



Atherton Sacred Heart RC Primary School

Relationships and Sexual Education Policy

This policy was developed by staff consultation with the support of HH Kids. It has been prepared for the use and support of staff, Governors and visitors to the school in order to ensure uniformity in the delivering of the subject.

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 pupils is unique. 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.

Introduction

In the recent past the answer might have come in terms of biological facts and hygiene. Today, however, RSE does have a biological component but it is also concerned with exploring feelings about oneself and others and relationship issues.

Aims

When teaching RSE within the primary school it is vitally important to match the teaching to the maturity levels of the children. If children have a sound foundation of concepts taught in the Key Stage 1 and 2 science programmes then learning about birth and reproduction at Key Stage 3 will be a natural progression.

It is the aim of Sacred Heart School to provide appropriate teaching at the appropriate time within a pupil's time at the school. To this end, pupils in Upper Key Stage 2 are involved in lessons teaching about the development of their bodies, both physical and emotional, during puberty. These lessons are delivered by trained staff with the support of the class teacher.

Statutory provision

The government believes that all pupils should receive a comprehensive, well planned programme of RSE during their time at school. This fulfils the requirement of section 1 of The Education Reform Act 1988 that the school curriculum should be one which: "promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society:"

SRE Policy

It is the policy of Sacred Heart Primary School to offer a thoughtful, sensitive programme of RSE encompassing the values of a Catholic education. In RSE lessons and indeed across the curriculum we aim to provide a safe and calm environment where pupils feel that their opinions are valued. It is inclusive of all pupils.

There are 3 main elements to the RSE programme:

- Values and attitudes,
- Knowledge and understanding,
- Personal and social skills.

Knowledge and understanding is taught in discreet science lessons as part of the statutory science curriculum and in Upper Key Stage 2 as part of a specific Puberty Programme.

Values and attitudes, along with Personal and Social skills are delivered as part of the nonstatutory PHSE programme and where appropriate, across the curriculum.

What is taught?

National Curriculum 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.
- 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.

PHSE

Throughout their time at Sacred Heart School and across all areas of the curriculum, pupils are taught the values of their relationships to others. This includes peers, relatives, staff and other adults they may meet. A safe and nurturing environment is encouraged where pupils' opinions are valued. Throughout their time at Sacred Heart pupils are given opportunities participate in a number of activities aimed at promoting and understanding positive relationships such as:

- TEAM [together everyone achieves more] activities/ behaviour policy
- Beat Bullying Blue Day (anti-bullying)
- Y5/6 visits to Lockerbie and Hinning House
- Visiting the Life Caravan
- Theatre performances
- 'Strength of Character' awards
- School Council/ pupil voice activities

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.

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 SRE sessions. If this is a decision made by parents school are able to provide support in enabling them to deliver the compulsory areas of the subject.

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 Child Protection 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.

Answering difficult questions

Staff delivering the sessions will answer questions with understanding and respect. Here are a number of questions which, it has been decided, may not be answered by staff at school. If these arise a statement will be given suggesting the pupil may wish to discuss their question with a relevant adult.

Programme order for Upper Key Stage 2 – see SRE HH Kids document.

