

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND FOUNDATION SCHOOL

"Every moment, every day, every individual counts"



RELATIONSHIPS, SEX EDUCATION AND PSHE POLICY (STATUTORY)

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Governors Monitoring Pair: Behaviour & Safety

SLT Responsible: Deputy Headteacher

"For the body does not consist of one member but of many" 1 Corinthians 12:14

HOPE

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WISDOM

RELATIONSHIP, SEX EDUCATION (RSE) AND PSHE POLICY

Please note that RSE stands for Relationship and Sex Education and PSHE stands for Personal Social and Health Education for the whole of this document.

According to the latest Government guidance RSE and PSHE 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. ” (DfES 0116/2000).

It is a legal requirement for schools to provide Relationships and Sex Education and the requirements of the Education Act 2002, Academies Act 2010 and the Equality Act (2010) need to be addressed and implemented.

1. INTRODUCTION:

The school’s approach to RSE and PSHE will be conducted within a clear morals and values framework based on the above principles. It will also aim to equip all pupils with accurate, unbiased knowledge about relationships, sex and health. Furthermore it will give pupils the opportunity to acquire life skills that will help them make good use of this knowledge. The programme will enable pupils to explore and respect their own and others’ opinions, attitudes and values. The programme is intended for all pupils.

Church of England schools aim to develop in all pupils the knowledge and capacity to make informed choices about their personal lives. Whatever the specific content of the syllabus, church schools will continue to place sex education within the framework of a Christian understanding of sex and human relationships, which stresses the importance of a faithful marriage as the best framework for sex.’

The RSE and PSHE programme ensures that pupils will revisit topics in order to build upon their existing knowledge and skills throughout their time at the school. It is intended that RSE and PSHE will be taught through interactive learning activities as appropriate. Wherever appropriate, parents will be informed and invited to support the RSE and PSHE programme.

2. OBJECTIVES

In delivering PSHE at St George’s, we seek to:-

- promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of children at the school;
- develop children’s confidence to talk, share ideas, make decisions for themselves and make the most of their abilities
- develop their respect of our common humanity, diversity and differences in order to form effective relationships and become active, responsible citizens;
- promote an understanding of improving lifelong health, positive approach to the environment, enabling them to have the confidence to make responsible life-style choices.
- promote Physical Education, school sport, physical activity as part of a lifelong healthy lifestyle;
- prepare students for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life.

3. MORAL AND VALUES FRAMEWORK:

The school believes that RSE and PSHE should be delivered within the following framework and the RSE and PSHE programme will promote:

- self-respect;
- respect and tolerance towards others who may have different backgrounds, cultures, feelings, views and sexuality;
- taking account of other people’s feelings;
- mutual support and co-operation;
- honesty;

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- accepting responsibility for the consequences of actions;
- the right of people to hold their own views;
- not imposing views on other people;
- the right not to be abused by other people or taken advantage of;
- the right to receive accurate information about sex and relationship issues.

4. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES:

The school ensures that effective RSE and PSHE is available to all pupils and that the RSE and PHSE programme responds to the needs of individual pupils with additional educational needs and takes pupils, cultures, faiths and family backgrounds into consideration.

5. THE RSE AND PSHE PROGRAMME:

The delivery of the PSHE curriculum in the Primary Phase at St George's Church of England Foundation School is planned to promote children's personal and social development, and includes health education and wellbeing. Planning for PSHE will start with staff identifying specific needs, teaching to address these individual gaps and also planning for a broad and balanced scheme of work. It will be approached in a cross curricular manner with school activities, visitors and acts of worship reflecting the importance of early personal and social development. Within year groups, a more specific PSHE curriculum will include a health education programme, where children will be taught explicitly about the importance of diet and exercise, and the risk involved in the use of harmful substances.

Some carefully selected RSE and drug education tailored to the age and specific needs of the pupils will be taught. Parents will be given full information about the syllabus, invited to see teaching materials, such as videos, in advance and will have the right to withdraw children. The needs and the sensitivities of pupils and parents will be carefully considered.

The sex education contained in National Curriculum Science (Key Stages 1 and 2) is compulsory in maintained schools. All state-funded schools must have 'due regard' to the Secretary of State's guidance on RSE (DfE, 2000)

This states that:

- All children, including those who develop earlier than average, need to know about puberty before they experience the onset of physical changes (1.13).
- Children should learn 'how a baby is conceived and born' before they leave primary school (1.16).

The aim of RSE is to equip our pupils with the information, skills and values to have safe, fulfilling and enjoyable relationships. It is essential if people are to make responsible and well informed decisions about their lives. It helps support pupils through their physical, emotional and moral development. It helps pupils learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood.

Addressing RSE has four main elements, enabling pupils to:

- Explore their own and other people's attitudes and values
- Develop and practice personal and social skills
- Increase their knowledge and skills
- Reflecting on the inclusive Christian principles and values

The delivery of RSE AND PSHE in the Secondary Phase at St George's Church of England Foundation School is conducted through coverage in all areas of the Curriculum (see Mapping document) and in sessions organised by external agencies (including the police) and the school Nurse according to the needs of particular year groups to include the following:

- Healthy relationships
- Anti-social behaviour - Is it worth it?

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- Road safety
- Arson
- Internet safety
- Sexting
- STIs
- Contraception – practical as well as theoretical
- Forgiveness
- Drugs Education including ‘Legal Highs’
- Legal aspects of Drugs Education
- Guns and Knives
- E-safety
- Sexuality

6. ETHNICITY

Staff need to have some information about the religious traditions, marriage rules and other kinds of relationship arrangements established in different cultures and must also be able to refer to them verbally as well as making reference to multi-cultural resources.

7. SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

All students including those who have SEND need to follow an appropriate sex and relationships programme of study. Some children and young people with SEND are more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation than their peers. Others may be confused about what is acceptable social behaviour, thus lessons need to be differentiated accordingly. The DCSF has stated clearly that “It is important that students with special educational needs are not withdrawn from health education so that they can catch up on National Curriculum subjects”.

Materials used for SRE need to be chosen so that they are accessible, i.e. they may have to be very straightforward and explicit for children with learning difficulties. 12

Looked after children may require additional support in this area due to them being in care.

8. DIVERSITY

Pupil should be made aware of the diversity of human sexuality and taught to develop respect for diversity. All students need to feel the SRE they receive is relevant and sensitive to their needs. Staff should respond in a straightforward and sensitive manner to issues of sexual orientation, answer questions and offer support. Answers to questions should be equally relevant to all students irrespective of their sexual orientation. Sexual orientation and what is taught is an area of concern for some parents and St. George’s may involve parents closely in developing and reviewing their SRE programmes to provide them with satisfactory reassurance.

9. USE OF MATERIALS

Materials used must be determined by the needs of the students, reflect St. George’s values and be in accordance with the PSHE framework, Science orders

10. PARENT’S RIGHT TO WITHDRAW CHILDREN FROM LESSONS

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the SRE at St George’s except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum. Alternative arrangements will be made in such cases.

11. DEALING WITH SEX-RELATED DISCLOSURES/INCIDENTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHOOL’S SAFEGUARDING POLICY)

All staff will receive training in dealing with sex-related pastoral incidents and this is done through whole school CPD for all staff. Staff know that in dealing with any other incident they:

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- consider whether the reported incident is a child protection matter or not;
- do not rush into anything that they might regret later;
- do not panic;
- assess the seriousness of the situation sensitively and sensibly, take everything into account but do not exaggerate or overreact;
- keep the welfare of the pupils as the focus;
- consider the full range of options available;
- consider and anticipate both the positive and negative consequences of any actions;
- consult and get support from other colleagues;
- if necessary, refer to experts such as the School Nurse and the Safeguarding Team.

The programme of RSE and PSHE at St George's Church of England Foundation School is a developing one and each year evaluation is made of the programme and the need for changes and improvements to be made. It is also clear that attention to community issues is paramount and needs to be addressed within the RSE and PHSE education programme.

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