

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

"Loving and Learning Together as Jesus taught us"



St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

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Sex and Relationships Policy

Date of policy review: September 2016

Next review: September 2017

Policy Reviewed & Passed by the Governors
Key Person Responsible: Maureen Kelly

Sex and Relationships Education Policy

“Within the Christian community there is a real need for giving gradual and positive sexual education to our children. Each school, in consultation with governors, teachers and parents, should have, or build a developmental programme which aims to help our young people to have a properly formed conscience, to enable them to make right judgements and to take the right actions in the many and varied situations in which they may find themselves” Bishops’ Conferences

Rationale

The school recognises that although the prime responsibility for sex education lies with parents, we have an obligation to share in this responsibility. Education in sexuality must be rooted in Catholic values and principles and within the framework of Christian moral education.

Although it is the Governors of maintained Catholic primary voluntary aided schools who determine whether or not they will have a written policy, the Bishops of England and Wales urge us to give our children positive guidance in Sex Education and a true appreciation of human gifts.

This policy is, therefore, written in accordance with DCFS guidance (DCFS ‘Sex and Relationships Guidance’ document: July 2000).

Purpose

1. The whole curriculum conveys values and helps in the moral growth of pupils. Sex education is by nature cross curricular.
2. It is the privilege and responsibility of parents to inform and educate children in matters pertaining to human growth and development. The role of the school is to provide support.
3. We are all unique, made in God’s image. We therefore need to engender in children self respect and self worth, as well as an understanding that their sexuality is part of God’s plan and His gift to us.
4. Children need to have an elementary understanding of human development and reproduction. We need to help them cope with the social, emotional and physical challenges of growing up.
5. Pupils learn above all from the personal relationships and attitudes they experience. They therefore need opportunities to reflect on their relationships and on the qualities that help them grow and develop.
6. Children need to understand that love and mutual respect are the basis of meaningful relationships.

Roles and Responsibilities

Subject Leaders for RE and PHSE will:

Ensure that Sex Education is delivered at the appropriate level and at the appropriate time as laid out in our Medium Term Plans for RE and PHSE

All Staff are expected to ensure that:

- The Sex Education curriculum is delivered in an atmosphere of trust, honesty, respect and openness.
- Any issues raised are dealt with sensitively.
- If any issues are raised that are inappropriate to the age of the children these will be discussed with the parents.

Governors are responsible for ensuring that:

- The school prospectus includes information about the school's Sex Education Programme

Guidelines

- Sex education will be integrated where appropriate with other areas of the curriculum. Certain topics in our RE scheme, 'The Way, The Truth and The Life' are particularly suited to links with education in sexuality.
- As stated in our rationale and purpose our programme will provide opportunities for dialogue with parents in order to involve them in the Sex Education of their children. Our programme of work will be discussed with parents and they will be involved in the review of the policy.
- This programme will seek to promote dignity and respect. We will encourage sensitivity towards the beliefs, cultures and values of others. Discussion with the children will take place within a reverent environment.
- We will engender in children a respect for their bodies and those of others.
- We will raise awareness of potential sexism in society and the value of equal opportunities for males and females.
- Education in sexuality will be developed so that children are given factual information (including acceptable vocabulary for parts of the body) appropriate to their maturity. An integral part of this will be an understanding and appreciation of the family.
- During this education children's questions will be answered honestly and with sensitivity, having regard to the age and maturity of the child. All children will be encouraged to refer to their parents for further advice. The content of the nature of relationships will be within the context of our Religious Education Programme and other major resources for Education in Personal Relationships, 'Health for Life' and SEAL.

- The programme will seek to promote the children’s awareness of appropriate behaviour within relationships and provide them with strategies for keeping safe.
- In order to make this operative our aim will be to provide a school climate in which the quality of relationships between staff and pupils and between pupils themselves is marked by honesty, respect, warmth, trust and security.
- The programme used with Year 6 pupils will be ‘All that I Am.’ Parents will be invited to view the video and discuss any issues arising before it is shown to children.

Withdrawal

Section 241 of the Education Act 1993 gives parents the right to withdraw their children from any or all parts of the school’s programme of Sex Education other than those elements which are required by the National Curriculum Science Order.

Related Policies: EPR Policy, RE Policy, Science Policy, Drugs Education Policy

Tracking

DfE Stat Policy	Best Practice	Web	MyUSO	Signed by Staff	Version
✓	-	✓	-	-	1.0
✓	-	✓	-	-	1.1