

Learning to love, loving to learn.



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION IN HUMAN LOVE AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Mission Statement

St Joseph's vision is that together we are the architects of the future, building lives on the firm foundations of the gospel.

Inspired by Christian values we aim to provide love and security within a curriculum designed to meet the complex needs of all individuals, in order to prepare them to take their place in the ever changing world of today and tomorrow.

Rationale:

A good and well-rounded education in human life and love is essential for every child. During our lives we work our way through 'developmental stages'. Each stage presents its own unique set of challenges or tasks, which must be mastered in order to move to the next. If children do not successfully complete these tasks they may be at a disadvantage as they move towards adolescence and eventually adulthood.

The development of a sexual identity is a core part of this transition.

Our Relationship and Sex Education Policy is based upon the Catholic values & teachings which are promoted throughout the school and for this reason we have determined to name it our Policy for Education in Human Love.

Purpose and aims:

The inclusion of positive, person-centred education is at the heart of Catholic, Christian education. This education is basically about the development, growth and journey of the whole person towards becoming 'fully human, fully alive' as a unique creation made in God's image.



Education in sexuality is of paramount importance in our Catholic school. More than ever the young people in our care need help and guidance in their struggle to live out their lives as members of the Christian family.

Our overall aims support the personal, moral and social development of all pupils, ensuring that they have the ability to accept their own and others' sexuality in positive ways to enjoy relationships based on mutual respect, dignity and responsibility, free from any abuse.

Sex Education is an umbrella term for all learning we need in order to understand and value our own and others' sexuality. It is more than a body of knowledge; it is about gender, about roles in society, about making choices. It is about facilitating growth and emotional maturity, helping the individual to go beyond the 'self' to the 'other' and to have "responsibility".

Sex Education is not just about biology and how the reproductive system works. It is about relationships, feelings and behaviour. Our aim at St Joseph's is to foster this message and educate the children in our care of this message and principle.

Objectives

- to have an awareness of where pupils/children are, in their own knowledge and understanding so that their concerns can be identified;
- to engender growth in self-respect and self-worth, recognising that each of us is created in the image of God;
- to explore the meaning and value of life, and give some appreciation of the values of a family life;
- to enable pupils to have some understanding that love is central and the basis of meaningful relationships;
- to encourage pupils to be aware of their attitudes and values and have a sense of responsibility for themselves;
- to enable pupils to reflect on their relationships and recognise the qualities that help relationships to grow and develop positively;
- to have some understanding of and to give consideration to the beliefs, value and cultures of others;



- to provide a forum where pupils can share their concerns and offer a climate of support where they know they will be listened to sensitively;
- to correct misinformation;
- to enable pupils to recognise the importance of the choices they make and that they are responsible for the decisions they take;
- to help pupils resist peer, social and media pressures where necessary;

RSE in Key Stage 1:

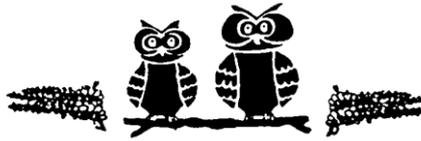
By the end of KS1 pupils should be able:

- To recognise and understand the importance of valuing themselves and others and that they are a child of God.
- To recognise and appreciate the term 'family' and the differing formats it can take.
- To recognise their membership in a family and the roles of individuals in the differing structure of families.
- To understand human growth and development and know themselves as male and female.
- To be able to name the main external parts of the body.
- To recognise and understand the term relationship and the range of relationships i.e. friends, family, husband/wife/brother/sister.
- To recognise and understand the positive characteristics of a positive relationship i.e. sharing, working together, trust.
- To know about rituals that mark life and death, birth, marriage etc.
- To recognise that life is a gift from God and is precious.
- To recognise and begin to understand the range of emotions and how to deal with them in a positive and effective manner.
- To recognise the need for personal health and safety and personal hygiene.
- To recognise and understand the dangers associated with use of internet and other technology.

RSE in Key Stage 2:

By the end of KS2 all pupils should be able:

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- To value themselves as a child of God, and their body as God's gift to them;
- To identify and explain how they grow and change throughout their life;
- To understand and explain what is meant by the term relationship and the differing kinds of relationships i.e. within families, with friends and communities;
- To express opinions, for example about relationships and bullying;
- To listen to and support others and respect other's viewpoint and beliefs;
- To identify adults that they can trust and who they can ask for help;
- To develop an appreciation and understanding of what is involved in bringing up children and what responsibilities parents have and to see things from other people's point of view, for example, their parents and carers.
- To explain the rituals celebrated in Church, marking birth, marriage and death;
- To be able to identify and explain their changing emotions and the need to respect other people's emotions and feelings;
- To begin to know and understand about the changes that come about through puberty;
- To know and understand their own bodies and their need for personal hygiene;
- To explain the names for the main parts of the body;
- To appreciate and explain that life is precious and a gift from God;
- To understand and explain the importance for forgiveness in relationships;
- To recognise and understand the dangers associated with use of internet and other technology and resist peer, social and media pressures where necessary;
- To understand the responsibility they have for the choices and decisions they make;
- To recognise and challenge stereotypes, for example in relation to gender.



Working with Parents

At St Joseph's we acknowledge that parents are the first and most important educators of their children and that they are the prime educators in matters of human love. The school is sensitive to the parent's role and recognises that Education in Human Love is a joint partnership between the school and the parents.

The school supports them in their role and will ensure that parents are kept informed of what is happening in RSE and of our experience of their children.

Governors

In accordance with the Education Act of 1993 the governing body will keep up to date the school's policy for RSE. The governors will ensure that all the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum are met. They will ensure that the programmes of study are faithful to the church's teaching, following the guidance provided by the Bishop's Conference and the Education Commission.

They will make known to parents their right to withdraw their children from all or part of the SRE provided at the school except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum.

Teachers

All teachers have a responsibility of care as well as fostering academic progress and 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. They must have a clear understanding of and commitment to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Other Professional (e.g. School nurse)

This policy applies equally to any visiting speakers or specialist advisors invited into the school to deliver any teaching in RSE. The content of the policy has to be shared and agreed in advance of their visit.

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The School Nurse will be instrumental in teaching about body changes.

Resources

"Learning to love" An introduction to Catholic Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) for Catholic Educators. Publication by the Department of Catholic Education and Formation, Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. March 2017

"Education In Human Love" Diocesan Policy for Relationship and Sex Education. Education Commission, Archdiocese of Southwark. June 2016

'This is my Body' Scheme of Work for Year 6.

This is my Body - RSE scheme of Work

The school has a copy of the sex education scheme of work for Catholic primary schools "This is my body" by Philos Educational Publishing, to support parents and teachers in this sensitive subject.

This is my body is a scheme of work for Catholic primary schools which assists parents in the personal relationships education of their children. There are 12 lessons in the scheme, which has been designed to meet the needs of Year 6 children (aged 10-11). The scheme is structured so that children learn about family and relationships in the classroom.

This is my body also offers resources for parents, in schools using this programme, to enable them to talk to their own children, at home, about puberty. This is the rightful role of parents.

Cardinal Martino of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace has endorsed *This is my body* with these words:

"The family constitutes a community of love and solidarity, which is uniquely suited to teach and transmit cultural, ethical, social spiritual and religious values, essential for the development and well-being of its own members and of society as a whole. It is in this context that cooperation between the family and school takes on primary importance."

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This policy is reviewed annually.

POLICY REVIEW TERM: ANNUAL

Policy reviewed: June 2017

Next review: June 2018