



ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

Statutory policy for Sex (and Relationship) Education 2016

Our Mission Statement

"Do everything with love."

(St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians 16:14)

This means that we will...

- *Show our love for Jesus in everything we say and do*
- *Respect everyone by recognising that God made us all different but equally valued.*
- *Strive for excellence and find ways to share, develop and celebrate our talents.*
- *Promote a safe, happy and enjoyable environment.*
- *Actively support our school, parish and the wider community.*

Ratified on

Date _____

Signed _____

Review date _____

St Paul's is a Catholic School which takes Jesus Christ as the centre of all it does and our teaching reflects the church's teaching on SRE.

Education is about the growth and development of the whole person and about meeting the physical, spiritual, moral and emotional needs of our pupils. As children develop, their sexuality emerges so we need to help each individual acquire the necessary values and attitudes together with the appropriate knowledge, understanding and skills suitable for the different stages of his or her own personal growth to human security. It is also extremely important that we allay fears and anxieties and correct myths and misinformation. It is essential that sexuality is taught within the context of relationships and is about caring for oneself and for one's partner.

Therefore there is a need to establish within the curriculum, a clear programme of Education for Personal Relationships, which incorporates sex education. Such a programme must recognise the sacredness of the individual and help to develop self-esteem, self respect and respect for others. The programme of sex education must be presented in accordance with the Church's teaching within a frame work that emphasises love, commitment, fidelity and the value of family life. We must also help them to develop an appreciation of the values underpinning the teaching, so that they can make informed decisions and choices.

The school recognises and acknowledges that parents have the prime responsibility for their children's growth in understanding relationships and their sexuality. However, the school can provide:

- A setting in which children can at times reflect on their present relationship
- An opportunity for people of the same age to share common experiences and to learn from each other.

N.B. No sex education should be given without prior consultation with parents.

Sex education will be taught throughout the school within the context of personal relationships and marriage and delivered through Religious Education and Science. Other activities where discussion and learning may take place will be MYSELF week, assemblies and circle time.

AIMS

- To engender growth in self respect and self worth, recognising that each of us is created in the image of God
- To enable pupils to understand that love is central to 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 prepare children for puberty and to develop the skills and self esteem to help children enter adolescence
- To be sensitive to the fact that children come from a variety of family models
- To teach children about the nature of marriage and its importance for family life and for bringing up children
- To ensure that they have the ability to accept their own and other children's sexuality in positive ways and to enjoy relationships based on mutual respect, dignity and responsibility, free from any abuse
- To correct misinformation and misunderstanding that children may have gained
- To help pupils develop their critical faculties and be aware of the values conveyed by the media in relation to self-image and sexuality
- To explore the meaning and value of life and give some appreciation of the values of family life

Key Stage 1 Objectives for Sex and Relationship Education

Children should be taught:

- That loving, secure relationships within a family group are important
- That they are created by God and to be aware of their uniqueness and self worth
- The need for self discipline and self control
- To talk about their emotions in a socially acceptable way
- How their behaviour and feelings affect others
- To recognise their feelings and find ways of dealing with them
- That humans can produce babies and that these babies grow into children and then into adults (National Science Curriculum)
- That humans move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce (ScAt2 1b)
- To know themselves as male and female
- To name the external parts of the human body (National Science Curriculum) and to talk about them using their correct names
- That individuals have rights over their own bodies
- The difference between good and bad touching
- That some diseases are infectious
- That schools are caring communities where they will be believed and listened to
- About the Church's rituals that mark life, especially birth, marriage and death
- How to treat themselves and others with mutual respect and dignity

Key Stage 2 Objectives for Sex and Relationship Education

- To understand what is meant by relationships within families, friends and communities
- About development from birth to 5+
- An appreciation of what is involved in bringing up children and the responsibility of parents
- To develop an awareness of how their behaviour and feelings affect the behaviour of feelings of others
- The meaning of friendship, trust and loyalty and to develop skills needed to form, maintain and end relationships
- To understand the importance of honesty and self discipline, and to develop a caring, considerate attitude towards the needs of others
- That there are good and bad choices which can affect their safety, and that these choices have consequences for themselves and others
- About their changing emotions and the need to respect other people's emotions and feeling
- To value themselves as a child of God, and their body as God's gift to them
- That they grow and change throughout life
- The names for the parts of the body
- The main stages of the human life cycle (National Science Curriculum)
- About the changes that come about through puberty and how these changes affect the body in relation to hygiene
- To be sensitive to those who are developing physically or who may have height or weight issues
- The basic biology of human reproduction (National Science Curriculum)
- To talk about relationships and how to seek advice from significant adults
- To learn the significance of marriage and stable relationships as the key building blocks of community and society

INCLUSION

Sex and Relationship Education is inclusive. As such a wide range of learning and teaching strategies are planned into the programme.

PUBERTY AND PERSONAL HYGIENE

Girls and boys will be taught in groups about their changing bodies and emotions, menstruation, puberty and human development in Year 5.

Disposal facilities will be available to all menstruating females and all staff will deal with requests for supplies in a helpful manner without embarrassment.

LANGUAGE

Appropriate language that has been agreed by the whole staff will be used to communicate about sexual health. Pet names, swear words and slang can mystify, confuse and offend children.

The following key words may be used as and when appropriate at the teacher's discretion:

KEY STAGE 1

penis
anus
breasts
navel
nipples
umbilical cord

KEY STAGE 2

menstruation
reproduction
ovaries
puberty
periods
testicles
sperm/egg
vulva

Any other words for sexual organs will not be used.

REPRODUCTION

Children in Year 5 will be taught about human reproduction, which will include naming the sexual external and internal organ, and about menstruation and the production of sperm in testes. They will be taught about sexual intercourse and wet dreams. They will not be taught about masturbation, homosexuality and sexually transmitted diseases.

If a child asks a question relating to any of the issues not open to discussion, they will be spoken to individually adhering to the above guidelines and parents will be informed.

Contraception will not be taught as part of the curriculum but we will be sensitive to individual concerns and they will be recognised and dealt with within the context of Catholic teaching.

GUIDELINES

The school nurses impart the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding to the teachers in preparation for the programme of lessons.

Visitors e.g. school nurse, health visitors etc. should work closely with the class teacher as part of a planned programme (they should be aware of the school's policy for Sex and Relationship Education).

Teachers will always be present when "visitors" are working with pupils.

Parents will be made aware of the school Sex and Relationship Education programme, so that they can support and follow through work covered at school. There will be a meeting for parents before the programme begins in Years 5 and 6.

Parents will be able to view all resources e.g. videos, models, written material.

MONITORING OF SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

There should be ongoing monitoring of the programme and the children should evaluate their experiences.

CURRICULAR LINKS

Education in Sex and Relationships is closely linked to the Religious Education programme and to the science curriculum. It can be incorporated in aspects of Personal, Social and Health Education.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Teachers and adults working with children in Sex and Relationship Education should be aware that confidentiality cannot be guaranteed if any issues arise which cause concern. If there is a child protection issue, the Child Protection Officer (Head of School) must alerted at once.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed every three years.