



Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School



Relationship and Sex Education Policy

Our Mission Statement :

'Love One Another As I Have Loved You' (John 13:33-34)

Agreed by Governors on 7th February 2017

Signed :  Chair of Governors

Review date : February 2019

Safeguarding Statement:

'Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the safety and welfare of all children and expects all staff , parents and volunteers to share this commitment.'

Our Vision

As a Catholic school that puts Christ at the centre, we are committed to encouraging everyone to 'Be The Best They Can Be'

Values and Ethos

We believe that everyone is made in the image and likeness of God and we value the equality of all, reject discrimination of any kind, and welcome the diversity of different cultures.

INTRODUCTION

This policy was developed in collaboration with other Catholic school in Coventry.

We have based our school's sex education policy in line with advice from the Birmingham Diocese, the Church's teaching in all such matters and on the DfE guidance document 'Sex and Relationship Education Guidance' (ref DfE 0116/2000). In this document, sex education is defined as 'learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about understanding the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and sexual health'. Sex education is part of the personal, social and health education curriculum in our school. While we use sex education to inform children about sexual issues, we do this with regard to matters of morality and individual responsibility, and in a way that allows children to ask and explore moral questions.

2. RELATIONSHIPS and SEX EDUCATION (RSE)

The school recognises that Relationship and Sex Education is a shared responsibility between home and school. It also acknowledges the advice of the Bishop's conference:

'It is the privilege and responsibility of the family to inform and educate their children in all matters pertaining to human growth and development, particularly the sensitive area of sex education'

At the core of RSE is the belief that:

'Every child is created in the image of God and loved by God'

'Sex Education recognises that human sexuality is a gift from God. It is concerned with the spiritual and moral as well as the physical and social.'

Sex and Relationships Education is about the journey of the whole person to become 'fully human and fully alive.'

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To promote the belief that each human person has a unique and special dignity and worth at each stage of life.
- To explore the meaning and value of life, and give some appreciation of the values of life.
- To promote the importance of family life.
- To encourage pupils to be aware of their attitudes and values and have a sense of responsibility for themselves.
- To enable the development of well informed, balanced persons capable of making choices and accepting responsibility for the consequences of their actions.
- To enable pupils to develop personal and social skills to help them establish safe, positive and healthy relationships.
- To foster the attitude that what we say with our bodies should reflect what we mean in our hearts and minds.

We teach children about:

- the physical development of their bodies as they grow into adults;
- the way humans reproduce;
- respect for their own bodies and the importance of sexual activity as part of a committed, long-term, and loving relationship in marriage as the ideal;
- moral questions;
- relationship issues;
- respect for the views of other people;
- sex abuse and what they should do if they are worried about any sexual matters.

4. Context

- It will focus on the development of the whole person.
- It will take into account the ages and development of the children.
- Sex education should be taught in the context of marriage and family life;
- Sex education is part of a wider social, personal, spiritual and moral education process;
- Children should be taught to have respect for their own bodies;
- Children should learn about their responsibilities to others, and be aware of their consequences;
- It is important to build positive relationships with others, involving trust and respect;
- Children need to learn the importance of self-control.
- Question and answer sessions will be in line with the teachings of the Catholic Church and any questions that can't be answered in school will be referred to parents.
- It will be subject to regular review and updating on content and teaching methods. Consultation with Governors and Parents is an essential part of the process

5. PLANNING

EYFS / Key Stage 1 pupils should be able:

- To understand the importance of valuing themselves and others;
- To recognise their membership of the family and the roles within it;
- To understand their growth and know themselves as males and females.
- To be able to name the main external parts of the body;
- To recognise babies have needs;
- To appreciate relationships, friends, family, working and playing together
- To know about rituals that mark life and death, birth and marriage;
- 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.
- To talk about their learning

Key stage 2 pupils should be able to:

- To value themselves as children 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
- To be aware of their changing emotions and the need to respect other people's emotions and feelings;
- To begin to know and understand the changes that come about throughout puberty;
- To know and understand their own bodies and their needs for personal hygiene;
- To know the names of 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 choices they make and that there are good and wrong choices.
- To recognise the importance for forgiveness in relationships.

6 Roles and responsibilities

THE ROLE OF PARENTS

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's relationship and sex education lies with parents and carers. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with the parents of children at our school through mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. In promoting this objective we:

- inform parents about the school's sex education policy and practice;
- answer any questions that parents may have about the sex education of their child;
- take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements for sex education in the school;
- encourage parents to be involved in reviewing the school policy and resources;

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of the sex education programme that we teach in our school. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from sex education lessons, they should discuss this with the headteacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in.

Role of the Governors

- to keep up to date the RSE policy, in consultation with parents and will ensure the policy is posted on the school website.

- make known to parents their right to withdraw their children from all parts of the RSE provided at school except for the Science parts in the Statutory National Curriculum.
- Designate one governor to have overview of RSE

Role of the Teachers – to contribute to children’s physical, spiritual and moral development set in the Catholic ethos of the school.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Teachers conduct sex education lessons in a sensitive manner and in accordance with the schools safeguarding policy.

Issues not discussed as part of the school’s RSE programme

- Homosexuality
- Masturbation
- Oral sex
- Contraception
- Abortion
- Rape

Resources

Birmingham Diocese Dept of RE '**All that I am**' – resources for Year 5 and 6

The Christopher Winter Project CDrom '**Teaching SRE with confidence in Primary schools**'

Channel 4 Learning DVD '**All about us Living and Growing**'

Ann Seal '**Protective Behaviours – ‘ We All have the Right to Feel Safe’**- programme

Coram '**Life Education Caravan**

END