



ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL A VOLUNTARY ACADEMY

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

NEXT REVIEW DATE: APRIL 2015

Mission Statement

'As a Catholic School, we base our philosophy and teaching on the Catholic faith, and this provides the foundation for the whole education process.

...At St Patrick's we seek to live and encourage others to live within the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We aim to achieve this through the following means:-

...Delivering the National Curriculum efficiently and striving to enable all pupils to fulfil their potential, acquiring knowledge and skills, which will enable them to lead full lives in the society of which they are members.

...Our personal high expectation and example, encouraging pupils to develop good self esteem and set themselves high standards.'

Rationale

**'I have come that you might have life and have it to the full'
(Jn.10.10)**

Stemming from our vision of what it means to be human, we seek to educate the whole person: spiritually, intellectually, morally, emotionally, psychologically, and physically towards Christian maturity.

We acknowledge that PSHE and Citizenship as well as Relationships and Sex Education are all underpinned by a theology of relationship.

We support the recommendation of the DFE to set RSE within the wider PSHE and Citizenship framework.

In response to the guidance of the Bishops of England and Wales we recognise our important role in Education in Sexuality and Personal Relationships.

We acknowledge the need to address issues raised by the actual experience of pupils today.

We seek to provide an environment where pupils are informed about relationships in the context of the Catholic faith.

Aims of SRE

- ❖ To encourage pupils' growth in self respect, acknowledging we are all created in the likeness of God.
- ❖ To help pupils develop an understanding that love is the central basis of relationships.
- ❖ To help pupils to understand the nature of relationships and to encourage them to reflect on their own relationships and respect differences between people.
- ❖ To develop pupils' confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships.
- ❖ To help pupils acquire the skills necessary to develop and sustain relationships.
- ❖ To offer education in sexuality in the wider context of relationships.
- ❖ To ensure that pupils are prepared for puberty.
- ❖ To help pupils to develop a healthier, safer lifestyle.
- ❖ To prepare pupils to play an active role as citizens and to understand the Catholic vision of what it means to be citizens of God's world.

Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught through:-

- RE and Science as well as other areas of the curriculum by way of a cross curricular approach.
- All elements of PSHE and Citizenship, whilst non-statutory at Key Stage 1 and 2, are covered.
- The exception to an integrated approach is the teaching of the objectives:
- 'to explore the changes that come about through puberty,' in Year 5 and 'to know the basic biology of human reproduction within the context of marriage' in Year 6.
- We also acknowledge that every area of school life can potentially contribute to RSE as the school, of its very nature operates through positive human relationships.
- All staff realise the obligation to deliver RSE in their role as class teachers or support staff. Staff also recognise the need for close co – operation with each other.
- We recognise that RSE requires a sensitive approach. To ensure that the programmes' objectives are fully covered without exceeding the parameters set, a question box will be provided for Year 5 and 6 children. This will enable staff to prepare appropriate responses and to make the decision should any questions need to be referred back to parents.
- All pupils are given equal access to RSE within the curriculum.

Content

The Programme of Study throughout the school has three areas of learning relating to 'Self', 'Family' and 'Community'. All objectives are listed in the Programme of Study Framework for RSE.

The Governing Body

The Governing body and Foundation Governors in particular recognise their responsibility to ensure the RSE programme follows Diocesan principles and reflects the Church's teaching.

The Role of Parents

The Governing body fully subscribes to the views expressed by the Bishops' Conference. The Governors will always strive to ensure that:

- Parents are consulted and kept informed of the RSE Programme and its contents and any subsequent developments.
- Questions that fall outside of the objective being taught will be referred back to parents.

Child Withdrawal

It is our hope that parents would wish pupils to be involved in the schools programme of Education in Sexuality and Personal Relationships. However, we recognise parents have the right to withdraw their children from this but not from those areas which are required by National Curriculum Science.

Parents with concerns are invited in the first instance, to arrange an appointment with the school to discuss these concerns and see if they can be resolved. If the matter remains unresolved, parents need to notify the Governors of their intention to withdraw their child from the sex education programme.

Planning, Continuity and Progression

To ensure continuity and progression throughout the school, the RSE coverage will be shown highlighted on the programme of studies. Planning grids will indicate the style of delivery and subject through which RSE is being taught.

Assessment Recording and Reporting

Reporting to the Governors will be part of the PSHE manager's annual subject report. Reporting to parents will be included in the General Comment section of the children's annual report.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored annually by the PSHE Subject Manager and the Governing Body. Parents will be notified of any changes to the policy.