

The Holy Spirit
Catholic Primary School

Relationships and Sex Education Draft Policy
April 2021

PSHE Co-ordinator: Headteacher Mrs Lorraine Connolly



<i>Academic year</i>	<i>Designated Senior Person</i>	<i>Deputy Designated Senior Person</i>	<i>Nominated Governor</i>	<i>Chair of Governors</i>
<i>April 2020-2021</i>	<i>Jenia Crabbe</i>	<i>Louisa Jones</i>	<i>Ann Kelly</i>	<i>Kathy Keig</i>
<i>Review Date</i>	<i>Changes made</i>	<i>By Whom</i>	<i>Date ratified at FGB</i>	
<i>June 2021</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>Proposed June 2021</i>	



Mission Statement

“In the spirit of love and forgiveness our family learns to grow with hope and joy”.

“Love one another; as I have loved you”.

John 15:12:

In this policy the Governors and teachers, in partnership with pupils and their parents, set out our intentions about relationships and sex education (RSE) at The Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School. We set out our rationale for and approach to RSE at our school. This policy has been developed in line with Catholic Education Service Guidance

Consultation

- Letter to parents to parents and carers
- Questionnaire to parents and carers
- Consultation with staff and Governors

Implementation

Implementation of this policy will take place after consultation with the Governors at the full Governing body meeting in June 2021. We will review the policy every 2 years by the headteacher (SRE lead) and the senior leadership team and the governing body. Date of review will be summer 2023.

Dissemination

This policy will be shared with all members of the Governing body, staff and non-teaching staff. The policy will be published on the school website for parents and carers to access and paper copies will be available on request. The RSE curriculum and further guidance will also be available on the website.

Defining Relationships and Sex Education

The DFE guidance states that “Children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way”. It is about the development of the pupil’s knowledge and understanding of what it means to be fully human.

It is about the understanding of the importance of family life, stable and loving relationships, to love, respect, and care. It is about the development of the pupil's knowledge and understanding of her or him as about what it means to be fully human, called to live in right relationships with self and others and being enabled to make moral decisions in conscience. The DFE identifies three main elements: "attitudes and values, personal and social skills, and knowledge and understanding".

Children must acquire skills and knowledge and understanding to enable them to make responsible decisions about their friendships, family relationships, and their well-being and the wellbeing of others, including how to develop respectful relationships online and stay safe.

Statutory Curriculum Requirements.

We are legally required to teach aspects of SRE which are statutory parts of the National Curriculum, Science for example human reproduction, puberty and the human life cycle. However, the reasons for us to include SRE go a lot further

Rationale

"I have come that you might have life and have it to the full."
John 10:10

We are involved in relationships and sex education precisely because of our Christian beliefs about God and about the human person. The belief in the unique dignity of the human person made in the image and likeness of God underpins the approach to all education in a Catholic school. Our approach to RSE therefore is rooted in the Catholic Church's teaching of the human person and presented in a positive framework of Christian ideals.

At the heart of the Christian life is the Trinity, Father, Son and Spirit in communion, united in loving relationship and embracing all people and all creation. As a consequence of the Christian belief that we are made in the image and likeness of God, gender and sexuality are seen as God's gift, reflect God's beauty, and share in the divine creativity. RSE, therefore, will be placed firmly within the context of relationship as it is there that sexuality grows and develops.

Following the guidance of the Bishops of England and Wales and as advocated by the DFE RSE will be firmly embedded in the PSHE framework as it is concerned with nurturing human wholeness and integral to the physical, spiritual, emotional, moral, social and intellectual development of pupils. It is centred on Christ's vision of being human as

good news and will be positive and prudent, showing the potential for development, while enabling the dangers and risks involved to be understood and appreciated.

All RSE 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 whatever household they come from.

Values and Virtues

Our programme enshrines Catholic values relating to the importance of stable relationships, marriage and family life. It also promotes those virtues which are essential in responding to God's call to love others with respect for their dignity and the dignity of the human body. The following virtues will be explicitly explored and promoted: faithfulness, fruitfulness, chastity, integrity, prudence, mercy and compassion. At the Holy Spirit Catholic primary School we are guided by the virtues throughout our school day to enable us to look to Christ in all that we do.

Aim of RSE and the Mission Statement

Our Mission Statement commits us to the education of the whole child spiritual, physical, intellectual, moral, social, cultural and emotional and we believe that RSE is an integral part of this education to enable our pupils to understand the importance of relationships and support them in all aspects of personal growth and development.

Furthermore, our school aims to support our pupils and families to help them to grow in knowledge and understanding, to recognise and value all persons. We aim to provide a loving, caring family environment for children to develop sensitive attitudes and form positive relationships within our school community and beyond.

At The Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School we work in partnership with parents, to provide children and young people with RSE that is rooted in a Catholic vision of education and the human person.

Aims of RSE at The Holy Spirit

To enable our children and families to grow in love and understanding of human relationships and we see it as our responsibility to educate them in all matters of personal growth and development.

The Holy Spirit recognise that Christ is at the centre of all personal, social, health, moral and citizen education. Children learn they are loved and created by God and know the importance of relationships in the context of the Catholic faith.

At the Holy Spirit we are guided by the Catholic virtues to educate and support our children:

- To help pupils grow in self- respect and know that they are created in the likeness of God.
- To Ensure that our children are prepared for puberty
- To offer sex education in the wider context of relationships.
- To respect the dignity of every human being and reflect on their own relationships and respect differences in other people. Children are taught how to respect equality and diversity in relationships.
- To take responsibility for their own actions and a recognition of the impact of these on others.
- To make good judgements and good choices that are respectful of themselves and others.
- To help our children to develop healthy and safe lifestyles
- Help to manage emotions within relationships by developing their confidence to talk about their feelings, emotions and relationships when they need help.
- To help manage conflict positively, recognising the value of difference. Know that forgiveness is a gift and the importance of forgiving others;
- To help children maintain relationships and keep themselves safe, resist unwanted pressures, recognising the influence and impact of the media, internet and peer groups.
- To prepare our children to play an active role as citizens and to understand what it means to be citizens of the Kingdom of God; for children to make decisions putting the vulnerable, poor and excluded first

Our school meets these aims in three inter-related ways:

- By placing our mission statement and our ethos at the core of everything we do; we are guided by the Catholic virtues and values.
- By including SRE in a cross-curricular approach.
- Through a specific RSE programme of learning.

Programme of learning at the Holy Spirit

Our RSE programme “Life to the Full” focuses on three modules

1. Created and loved by God- explores the individual rooted in the teaching that we are made in the image and likeness of God, it helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as a basis for personal relationships
2. Created to love others – Explores the individual relationships with others. Building on the understanding that we have been created out of love and for love. This unit explores how we take this calling into our family, friendships and relationships and teaches strategies for developing healthy relationships.
3. Created to live in the community- Explores the individual’s relationship with the wider world. Here we explore how human beings are relational by nature and are called to love others in the wider community through service, through dialogue and through working for the Common Good.

Each year group explore all 3 modules at an age appropriate level. “Life to the Full” base their teaching on the following 10 principles:

1. Our bodies are good
2. As we grow in our loving relationships with others we become close to the likeness of God.
3. Catholic RSE should be about the whole person
4. Catholic RSE should be taught in partnership with parents
5. Our deepest identity is as a child of God.
6. Story can change hearts and minds.
7. Catholic RSE is an education in virtue
8. Catholic RSE is an education in conscience
9. SRE is about striving for the Common Good
10. Prayer Scripture and the sacraments fuel the teaching.

The Diocese of Shrewsbury do not have a specific RSE programme but “life to the Full” is one of three schemes that schools have been directed to use (January 2021) as a catholic resource.

Inclusion and differentiated Learning

We will ensure RSE is sensitive to the different needs of individual pupils in respect to pupils' different abilities, levels of maturity and personal circumstances; for example their own sexual orientation, faith or culture and is taught in a way that does not subject pupils to discrimination. Lessons will also help children to realise the nature and consequences of discrimination, teasing, bullying and aggressive behaviours (including cyber-bullying), use of prejudice-based language and how to respond and ask for help.

Parents and Carers

We recognise that parents (and other carers who stand in their place) are the primary educators of their children. As a Catholic school, we provide the principal means by which the Church assists parents and carers in educating their children. Therefore the school will support parents and carers by providing material to be shared with their children at home and workshops to help parents/carers to find out more. Parents/carers will be informed by letter when the more sensitive aspects of RSE will be covered in order that they can be prepared to talk and answer questions about their children's learning. Parents will also have access to the materials on the "Life to the Full" Parent Portal.

Withdrawal

'Parents have the right to withdraw their children from sex education except for those elements which are set out in the National Curriculum. Should parents wish to withdraw their children they need to notify the school by contacting the Headteacher who will then discuss with parents the benefits of receiving this important education and any detrimental effects that withdrawal might have on the child;

Assessing RSE

Assessing RSE at The Holy Spirit will be in the form of lesson observations, looking at pupils work samples to see how children respond to teaching, and pupil voice, Pupils will be encouraged to reflect on their learning. Assessment will also allow children to reflect and discuss their own progress.

Roles and Responsibilities

Governors

- Ensure that the policy is available to parents;
- Ensure that the policy is in accordance with other whole school policies.
- Ensure that parents know of their right to withdraw their children;
- Establish a link governor to share in the monitoring and evaluation of the programme, including resources used;

- Ensure that the policy provides proper and adequate coverage of relevant National Curriculum science topics and the setting of RSE within PSHE.

Headteacher

The Headteacher takes overall delegated responsibility for the implementation of this policy and for liaison with the Governing Body, parents, the Diocesan Schools' Service and the Local Education Authority, also appropriate agencies.

PSHE/RSE Co-ordinator

The co-ordinator has a general responsibility for supporting other members of staff in the implementation of this policy and will provide a lead in the dissemination of the information relating to RSE and the provision of in-service training

All Staff

RSE is a whole school issue. All teachers have a responsibility of care; as well as fostering academic progress 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. Appropriate training will be made available for all staff teaching RSE. All staff have been included in the development of this policy and all staff should be aware of the policy and how it relates to them. All staff are expected to be involved in developing the attitudes and values aspect of "Life to the Full" They will be role models for pupils and will also contribute to the development of pupils' personal and social skills to be part of a loving community.

Relationship to other Policies and Curriculum Subjects

The RSE Policy is to be delivered alongside other relevant PSHE policies these include our Behaviour Policy, Equality and Diversity Policy, Safeguarding Policy, Religious Education Policy and our Collective Worship Policy.

At the Holy Spirit we endeavour to teach RSE across the curriculum in the relevant curriculum areas so that it becomes part of our children's everyday lives. Children who experience difficulties accessing materials will receive differentiated support to enable them to achieve the knowledge, understanding and skills. Teaching methods will be adapted to meet the needs of our pupils.

This Policy is monitored by SMT, it will be evaluated and reviewed in consultation with teaching staff and relevant members of the governing body before being presented to our full governing body meeting in the summer term of 2021.

