

ST GEORGE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SEX and RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION POLICY (SRE)

RATIONAL

"... children and young people should be helped to develop harmoniously their physical, moral and intellectual qualities; they should receive a positive and prudent education in matters relating to sex; and young people have the right to be stimulated to make sound moral judgement based on a well-informed conscience and to put them into practice with a sense of personal commitment..."

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.

"The inclusion of positive, person-centred education is at the heart of Catholic Christian education. This education is about the growth, development and journey of the whole human person towards becoming 'full human, fully alive' as a unique creation made in God's image".
(‘Education in Sexuality’ CES)

Education in sexuality is of paramount importance in our Catholic schools today. More than ever do the young people in our care need help and guidance in their struggle to live out their lives as members of the Christian family.

Our overall aims at St George’s Catholic School support the personal, moral and social development of all pupils, ensuring that they have the ability to accept their own and others’ sexuality in positive ways to enjoy relationships based on mutual respect, dignity and responsibility free from any abuse.

AIMS of SRE

Sex Education at St George’s Catholic School, recognizes that human sexuality is a gift from God. It is concerned with the spiritual and moral, as well as the physical and social.

It is about relationships, feelings and behaviour as well as biology and how the reproductive system works, and it facilitates growth and emotional maturity.

OBJECTIVES of SRE at St GEORGE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

At St George's Catholic School our objectives are:

- To engender growth in self respect and self worth, recognizing that each of us is created in the image of God.
- To explore the meaning and value of life, and give some appreciation of the values of a family life.
- To have an awareness of where pupils/children are, in their knowledge and understanding so that concerns can be identified, and provide a forum where pupils can share their concerns and offer a climate of support where they know they can be listened to sensitively.
- To explain the process of human procreation and enable pupils to have some understanding of themselves, their own bodies and their emotional development as they grow and change.
- To enable pupils to recognize the importance of the choices they make and that they are responsible for the decisions they take; and to help pupils resist peer, social and media pressures where necessary.

EDUCATION in SEXUALITY at St. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

KEY STAGE 1

Pupils should be able:

- to understand the importance of valuing themselves and others;
- to recognize their membership of the family and recognize the roles of individuals in families;
- to understand growth and know themselves as males and females.
- to be able to name the main external parts of the body;
- to recognize babies have special needs;
- to appreciate relationships, friends, family, working together, sharing, playing together.
- to know about rituals that mark life and death, birth, marriage, death;
- to recognize the range of emotions and how we deal with them;

- to know about being safe;
- to know the difference between good and bad touching;
- to appreciate that some diseases are infectious;
- to have an awareness of personal health and safety, and personal hygiene.

EDUCATION in SEXUALITY at St. GEORGE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

KEY STAGE 2

Pupils should be able:

- to value themselves as a child of God, and their body as God's gift to them;
- to understand that they grow and change throughout life;
- to understand what is meant by relationships within families, friends and communities;
- to develop an appreciation of what is involved in bringing up children and what responsibilities parents have;
- to become aware of the different patterns of friendship;
- to know the rituals celebrated in Church, marking birth, marriage and death;
- to be aware of their changing emotions and the need to respect other people's emotions and feelings;
- to begin to know and understand about the changes that come about through puberty;
- to know and understand their own bodies and their need for personal hygiene;
- to know the names for the parts of the body;
- to know the basic biology of human reproduction;
- to appreciate that life is precious and a gift from God;
- to become aware of choices they make and that there are good choices and wrong choices;
- to recognize the importance for forgiveness in relationships.

PRIMARY and SECONDARY SCHOOL LINKS

- (See EPR policy)

ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Governors**

In accordance with the Education Act of 1993 the governing body will keep up to date the school's policy for SRE, in consultation with parents and will make copies of the policy available to them. They will make known to parents their right to withdraw their children from all part of SRE provided at school except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum.

- **Teachers**

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 SRE in accordance with the Catholic ethos of the school. Appropriate training will be made available for all staff teaching SRE.

- **Parents**

We recognize that parents are the primary educators of their children and the school will seek to support them in this task. They will ensure that parents are kept informed of what is happening in SRE and of our experience of their children.

UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES

- Sexuality is a gift from God.
- we are made to be loved and to love.
- what we say with our bodies should reflect what we mean in our hearts and minds.
- mature Christian sexuality involves openness and commitment to others.
- genuine love is creative.

BEST PRACTICE

- focuses on 'Good News.'
- has a whole school approach.
- is a part of a developmental programme.
- has a whole person approach.
- recognizes and develops partnerships with parent/family.
- takes into account and evaluates current attitudes.

RESOURCES

Videos

- Some of our bits ain't nice
- All that I am (Dept of RE, Don Bosco House, Warwickshire) + workbook
- Growing up, a guide to puberty

THE CONTEXT

This policy has been written in the context of:

- Diocese of Clifton, Education for Personal Relationships Guidelines for Primary Schools 2003.
- Diocese of Clifton, Sex and Relationship Education in Primary Schools Policy Guidelines
- PSHE and Citizenship non-statutory Framework from Sept 2000.
- PSHE and Citizenship Initial Guidance at Key Stage 1 and 2 (QCA/00/579)
- Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (DfEE 0116/2000).

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

- EPR
- RE
- Drugs Education
- Behaviour
- Playground
- Bullying
- Special Needs
- Health and Safety
- Geography and History
- Science

CONSULTATION

Mrs Adria Martin, the teacher responsible for SRE, has drawn up this document after consultation with staff, governors and parents and in consultation with the head teacher.

REVIEWING OF POLICY

This policy will be reviewed on a biannual basis. Any changes perceived will always be discussed with parents before implementation.