



RSE Policy as part of the PSHCEE Policy

Review cycle:	Every 2 Years
Last Review Date:	Sept 2020
Next Review Date:	Sept 2022
Staff responsible:	Mrs V McSween, Mrs Savage (Deputy Pastoral)
Governor responsible:	Mr P MacDougall

PERSONAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH, CITIZENSHIP and ECONOMICS EDUCATION

THIS POLICY IS APPLICABLE TO ALL PUPILS, INCLUDING THOSE IN THE EYFS

ST JOHN'S NORTHWOOD

POLICY FOR RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION

(also referred to as SRE, or RSE)

The school recognizes its responsibility to promote the spiritual, moral, social, cultural and physical development of its pupils. It aims to prepare pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of growing children, adolescence and adulthood.

Policy Formation

The policy follows the DfE guidelines published in 2019, as well as 'Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) for the 21st Century, supplementary advice to the Sex and Relationship Guidance of DfEE (0116/2000)'

The policy reflects the aims of our school 'as the boys progress from 3- 13 at St. John's they should feel sufficiently self- confident to seize the opportunities to tackle the challenges that lie ahead.'

The value of working with parents is also underpinned by the stated school aim 'create and foster a partnership with boys' families in which parents and carers are valued members of the School community. The School provides good communication with parents and welcomes discussion of all aspects of their sons' progress and welfare. Such communication recognises that parental support is crucial to their son's successful development.

What is Sex and Relationship Education?

Sex and relationship education is essential if young people are to make responsible and well informed decisions about their lives. It is firmly rooted within our PSHCEE framework. Our objective is to support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development. It supports the boys as they move with confidence from childhood through adolescence to adulthood. As with all of the PSHCEE framework, it plays an important role in supporting pupils to develop the skills and understanding they need to live confident, healthy and independent lives. It will help pupils prepare to deal with difficult moral and social questions.

Pupils are provided with accurate information and given skills to enable them to understand difference and respect to others and for the purpose of preventing and removing prejudice. Boys in Year 7 and 8 learn to understand sexuality, learn the reasons for delaying sexual activity and the benefits that are gained from such as delay, they also learn about obtaining the appropriate advice on sexual health.

There are three main elements to Sex and Relationship Education:

- Attitudes and Values
- Personal and Social Skills
- Knowledge and Understanding

It is about understanding the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It prepares pupils for the changes in puberty and allows them to consider the responsibilities of adulthood. It also teaches about reproduction, at an age appropriate level, but does not promote early sexual activity.

What will the children gain from RSE lessons?

For all year groups RSE will;

- Provide easy to understand, unbiased, appropriate and relevant information to the age and maturity of the children
- Provide information on both genders, in order to dispel mysteries and encourage empathy
- Promote the development of confidence in talking, listening and thinking about emotions, friendships and relationships
- Encourage pupils to explore values and clarify values

Scheme of Work

Please refer to the Christopher Winter Scheme for further information about the scheme of work and lesson plans for each year group. This can be viewed by parents by making an appointment with the PSHCEE lead, Mrs Vanessa McSween.

Younger pupils learn that their body belongs to them and that they can say who has access to it. This is a key element in the school's safeguarding policy. They learn about body differences and personal space as well as showing respect in relationships both online and offline.

In Year 5 and 6 boys should be

- Able to name parts of their body and describe how their bodies work
- Prepared for the physical and emotional changes of puberty
- Made aware of the need for empathy between peers and across genders regarding issues related to adolescence and growing up
- Taught about the importance of marriage/stable relationships and their importance for family life and the bringing up of children
- Taught to protect themselves and where to go for help, support and advice.

During Years 7 and 8 we want to ensure that the boys;

- understand the attributes of a trusting, loving relationship
- have an understanding of sexual intercourse
- understand sexuality, learn the reasons for delaying sexual activity and the benefits that are gained from such a delay, they also learn about obtaining the appropriate advice on sexual health
- have an understanding of sexual orientation whilst not promoting it
- understand the consequences of their actions and behaving responsibly within relationships
- have confidence and self esteem to value themselves and others
- understand the reasons for protected sex and avoiding casual sex
- have sufficient skills and information to protect themselves and that they know where to turn to for support

- link sex and relationship education with issues of peer pressure and other risk taking behaviour , such as drugs, smoking and alcohol
- about all aspects of law and sexual consent; the onus being on getting rather than giving consent

SRE is fully integrated into the School Curriculum

In Science lessons children are taught the suitable and age appropriate biological facts relating to human growth, puberty and reproduction. In Year 8, boys are also taught about contraception and STIs. PSHCEE helps pupils to think about the different social contexts, influences and beliefs that affect personal behaviour. PSHCEE also provides a positive vocabulary and the strategies and skills children and young people need to stay healthy and safe.

In ICT lessons boys are taught about online safety. They are taught that the internet and social media are important resources for learning and information as well as teaching about the risks and how to stay safe online. Topics such as 'sexting' are addressed.

In Citizenship lessons, which are also part of the PSHCEE programme, young people are also taught about the law and in Religious Education about the views of religious and secular groups.

Organisation and Planning

The PSHCEE co-ordinator, in consultation with the SLT, is responsible for the RSE syllabus. The compulsory part of RSE is taught through Science lessons. The School is committed to using the most appropriate teaching materials and to providing appropriate training and support to staff. The same teacher will deliver RSE lessons throughout the school as part of our PSHCEE lessons from Year 5 to 8.

Teaching Strategies

The School encourages all pupils to be actively involved in learning and pupils are given opportunities to participate in lessons. We strive to encourage the children and young people confidence in talking, listening and thinking about sex and relationships.

As with all of our PSHCEE lessons, we use mutually agreed ground rules to establish a safe environment for both teacher and pupil. These will be established and reiterated for each RSE lesson.

Questions will be addressed to whole groups and no children will be picked out to answer a question unless they have volunteered.

An 'ask it basket' will be used so that young people can ask a question in confidence and so that a teacher can give the question consideration.

Distancing techniques help to avoid embarrassment and protect privacy. Role play, case studies and invented characters can help children to discuss issues in a de-personalised, safe environment.

Children often ask unexpected and challenging questions. When this happens the ground rules should be referred to. When a question is too personal, a teacher may defer a question by acknowledging it and coming back to it later or may, if a question is too explicit or advanced for a

pupil or a whole group may deal with it on an individual basis. The teacher will inform parents about any issue or question that he/she needs to be followed up at home. If a teacher is concerned that a child is at risk of sexual abuse they should follow the School's Safeguarding policy.

The Shared Role of Teachers and Parents

Our School recognises that parents are the key people in teaching their children about sex and relationships, that they maintain the culture and ethos of a family. They have the important role of helping their children cope with the emotional and physical aspects of growing up. Parents prepare their children for the challenges and responsibilities that sexual maturity brings.

Parents need to know that personal beliefs and attitudes of the teachers are not used to influence the teaching of RSE. Parents have the opportunity to discuss issues with the School and can see the teaching material in more detail should they wish to. They have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the SRE curriculum provided at school except those parts included in the science syllabus. The school will make alternative arrangements for pupils in such cases.

Children have the right to expect school to be a safe and secure environment and effective RSE lessons can lead to children making a disclosure that may be a child protection issue. The school has a Safeguarding policy in place and teachers cannot offer or guarantee unconditional confidentiality. Only in exceptional circumstances will the school handle information without parental knowledge. We encourage children to talk to their parents. If a teacher has to pass on information to a parent, the child will be informed first and supported as appropriate.

Useful Information

[SEX and Relationships Education \(SRE\) for the 21st Century](#)

[Government guidance on teaching RSE in schools Published 2019 for all schools to follow from Sept 2020](#)