

RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

DATE OF POLICY:

September 2019

To be reviewed September 2021

Rationale

'I have come that you might have life and have it to the full'

(Jn.10.10)

Following guidance from our own Bishop and Diocese, the Conference of Bishops of England and Wales, all relationship and sex education will be in accordance with the Church's moral teaching. It will emphasise the central importance of marriage and the family whilst acknowledging that all pupils have a fundamental right to have their life respected regardless of their background.

Aims of Relationship and Sex Education (RSE)

- To encourage pupils' growth in self-respect, acknowledging we are all created in the image and likeness of God
- To help pupils develop an understanding that love is central relationships
- To help pupils to understand the nature of relationships and to encourage them to reflect on their own relationships, respecting 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 sex education in the wider context of relationships.
- To ensure that pupils protect themselves and ask for help and support when needed.
- To ensure that pupils are prepared for puberty.
- To help pupils to develop a healthy and safe lifestyle.

Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught using, primarily, Journey in Love. This scheme is recommended by the Archdiocese of Liverpool and the RE coordinator has received training on how this programme should be delivered. Each teacher has a copy of the scheme and corresponding whiteboard materials.

RSE is primarily delivered through RE, Science and PSHE. Each teacher annotates medium term plans when RSE objectives are covered. In Years 5 and 6, teachers may need to teach specific material that does not overlap with other subject areas. In these cases, the lessons will be added to PSHE and Science timetabled time. The RSE curriculum map contains further details about this.

Teachers will use their professional judgement when addressing issues in RSE. Careful consideration will be given to the wide and varied experience and backgrounds of the pupils in their care.

While we operate a whole school approach to Relationship and Sex Education through our RSE programme, pupils in the autumn term of Year Five will learn about the emotional and the physical changes of puberty. For this particular part of the curriculum, teachers will use their professional judgement when conducting these sessions — choosing when to teach children together and when to allow time for group and individual discussion, question and answer. A similar approach will operate in the autumn term in Year Six.

Resources

Journey in Love: A Developmental Programme for Children in the Primary Years No Outsiders In Our School: Teaching the Equality Act – Andrew Moffat

Assessment Recording and Reporting

RSE is assessed by teachers using the age-related standards for RE, Science and PSHE, where applicable. RSE is reported to parents in the PSHE section of end-of-year reports.

Safeguarding Procedures

Should there be any causes for concerns, school staff should refer to the Safeguarding policy.

The Governing Body

The RE coordinator updates the governing body on the progress and details of RSE termly. The head teacher includes RSE within the RE and PSHE agenda when meeting with governors, termly.

The role of Parents

Parents are recognised as the first educators of their children and the school aims to support this through it's teaching of RSE. Communication with parents has been made at the implementation of the Journey in Love scheme of work and they are reminded at the start of each new academic year, through class presentations, the objectives taught and the materials used.

Right of Withdrawal

The school recognises the value of RSE, however, we do recognise that parents have the right to withdraw their children from certain elements (not included in National Curriculum Science) after discussion with the headteacher.