



Atherton Sacred Heart RC Primary School

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

This policy was reviewed following training by the Archdiocese of Liverpool in Summer 2017. This was in the light of instruction from the Conference of Bishops in England and Wales about the importance of RSE in the curriculum and following the publication of the document 'Learning To Love'.

What is RSE?

Relationships and Sexual Education (RSE) is lifelong learning about physical, moral, social and emotional development. It is the understanding of the importance of marriage and family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care.

Mission Statement

By living out our Catholic faith, TOGETHER we ENCOURAGE and ACHIEVE.

At Sacred Heart we recognise that each of our children is unique and made in the image of God. RSE promotes self esteem and well being. It helps them form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships, based on respect for themselves and others, at home, at school and within the community. RSE is an important part of the education of the whole child.

As a Catholic school, SRE is rooted in the teachings of the Catholic Church. Marriage and family are at the centre though all pupils have the right to have their life and family respected even if circumstances and values differ.

Aims

It is the aim of Sacred Heart School to provide appropriate teaching at the appropriate time within a pupil's time at the school. Through SRE, we aim to teach pupils:

- that we are made in the image of God
- about skills required to form strong relationships that are based on respect
- about the importance of love in relationships
- to be able to articulate thoughts and feelings about relationships
- about keeping safe in relationships
- about puberty and being ready for the changes ahead
- to offer sex education in the wider context of loving relationships
- about healthy lifestyles

Delivery of RSE

There are opportunities to teach about relationships in every day interactions by all who are part of the Catholic family that is Sacred Heart, for example as set out in the Code of Conduct and embedded in policies such Behaviour and Anti Bullying. Our school is a nurturing place in which people are valued and treated with respect. RSE is taught across the curriculum including in specific subjects: Religious Education, PHSE and Science. Whilst some aspects of SRE are non statutory, significant aspects remain as part of the National Curriculum for Science and as such, are statutory for all pupils. [Parents are unable to withdraw from statutory content].

What is taught in Science?

Key Stage 1

- that animals, including humans, move, feed, grow use their senses and reproduce;
- to recognise and compare the main external parts of the bodies of humans;
- that humans and animals produce offspring which grow into adults;
- to recognise similarities and differences between themselves and others and treat others with sensitivity.

Key Stage 2

- that life processes common to humans and other animals include nutrition, growth and reproduction;
- the main stages of the human life cycle.

Assessment

The statutory science elements of the curriculum will be assessed formally and reported in the same way as all science areas. Within the non statutory elements pupils' will be assessed informally. Methods may involve teacher observations and pupil self assessment.

Resources

The first educators with regards to SRE are parents/ carers and as a school we support them with this responsibility to nurture. A key resource for teaching SRE in school is: A JOURNEY IN LOVE

Upper Key Stage 2 Programme

Before pupils embark on this programme, it is school policy to invite parents to an information meeting outlining exactly what will take place in the sessions. We also take this opportunity to invite parents to meet the members of staff involved in delivering the programme. At this opportunity parents are able to raise any points of concern or exercise their right to withdraw their child from the sessions. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non statutory aspects of SRE but very few opt to.

Confidentiality

Teachers cannot offer unconditional confidentiality during these sessions. Pupils will be advised of this prior to sessions beginning. Any disclosures made during these sessions must be dealt with in accordance with the current Safeguarding Policy.

Providing a safe environment

Prior to any work being taught pupils will be referred to a series of statements outlining the ground rules for the sessions.

The RSE policy is approved by Governors of the school. They are kept informed of the curriculum and it's content and monitor and evaluate in accordance with their duties.

An overview of A Journey In Love, the school's chosen key resource for RSE follows:

JOURNEY IN LOVE

All themes across all age groups are taught in four stages:

- Physical
- Social
- Intellectual
- Spiritual

Themes are as follows:

Reception - Wonder at God's Love

Year 1 - God loves each of us in our uniqueness

Year 2 - We meet God's love in our family

Year 3 - How we live in love

Year 4 - God loves us in our differences

Year 5 - God loves me and my changing and development

Year 6 - The wonder of God's love in creating new life

Date of review: November 2017

Next review: November 2019

