## St John Fisher Catholic Primary School



# POLICY RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION

February 2020

Policy Review December 2023 - (if no significant changes before this date)

Policy written by - SG, LM, GJ, AB, LB



#### Mission Statement

In this inclusive school, we embrace the teaching of Christ.

We welcome all people into our school community.

We empower everyone to achieve their full potential.

We celebrate the gifts of each individual in the positive environment where we work, learn and live the Gospel.

We create a caring, secure and happy environment where pupils want to learn.

The teachers and governors of St. John Fisher provide a broad, balanced curriculum to enable each child to achieve the highest standards of education in a Catholic ethos.

In this policy the Governors and teachers, in partnership with pupils and their parents, set out their intentions about relationships and sex education (RSE). We set out our rationale for and approach to relationships and sex education in the school.

This Relationships and Sex Education Policy was written in conjunction with two policy documents from the Archdiocese of Southwark 'Education in Human Love - Diocesan Policy for Relationships and Sex Education Policy' Sept 2016 and 'A model policy for Relationships and Sex Education Service.

#### Implementation and Review of Policy

Implementation of the policy will take place after consultation with the Governors in the Autumn term 2016.

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the Head teacher, RSE Co-ordinator, the Governing Body and Staff. The next review date is <u>February 2023</u>.

#### Dissemination

This policy has been given to all members of the Governing Body, and all teaching and non-teaching members of staff. Copies of the document will be available to all parents through the school's wesite and a copy is available in the school office.

#### Defining RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION

The DFE guidance defines RSE as "lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage and family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health". It is about the development of the pupil's knowledge and understanding of her or him as a sexual being, about what it means to be fully human, called to live in right relationships with self and others and being enabled to make moral decisions in conscience. The DFE identifies three main elements: "attitudes and values, personal and social skills, and knowledge and understanding".

#### Statutory Curriculum Requirements

The statutory requirements relating to SRE are contained within different parts of United Kingdom legislation. They can be summarised as follows.

- All maintained primary and secondary schools must teach the SRE elements of the National Curriculum Science Order.
- In the primary phase SRE is currently optional in Key Stages One and Two. There are statutory elements in the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- All maintained primary and secondary schools must have an up to date policy for SRE, even if the policy (in the primary phase) is not to provide such a programme.
- Parents have a right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education provided, but not from the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction as required by the National Curriculum Science Order.
- When providing SRE all schools must have regard for the Sex and Relationship Education Guidance published in 2019.

There continues to be discussion within Government and in Parliament on SRE. Further legislation may make SRE compulsory at all Key Stages.

Although legislation currently allows Governing Bodies in primary schools to have a policy of not teaching RSE, it is the Diocesan view that RSE is an important part of the partnership between parents and schools. Age appropriate RSE should be part of the curriculum in all schools (primary and secondary, academy or voluntary aided) in the Archdiocese of Southwark.

#### Rationale

#### 'I HAVE COME THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE LIFE AND HAVE IT TO THE FULL' (Jn.10.10)

We are involved in relationships and sex education precisely because of our Christian beliefs about God and about the human person. 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. Our approach to RSE therefore is rooted in the Catholic Church's teaching of the human person and presented in a positive framework of Christian ideals.

At the heart of the Christian life is the Trinity, Father, Son and Spirit in communion, united in loving relationship and embracing all people and all creation. As a consequence of the Christian belief that we are made in the image and likeness of God, gender and sexuality are seen as God's gift, reflect God's beauty, and share in the divine creativity. RSE, therefore, will be placed firmly within the context of relationship as it is there that sexuality grows and develops.

Following the guidance of the Bishops of England and Wales and as advocated by the DFE (and the Welsh Assembly Government) RSE will be firmly embedded in the PSHE framework as it is concerned with nurturing human wholeness and integral to the physical, spiritual, emotional, moral, social and intellectual development of pupils. It is centred on Christ's vision of being human as good news and will be positive and prudent, showing the potential for development, while enabling the dangers and risks involved to be understood and appreciated.

All RSE will be in accordance with the Church's moral teaching. It will emphasise the central importance of marriage and the family whilst acknowledging that all pupils have a fundamental right to have their life respected whatever household they come from and support will be provided to help pupils deal with different sets of values.

#### Values and Virtues

Our programme enshrines Catholic values relating to the importance of stable relationships, marriage and family life. It also promotes those virtues which are essential in responding to the God's call to love others with a proper respect for their dignity and the dignity of the human body.

The following virtues will be explicitly explored and promoted: faithfulness, fruitfulness, chastity, integrity, prudence, mercy and compassion.

#### Aim of RSE and the Mission Statement

Our Mission Statement commits us to the education of the whole child (spiritual, physical, intellectual, moral, social, cultural, emotional) and we believe that RSE is an integral part of this education. Furthermore, St John Fisher School aims state that we will endeavour to raise pupils' self-esteem, help them to grow in knowledge and understanding, recognise the value of all persons and develop caring and sensitive attitudes. It is in this context that we commit ourselves:

In partnership with parents, to provide children and young people with a "positive and prudent sexual education" which is compatible with their physical, cognitive, psychological, and spiritual maturity, and rooted in a Catholic vision of education and the human person.

#### **Objectives**

To develop the following attitudes and virtues:

- reverence for the gift of human sexuality and fertility;
- respect for the dignity of every human being in their own person and in the person of others;
- joy in the goodness of the created world and their own bodily natures;
- responsibility for their own actions and a recognition of the impact of these on others;
- recognising and valuing their own sexual identity and that of others;
- celebrating the gift of life-long, self-giving love;
- recognising the importance of marriage and family life;
- fidelity in relationships.

#### To develop the following personal and social skills:

- making sound judgements and good choices which have integrity and which are respectful of the individual's commitments:
- loving and being loved, and the ability to form friendships and loving, stable relationships free from exploitation, abuse and bullying;
- managing emotions within relationships, and when relationships break down, with confidence, sensitivity and dignity;
- managing conflict positively, recognising the value of difference;
- cultivating humility, mercy and compassion, learning to forgive and be forgiven;
- developing self-esteem and confidence, demonstrating self-respect and empathy for others;
- building resilience and the ability to resist unwanted pressures, recognising the influence and impact of the media, internet and peer groups and so developing the ability to assess pressures and respond appropriately;
- being patient, delaying gratification and learning to recognise the appropriate stages in the development of relationships, and how to love chastely;
- assessing risks and managing behaviours in order to minimise the risk to health and personal integrity.

#### To know and understand:

- the Church's teaching on relationships and the nature and meaning of sexual love;
- the Church's teaching on marriage and the importance of marriage and family life;
- the centrality and importance of virtue in guiding human living and loving;
- the physical and psychological changes that accompany puberty;
- the facts about human reproduction, how love is expressed sexually and how sexual love plays an essential and sacred role in procreation;

#### **Outcomes**

#### Inclusion and differentiated learning

We will ensure RSE is sensitive to the different needs of individual pupils in respect to pupils' different abilities, levels of maturity and personal circumstances; for example their own sexual orientation, faith or culture and is taught in a way that does not subject pupils to discrimination. Lessons will also help children to realise the nature and consequences of discrimination, teasing, bullying and aggressive behaviours (including cyber-bullying), use of prejudice-based language and how to respond and ask for help. (In looking at these questions, it is important to draw links to the school's inclusion policy).

#### Equalities obligations

The governing body have wider responsibilities under the Equalities Act 2010 and will ensure that our school strives to do the best for all of the pupils, irrespective of disability, educational needs, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, pregnancy, maternity, sex, gender identity, religion or sexual orientation or whether they are looked after children.

#### Broad content of RSE

Three aspects of RSE - attitudes and values, knowledge and understanding, and personal and social skills will be provided in three inter-related ways: the whole school / ethos dimension; a cross-curricular dimension and a specific relationships and sex curriculum.

Our programme 'Journey in Love' will overlap our RE programme 'Come and See'. The development and understanding of Relationship and Sex Education will start taught in all year groups and content will be age appropriate and explicitly follow the Teachings of Christ. We will follow three themes to ensure we meet the requirements of teaching a Relationship and Sex Education programme.

Our first focus will be 'Created and Loved by God' - this section is about teaching our children

- Religious understanding of the human person: loving myself
- Me, my body and my health
- Emotional well-being and attitudes
- Life cycles

Our second focus will be 'Created to love others' - this section is about teaching our children

- Religious understanding of human relationships: loving others
- Personal Relationships
- Keeping safe and people who can help me

Our third focus will be 'Created to live in community (local, national and global)' - this section is about teaching our children

- Religious understanding of the importance of human communities
- Living in the wider world

Greater content of the curriculum is attached in appendix  ${\bf 1}$ 

#### Parents and carers

"Sex education, which is a basic right and duty of parents, must always be carried out under their attentive guidance, whether at home or in educational centres chosen and controlled by them. In this regard, the Church reaffirms the law of subsidiarity, which the school is bound to observe when it cooperates in sex education, by entering into the same spirit that animates the parents"

The Church recognises that parents are the first teachers of their children. It is their right and responsibility to inform and educate their children in matters relating to human relationships and sexual development.

Catholic schools help parents in this task and seek to work in partnership with them. Parents are consulted whenever the school's RSE policy is reviewed. They are given the opportunity to discuss the content of any programme of RSE that will be delivered and resources that are planned to be used.

#### Governors

The 1996 Education Act places responsibility for the school's policy on RSE in the hands of the Governing Body. They are required to ensure that there is an up to date RSE policy that is available for parents to read and that the policy is consistent with other relevant whole school policies (e.g. SEND; Safeguarding; Anti-Bullying; Pastoral Care). Foundation Governors are appointed by the Archbishop to promote and safeguard the Catholic character of the school. They have a particular responsibility to ensure that the RSE policy for the school complies with Diocesan policy, directives, and guidance regarding RSE.

#### Headteachers

Responsibility for the implementation of the RSE policy is delegated to the Headteacher, in liaison with the governors, parents, Diocesan Education Commission and the Local Authority. It is the task of the Headteacher to integrate RSE into the curriculum.

#### RSE Leader/Co-ordinator

An appropriately trained RSE Leader/Coordinator may be appointed to oversee curriculum planning, Continuing Professional Development, training and support for teachers. With governors and the Headteacher, this person should ensure that there is a planned process for informing parents about RSE in the school. Elements of RSE will be delivered in different curricula areas. One element of good practice is to establish a cross curricula liaison group to support the RSE Leader/Coordinator.

#### Teachers and other adults

Relationship and Sex Education is a whole school issue. All staff are involved in developing the personal and social skills that contribute to human flourishing. As well as delivering curriculum content in the classroom, staff are also role models around the school, giving examples of conflict resolution and establishing relationships of mutual trust and respect.

All staff have a responsibility of care and safeguarding of pupils.

They should actively contribute to guidance of the physical, moral and spiritual well-being of their pupils. This work must be in line with the school's Catholic ethos and current legislation.

#### Balanced Curriculum

Whilst promoting Catholic values and virtues and teaching in accordance with Church teaching, we will ensure that pupils are offered a balanced programme by providing an RSE programme that offers a range of viewpoints on issues. Pupils will also receive clear scientific information as well as covering the aspects of the law pertaining to RSE. Knowing about facts and enabling young people to explore differing viewpoints is not the same as promoting behaviour and is not incompatible with our school's promotion of Catholic teaching.

We will ensure that pupils have access to the learning they need to stay safe, healthy and understand their rights as individuals.

#### External Visitors

Relationship and Sex Education must be in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. It is the responsibility of the Governing Body, working with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team, to ensure that this is achieved through careful monitoring of the teaching resources used. In considering the resources which will be used for RSE, governors should take into account:

- The need to support parents and carers by providing education which is faithful to the teachings of the Church and appropriate for the ages and stages of development of the pupils;
- The extent to which specific materials can be used to illustrate the beauty of the human being created by God;
- The values implied by specific resources and the way in which they may be used to enhance pupils' understanding of human development and Catholic teaching;
- The accuracy and clarity of material presented.

It is important that any external visitor to the school is also clear about their role and responsibility while they are in a school. Such visits should complement the school's current programme.

Visitors may need guidance to ensure that sessions they deliver are respectful of the teaching of the Catholic Church.

Further guidance on working with external visitors can be found in the Education Commission's document Guidance on visitors and external speakers working with pupils in Catholic schools in the Diocese.

This is available on our website http://www.educationcommission.org.uk/ and should be consulted before inviting external agencies or visitors into the school.

#### Relationship to other policies and curriculum subjects

This RSE policy is to be delivered as part of the PSHE framework. It includes guidelines about pupil safety and is compatible with the school's other policy documents (Anti-Bullying policy, Safeguarding Policy, E-SAFETY Policy, RE Policy, SEN Policy, Whistleblowing Policy)

Pupils with particular difficulties whether of a physical or intellectual nature will receive appropriately differentiated support in order to enable them to achieve mature knowledge, understanding and skills. Teaching methods will be adapted to meet the varying needs of this group of pupils.

Learning about RSE in PSHE classes will link to/complement learning in those areas identified in the RSE audit.

#### Children's Questions

The governors want to promote a healthy, positive atmosphere in which RSE can take place. They want to ensure that pupils can ask questions freely, be confident that their questions will be answered, and be sure that they will be free from bullying or harassment from other children and young people.

#### Controversial or Sensitive issues

There will always be sensitive or controversial issues in the field of RSE. These may be matter of maturity, of personal involvement or experience of children, of disagreement with the official teaching of the Church, of illegal activity or other doubtful, dubious or harmful activity.

The governors believe that children are best educated, protected from harm and exploitation by discussing such issues openly within the context of the RSE programme. The use of ground rules, negotiated between teachers and pupils, will help to create a supportive climate for discussion. (See also Sex and Relationship Guidance, 4.5 'Dealing with questions' 0116/2000, Department for Education and Employment, July 2000 for more detail)

Some questions may raise issues which it would not be appropriate for teachers to answer during ordinary class time, e.g., where a child or young person's questions hints at abuse, is deliberately tendentious or is of a personal nature.

#### Supporting children and young people who are at risk

Children will also need to feel safe and secure in the environment in which RSE takes place. Effective RSE will provide opportunities for discussion of what is and is not appropriate in relationships. Such discussion may well lead to disclosure of a safeguarding issue. Teachers will need to be aware of the needs of their pupils and not let any fears and worries go unnoticed. Where a teacher suspects that a child or young person is a victim of or is at risk of abuse they are required to follow the school's safeguarding policy and immediately inform the designated senior member of staff responsible.

#### CONFIDENTIALITY AND ADVICE

All governors, all teachers, all support staff, all parents and all pupils must be made aware of this policy, particularly as it relates to issues of advice and confidentiality.

All lessons, especially those in the RSE programme, will have the best interests of pupils at heart, enabling them to grow in knowledge and understanding of relationships and sex, developing appropriate personal and social skills and becoming appreciative of the values and attitudes which underpin the Christian understanding of what it means to be fully human.

Pupils will be encouraged to talk to their parents/carers about the issues which are discussed in the programme. Teachers will always help pupils facing personal difficulties, in line with the school's pastoral care policy.

Teachers should explain to pupils that they cannot offer unconditional confidentiality, in matters which are illegal or abusive for instance. Teachers will explain that in such circumstance they would have to inform others, e.g., parents, head teacher, but that the pupils would always be informed first that such action was going to be taken in line with Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

#### Monitoring and Evaluation

The programme will be evaluated annually by means of questionnaires / response sheets/needs assessment given to pupils, and / or by discussion with pupils, staff and parents. The results of the evaluation will be reported to Governors for them to consider all such evaluations and suggestions before amending the policy. Governors remain ultimately responsible for the policy.

## Created and Loved by God

EYFS & KS1 KS

	Pupils are growing to be:	Pupils are growing to be:
	Respectful of their own bodies and character	Respectful of their own bodies, character and giftedness
en en	Appreciative for blessings	Appreciative for blessings
in virt	Grateful to others and to God	Grateful to others and to God
Education in virtue	Patient when they do not always get what they want	Self-disciplined and able to delay or forego gratification for the sake of greater goods
Щ		Determined and resilient in the face of difficulty
		Courageous in new situations and fears
	Pupils are taught:	Pupils are taught:
R R	We are made by God and are special	We are special people made in the image and likeness of
Ë		God
<u>8</u>	We are all God's children	
<del> </del> +	W C	We are children of God
0 g ~	Ways of expressing gratitude to God	God has created us for a purpose (vocation)
ndir selt	About the sacrament of Baptism	Bod has created as for a purpose (vocation)
sta! my	About the suct untern of buptism	Life is precious and their body is God's gift to them
der	Prayer and worship are ways of developing	Prayer and worship are ways of developing their
<u> </u>	their relationship with God	relationship with God
ous:	·	·
Religious understanding of the human person: loving myself		Sacraments often coincide with different natural
8 9		stages in life, for example Baptism often occurs near birth for Catholics.
	Pupils are taught:	Pupils are taught:
	We are all unique individuals	Everyone expresses their uniqueness in different
		ways
	We all have individual gifts, talents and abilities	,
Ŧ	_	Strategies to develop self-confidence and self-esteem
y health	The names of the external parts of the body	Each person has a purpose in the world
μ λ		·
Me, my body and m	The similarities and differences between girls	That similarities and differences between people arise
	and boys	from several different factors (See protected characteristics of
poc		the Equality Act 2010, Part 2, Chapter 1, sections 4-12)
È	How to maintain personal hygiene	Their body will change and develop as they grow
<b>l</b> e, 1	What constitutes a healthy life-style, including	About the growth and development of humans
<	physical activity, dental health and healthy	and the changes experienced during puberty
	eating.	
	ourning.	The names of the main parts of the body, including
		identifying and correctly naming genitalia (e.g. penis and vagina)
		19900
		How to make informed choices that have an impact on
		their health
1		

		Pupils are taught	Pupils are taught
		We all have different likes and dislikes	Emotions may change as they approach puberty
		A language to describe feelings	Extend vocabulary to deepen their understanding of their feelings
	Emotional well-being and attitudes	A basic understanding that feelings and actions are two different things	What positively and negatively affects their physical, mental and emotional health (including the media)
	and a	Simple strategies for managing feelings and behaviour	
	being	Choices have consequences	To recognise how images in the media do not always reflect reality and can affect how people feel about themselves
	l well-	choices have consequences	
	otiona		That some behavior is unacceptable, unhealthy or dangerous
	E		Strategies to build resilience in order to identify and resist unacceptable pressure from a variety of sources
		Pupils are taught	Pupils are taught
ility		That there are life stages from birth to death	How a baby grows and develops in its mother's womb
Life cycles and fertility			To recognise the differences that occur at each stage of a human being's development (including childhood, adolescence, adulthood, old age)
cycle			The nature and role of menstruation in the fertility cycle
Life			How human life is conceived in the womb, including the language of sperm and ova

## Created to love others

EYFS & KS1	KS2
	KJL

	Pupils are growing to be:	Pupils are growing to be:
	Friendly, able to make and keep friends	Loyal, able to develop and sustain friendships
	Caring, attentive to the needs of others	Compassionate, able to empathise with the suffering of others and the generosity to help
	Respectful of others, their uniqueness,	others in trouble
	their wants and their needs	Respectful, able to identify other people's personal
2	Forgiving, able to say sorry and not	space and respect the ways in which they are
Education in virtue	hold grudges against those who have hurt them	different
i no		Forgiving, developing the skills to allow
ucati	Courteous, learning to say, "please" and  "thank you."	reconciliation in relationships
В	·	Courteous in their dealings with friends and strangers
	Honest, able to tell the difference between	
	truth and lies	Honesty, committed to living truthfully and with integrity

П	<b>8</b> 11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	<b>.</b>
	Pupils are taught:	Pupils are taught:
<del>ا</del> 9ر	We are part of God's family	Christians belong to the Church family which
g o ovir		includes the school, parish and diocese
din 3: lc	That saying sorry is important and can	
Religious understanding of human relationships: loving others	help mend broken friendships	The importance of forgiveness and
srs		reconciliation in relationships and some of
nde atic	Jesus cared for others	Jesus' teaching on forgiveness
n sı relc		
Religiou human others	That we should love other people in the	The sacrament of marriage involves commitment and
elie rum rthe	same way Jesus loves us	self- giving
2 2 0		
	Dunile and toucht:	Dunile one toucht:
	Pupils are taught:	Pupils are taught:
	The characteristics of positive and negative	
	relationships	strategies to use when relationships go wrong.
	To identify special people (e.g. family, carers,	There are different types of relationships
	friends) and what makes them special.	including those between acquaintances, friends,
	friends) and what makes them special.	relatives and family
	There are different family	Telatives una family
	structures and these should be	How to make informed choices in relationships
		and that choices have positive, neutral and
ps	respected	negative consequences
เหม	How their behaviour affects other	negative consequences
ţi	people and that there are appropriate	An awareness of bullying (including cyber-bullying) and
<u>β</u>	and inappropriate behaviours	how to respond
Personal Relationships	and mappi opi late behaviours	now to respond
ono	To recognise when people are being	About harassment and exploitation in relationships,
ถื	unkind to them and others and how	including physical, emotional and sexual abuse and how
مّ	to respond.	to respond
	to respond.	To respond
	Different types of teasing and bullying	To recognise and manage risk, to develop resilience
	which are wrong and unacceptable.	and learn how to cope with "dares" and other ways in
	which are wrong and unacceptable.	which people can be pressurized
		William people can be pressarized
		   About changes that can happen in life, e.g. loss,
		separation, divorce and bereavement and the emotions
		that can accompany these changes.
		mar can accompany mese changes.
	Pupils are taught:	Pupils are taught:
		To recognise their increasing independence brings
		increased responsibility to keep themselves and others
ŀ	for keeping safe online	safe
ae S		How to use technology safely
<del>a</del> b	when they feel unsafe or uncomfortable	
Keeping safe and people who can help me		That not all images, language and behavior are
8	_	appropriate
vho	secrets	
<u>8</u>		To judge what kind of physical contact is acceptable or
dos	Identifying and correctly name their "private	unacceptable and how to respond
ž pč	parts" (see NSPCC resource PANTS) for the purposes	
anc	of safeguarding them from sexual	That there are a number of different people and
<u>ક</u>		organisations they can go to for help in different
bs (		situations and how to contact them
jing	Who to go to if they are worried or need	
8 8	·	How to report and get help if they encounter
_		inappropriate materials or messages

## Created to live in community (local, national and global)

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EYFS & KS1	K52
Pupils are growing to be:	Pupils are growing to be:

Education in virtue	Pupils are growing to be: Just and fair in their treatment of other people, locally, nationally and globally  People who serve others, locally, nationally and globally  Active in their commitment to bring about change	Pupils are growing to be: Just, understanding the impact of their actions locally, nationally and globally  Self-giving, able to put aside their own wants in order to serve others locally, nationally and globally  Visionary in their ability to identify injustice and speak out against it locally, nationally and globally
Religious understanding of the importance of human communities	Pupils are taught: That God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit  Some scripture illustrating the importance of living in community  Jesus' teaching on who is my neighbour	Pupils are taught: God is Trinity - a communion of persons The key principles of Catholic Social Teaching The Church is the Body of Christ
Living in the wider world	Pupils are taught: That they belong to various communities such as home, school, parish, the wider local community and the global community That their behavior has an impact on the communities to which they belong That people and other living things have needs and that they have responsibilities to meet them; About what harms and improves the world in which they live How diseases are spread and can be controlled and the responsibilities they have for their own health and that of others e.g. washing hands	Pupils are taught: That there are some cultural practices which are against British law and universal rights (e.g. honour based violence and forced marriage, human trafficking etc.) That actions such as female genital mutilation (FGM) constitute abuse, are crimes and how to get support if they have fears for themselves or their peers  That bacteria and viruses can affect health and that following simple routines and medical interventions can reduce their spread  About the range of national, regional, religious and ethnic identities in the United Kingdom and beyond and the importance of living in right relationship with one another