



# SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School



## Relationship and Sex Education Policy

*A Journey and Education in Love*

## RSE POLICY

### Introduction

<b>School Name</b> - SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School
<b>Date policy approved by governors</b>
<b>Date policy becomes effective</b>
<b>Review date</b> - Jan 2020
<b>Person(s) responsible for implementing and monitoring-</b> Mrs M Butt, Mrs L Lawson and Mrs A Hawkins
<b>Signatures of school representatives-</b>

### Location and Dissemination

All staff members and governors receive a copy of the RSE policy. Training is regularly delivered to staff on the policy content. Several copies are available from the school office on request from parents. A short summary of the policy is included in the school prospectus.

The PSHE coordinator facilitates the gathering of policy feedback from parents, staff and pupils every two years.

### Rationale and Policy Statement

'In a Catholic school RSE means children learning about their uniqueness as part of God's creation, his love for each person and how this means we must respect one another. It helps children to establish friendships and it contributes to child protection.'

Oona Stannard, October 2008

At the heart of Catholic education is the development, growth and journey of the whole person towards becoming 'fully human, fully alive', as a unique creation made in God's image.

*"... Children and young people should be helped to develop harmoniously their physical, moral and intellectual qualities ... they should receive a positive and prudent education in matters relating to sex ... and young people have the right to be stimulated to make sound moral judgements based on a well-informed conscience and to put them into practice with a sense of personal commitment..."*

Gravissimum Educationis (para. 3)  
Second Vatican Council

The objective of relationship and sex education is to help and support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development. A successful programme, firmly embedded in PSHE, will help young people learn to respect themselves and others and move with

confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood. (Sex and Relationship Guidance, DfEE 2000)

## **Aims and Objectives**

At SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School we endeavour to ensure that our children grow up knowing and understanding the Church's teachings and with the factual information and skills that they need for their own health and well-being, free of exploitation and leading to fulfilled lives, which for many will include the joy of loving married relationships. The personal, moral and social development of all our pupils, needs to ensure that they have the ability to accept their own and others' sexuality in positive ways and to enjoy relationships based on mutual respect, dignity and responsibility, free from any abuse.

As a school we are promoting the use of the diocesan recommended developmental programme, A Journey in Love. It is the school's policy that the scheme is delivered from EYFS to Year 6. School staff are responsible for the delivery of the scheme; material is strictly year group specific. External agencies and healthcare professionals may also have an input, although always in line with our school ethos and the Church's teaching.

## **RSE Programme content:**

An aspect of the mystery of love is taught in each year group; children are encouraged to marvel at the wonder and beauty of God's creative love. This is reflected through a series of progressive and developmental tasks, activities and reflections which focus on physical, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual development.

## **The following themes are studied in each year group:**

Nursery- Wonder at Gods' Love

Reception- God loves each of us in our uniqueness

Year 1 -We meet God's Love in our family

Year 2 -We meet God's Love in the Community

Year 3- How we live in Love

Year 4 - God Loves us in our differences

Year 5 -God loves me in my changing and development

Year 6- The wonder of God's love in creating new life

## **Moral and Values Framework**

The RSE programme at SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School reflects the school mission statement and demonstrates and encourages the following values:

- Respect for self;
- Respect for others;
- Responsibility for their own actions;
- Responsibility for their family, friends, schools and wider community.

## **Equal Opportunities Statement**

SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School is committed to the provision of RSE to all of its pupils. Our programme aims to respond to the diversity of children's cultures, faiths and family backgrounds. Equal time and provision will be allocated for all groups, but there may be occasions where pupils with Special Educational Needs are given extra support from SEN staff.

## **Education**

What is relationship and sex education?

Relationship and sex education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development.

It has 3 main elements incorporated into its lessons

### Attitudes and values

- Learning the importance of values and individual conscience and moral considerations;
- Learning the value of family life, marriage, and stable and loving relationships for the nurture of children;
- Learning the value of respect, love and care;
- Exploring, considering and understanding moral dilemmas; and
- Developing critical thinking as part of decision-making.

### Personal and social skills

- Learning to manage emotions and relationships confidently and sensitively;
- Developing self-respect and empathy for others;
- Learning to make choices based on an understanding of difference and with an absence of prejudice;
- Developing an appreciation of the consequences of choices made;
- Managing conflict; and
- Learning how to recognise and avoid exploitation and abuse.

### Knowledge and understanding

- Learning and understanding physical development at appropriate stages;
- Understanding emotions and relationships;

## **Content**

As we follow the guidance of the Bishops of England and Wales and as advocated by the DfE, RSE is to be firmly embedded in the PSHE framework as it is concerned with nurturing human wholeness and integral to the physical, spiritual, emotional, moral, social and intellectual development of pupils. Relationship and Sex Education is formally delivered under the statutory order with the National Science Curriculum at the moment (see appendix 1), however

RSE should not be delivered in isolation but firmly embedded in all curriculum areas, including Personal, Social Health Education (PSHE) and citizenship and RE (Come and See).

*By the end of Key Stage 1*

*Pupils should be able:*

- to understand the importance of valuing themselves and others;
- to recognise their membership of the family and recognise the roles of individuals in families;
- to understand growth and name themselves as male or female;
- to be able to name the main external parts of the body;
- to recognise babies have special needs;
- to appreciate relationships, friends, family, working together, sharing, playing together;
- to name rituals that mark life and death, birth, marriage, death appropriate to their age and ability;
- to recognise the range of emotions and how we deal with them;
- to know about being safe;
- to know the difference between good and bad touching;
- to appreciate that some diseases are infectious;
- to have an awareness of personal health and safety, personal hygiene;

*By the end of Key Stage 2*

*Pupils should be able:*

- to value themselves as a child of God, and their body as God's gift to them;
- to understand that they grow and change throughout life;
- to understand what is meant by relationships within families, friends and communities;

- to develop an appreciation of what is involved in bringing up children and what responsibilities parents have;
- to become aware of the different patterns of friendship;
- to know the rituals celebrated in Church, marking birth, marriage and death;
- to be aware of their changing emotions and the need to respect other people's emotions and feelings;
- to begin to know about and understand the changes that come about through puberty;
- to know and understand their own bodies and their need for personal hygiene;
- to know the proper names for the parts of the body;
- to know the basic biology of human reproduction;
- to appreciate that life is precious and a gift from God;
- to become aware of the choices they make and that there are good choices and wrong choices;
- to recognise the importance of forgiveness in relationships.

## **Organisation**

Mrs Hawkins is the PSHE coordinator within SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School and has the responsibility for coordinating all relationship and sex education. Mrs Hawkins, Healthy School Co-ordinator, Mrs Lawson, RE Co-ordinator and Miss Todd Science co-ordinator will oversee all aspects of RSE.

At the moment RSE is delivered as a statutory requirement of the national science curriculum. However, from September 2019 RSE will become a statutory requirement of the curriculum and taught discretely in science and PSHE lessons. Pupils at SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School receive a weekly PSHE lesson, and 10% of the week is dedicated to Religious Education both of which will incorporate many aspects of RSE.

Aside the Science and RE curriculum that is delivered in school, the resource used within SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School is 'A Journey in Love' recommended by the Diocese. The scheme covers all year groups from nursery through to year 6. All staff have been briefed on these resources and their content. Occasionally we call upon assistance from outside

agencies and health professionals to support the delivery of this programme. The content of the programme is available to view on our school website.

RSE will be delivered to mixed gender groups, however occasionally it may be more appropriate to deliver sessions to single gender groups.

### **External Visitors**

Occasionally, appropriate and suitably experienced and/or knowledgeable visitors from outside the school may be invited to contribute to the delivery of RSE in school. It must however be noted that such visits should always compliment the current programme.

### **Staff Training/CPD**

National Healthy School Status criteria 1.10 require school 'ensures provision of appropriate PSHE professional development opportunities for staff- such as certification programmes for teachers and nurse offered by DH/ DfES'. Make reference to all training opportunities completed by staff members. RSE is a whole school issue. All teachers have a responsibility of care; as well as fostering academic progress they should actively contribute to the guardianship and guidance of the physical, moral and spiritual well-being of their pupils. Teachers will be expected to teach RSE in accordance with the Catholic Ethos of the school. Appropriate training will be made available for all staff teaching RSE. All staff have been included in the development of this policy and all staff should be aware of the policy and how it relates to them.

### **Specific Issues within RSE**

#### **Topic/Materials**

Materials used in SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School reflect the consultation with parents/carers, the School Health Adviser and the Diocesan Advisor. Age and cultural backgrounds of the pupils were regarded in relation to images used. The range of material used is available to parents/carers and informative books. Teachers, governors, external agencies, parents or carers and pupils (school council) have been involved in the consultation process in relation to the materials and topics covered during a RSE lesson.

#### **Policy Consultation**

As a staff we agreed on the objectives that were a priority in our school. We had a close look at the resources available and decided that the Diocesan scheme would be the most appropriate for our school at this time.

#### **National campaigns/initiatives**

SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School will display information and will support national campaigns where appropriate during the year.

## **Withdrawal**

SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School recognises that parents may have personal or religious reasons to withdraw their child from RSE sessions. Parents do have the right to withdraw their child/children from RSE excepting those elements which are required by the National Curriculum science orders. Should parents wish to withdraw their children they should notify the school by contacting the Headteacher in writing. The request will be made on a year by year basis. The school will provide support by providing material for parents to help the children with their learning.

## **Confidentiality and Child Protection**

RSE is a sensitive subject where issues may be raised that do not get discussed in other school lessons. SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School believes that confidentiality rules should be explained in regards to these lessons. Outside speakers will be informed of the school's Confidentiality policy and will be required to abide by it. As a general rule, students will be encouraged to speak freely and confidentiality will be maintained. However, if the teacher believes that a child is at risk or in danger then they will follow the Child Protection Policy and speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Students will be made aware of these guidelines before the session begins. The young person will be aware of what action has taken place and will be supported through the process. Please refer to the Confidentiality and Child Protection Policy for more details.

## **Periods**

Should a student disclose their first period to a teacher, then they will be given the option to see the school first aider or another suitable female teacher. The student will be given the option to talk about what they are feeling and offered sanitary towels. They will be encouraged to talk to a suitable family member or guardian at home.

## **Controversial and sensitive issues**

All teachers have a responsibility of care; as well as fostering academic progress they should actively contribute to the guardianship and guidance of the physical, moral and spiritual well-being of their pupils. Teachers will be expected to teach Relationship and Sex Education in accordance with the Catholic ethos of the school. RSE will incorporate many views and beliefs into the delivery and will respect the views of all students. Appropriate training will be made available for all staff teaching Sex and Relationship Education.

## **Questions**

It is likely that sensitive questions will arise during sessions, whether it is delivered by a school teacher or a professional from an outside agency. No facilitator has to answer anything personal or any other question that they feel is inappropriate. Anyone delivering

RSE should have the skills to decide what is age appropriate for each class and may choose to answer some questions individually rather than to the whole group.

### **Sexual identity/orientation (bullying policy)**

RSE should meet the needs of all students regardless of their sexual orientation. The school aims to deal with all related issues sensitively and without prejudice. (See Anti-Bullying Policy)

### **Inclusion**

'Mainstream schools and special schools have a duty to ensure that children with special educational needs and learning difficulties are properly included in sex and relationship education. Sex and relationship education should help all pupils understand their physical and emotional development and enable them to make positive decisions in their lives'

(DfEE SRE Guidance July 2000)

### **Assessment, monitoring and evaluation**

SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School will conduct regular assessment in relation to knowledge and understanding, skills, attitudes and feelings. The methods of assessment will include:

**Pupil's self-assessment:** pupils reflecting on what they have learnt, setting their own targets and monitoring their own progress using check-lists, diaries, and before and after comparative information.

**Peer-group assessment:** pupils reflecting on what they have learnt, providing feedback to each other and reflecting on their roles in the group and using oral feedback. **Teacher assessment:** teacher observation, listening, reviewing written work, and pupil's contribution to drama, role-play and discussions, also through end-of-unit tasks.

Overall monitoring of RSE education will include:

- Lesson observations with feedback to teachers
- Looking at samples of pupil's work
- Teachers making regular comments on schemes of work and lesson plans
- Feedback from curriculum co-ordinators, class teachers and pupils about what has been covered.
- Making PSHE/ RSE education a regular item on the agenda of staff and governors meetings

SS Peter and Paul RC Primary School will evaluate how effective the teaching activities and materials have been in achieving the aims of the programme and the needs of the pupils by:

using participatory activities (questionnaires, diary entries and quizzes) at the end of units of work, comparative exercises (pre and post topic) to evaluate the difference in knowledge; understanding and skills and feedback from pupils and teachers about the RSE education programme.

### **Reviewing**

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the School Development Plan.

Signed  
PSHE Co-ordinator  
Mrs A Hawkins

Signed  
Head Teacher  
Mr M Butt

Signed  
RE Co-ordinator  
Mrs L Lawson

Signed  
Healthy Schools Co-ordinator  
Mrs A Hawkins

May 2018

## Appendix 1

Sex Education in the science curriculum covers anatomy, puberty and biological aspects of sexual reproduction. The table below outlines the programme content at Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

Key Stage 1		
1.	b)	That animals including humans, move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce
2.	a)	To recognise and compare the main external parts of the bodies of humans
	f)	That humans and animals can produce offspring and these grow into adults
4.	a)	To recognise similarities and differences between themselves and others and treat others with sensitivity
Key Stage 2		
1.	a)	That the life processes common to humans and other animals include nutrition, growth and reproduction
2.	f)	About the main stages of the human life cycle

## Appendix 2: References

- RSE policy (Primary and Secondary)
  - Cornwall Healthy School Programme
- Sex and Relationship Education Guidance
  - DFEE- July 2000
- Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

Low Week Statement, Laying the Foundations for Education in Personal Relationships, 1987 'Learning to Love' An introduction to Catholic Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) for Catholic

- Educators, March 2017

**A Journey in Love - Sr Jude Groden RSM**

A developmental programme for children in the primary years

Available from:

Diocesan Department of Religious Education, Don Bosco House, Coventry Road  
Coleshill, Warwickshire. B46 3EA. Tel: +44 (0) 1675 464 755. Fax: +44 (0) 1675 464  
448. Website: [www.all-that-i-am.co.uk](http://www.all-that-i-am.co.uk)

