students. From K–4th grade there are 300 minutes per year of instruction, and from 5th–12th grade there are 675 minutes.

Accurate & Age Appropriate
CPS sexual health education is medically accurate, age appropriate, and comprehensive.

Aligned with National Standards
The curriculum is aligned with the National Sexuality Education Standards, which were developed by national experts and provide guidance on core content for sexual education in grades K–12.

Abstinence
Abstinence is taught as the only 100% effective way to prevent pregnancy, STIs, and HIV, and students learn skills to help them stay abstinent.

Opt Out
Parents/guardians will receive at least one written notification that sexual health will be taught. Parents/guardians can opt out their child(ren) of one or all lessons.*

Primary Educators
CPS views parents/guardians as the primary educators of their children for sexual health, and the curriculum will be available for parents/guardians to review.

DID YOU KNOW?

SEXUAL INTERCOURSE

52% CPS high school students have had sexual intercourse

11% CPS middle school students have had sexual intercourse

TOPIC AREAS

Topic Areas: Anatomy and Physiology, Puberty and Adolescent Development, Identity, Pregnancy and Reproduction, STIs and HIV, Healthy Relationships, and Personal Safety

QUESTIONS?

Contact us at sexualhealthed@cps.edu

*By Illinois state law, parents/guardians have the right to opt out their children from sexual health education.