

ST. MARY'S CE VC FIRST SCHOOL

SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION POLICY

What is Sex and Relationships Education?

It is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of 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.

Rights of Withdrawal

SRE will be taught as part of the Science curriculum and the PSHE curriculum- following the 'Rainbow' resources supplied within the SEAL scheme of work. Parents do have a right to withdraw their children from part or all of sex and relationships education. The SRE curriculum is designed to go alongside the teaching parents will provide to their individual children.

The General Aims of Sex and Relationships Education from Age 4 - 19

The following aims should be addressed by teachers:

- To acknowledge and complement the role of parents as sex educators and liaise with them.
- To stress the value of family life, the raising of children and the nature of marriage
- To promote loving and caring relationships and the idea of mutual responsibility within these relationships.
- To acknowledge and respect all loving and caring relationships regardless of sexual orientation
- To promote an understanding of the implications of parenthood.
- To develop skills and promote responsible attitudes for future parents and child carers.

- To provide and encourage sensible attitudes to natural bodily functions.
- To help young people understand that they have rights and should have control over who touches their bodies. Also to increase communicative skills about such matters.
- To reduce guilt and anxiety.
- To develop skills to recognise and resist exploitation.
- To make young people aware of sources of help and information that is available to them.
- To counter misleading notions and folklore.
- To generate an atmosphere within which pupils/students can ask questions and discuss sexual matters without embarrassment.
- To provide information about sexual matters in an open and frank way, being sensitive to the needs of individuals and groups.
- To increase awareness of sexual identity and develop ideas of non-stereotyped gender roles.

Not all these points will be relevant to our age group but reflect Sex and Relationship Education across the whole age range. Some children, however, may occasionally need support in a particular area. Outside agencies may be involved if necessary.

The cross-curricular nature of sex education makes it appropriate to integrate it into the work done in science, RE etc.

As a church school, it is important that we recognise that sex is not only a given fact of human existence but, in Christian belief, a gift of God as part of creation. Although, as a first school, we will not be covering human sexuality and reproduction, it is important that we lay the foundations for our children, as they grow up, to have an understanding of their own bodies, instincts and feelings. Young children also need an understanding and knowledge of adult and child relationships with the family.

Styles of Teaching and Learning at St Mary's.

Sex Education is not merely concerned with knowledge; it is also concerned with values, attitudes and behaviour. These will be conveyed in a variety of teaching and learning styles.

It is important that pupils feel comfortable to discuss sensitive issues without embarrassment. The teaching environment should allow for:

- small group discussion
- introducing the accepted biological vocabulary and using it at all times
- creating an atmosphere characterised by trust, honesty and confidentiality
- negotiating the 'ground rules' as to what is acceptable in the classroom
- showing respect for personal privacy
- encouraging pupils to show respect for others pupils' opinions
- presenting sensitive issues using a balanced approach, free from personal bias

Breadth of study

Key Stage 1

Pupils will learn:

- the difference between males and females (physical/ non- physical)
- to understand the lifecycle of humans and other animals (from birth to death)
- to recognise that I can like and dislike different sensations created through the sense of touch
- to understand there are different types of physical contact
- to understand there is some types of physical contact we like and others we may not
- to understand some types of physical contact are acceptable and others are not

- to understand there are times when it is good/ not good to keep a secret
- to know someone they can speak to if they don't want to keep a secret

Key Stage 2

Pupils should be taught:

- to understand that living things reproduce and that females give birth
- to understand that babies, animals and humans, have needs to stay alive
- to know some strategies to keep myself safe
- to know the importance of telling or asking someone for help and sharing my concern
- to identify and respect the differences and similarities between people
- to recognise simple gender stereotyping
- to understand that a baby develops inside the mother's womb
- to know that both male and female sexual parts are needed to make a baby
- to understand how a baby grows in the womb and how we have developed from a baby
- to understand what it feels like to keep safe and there are many things to keep safe from

Child Protection

If a member of the school's staff (teaching or non-teaching) suspects that a child is a victim of abuse or they have reason to believe he/she is at risk of abuse, they should be **aware of the procedures** for reporting their concerns and to whom they should do so.

It is recommended that:

- All staff should be alert to signs of abuse and they should report their concerns or suspicions to the designated officer for child protection.

This policy has been written: March 2010

This policy will be reviewed: March 2012. Policy adopted by the Staff Development & Curriculum Committee, April 2010

After amendment policy adopted Full Governing Body, May 2010