

St. Paul's School, Chipperfield



"Love to learn; Learn to love."

R.S.E. Policy

15th May 2019

Introduction

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to describe our practice in Relationship and Sex Education Policy (RSE) and the principles upon which this is based.

Aim(s): The aims of Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) at our school are to:

- Provide a framework in which sensitive discussions can take place
- Prepare pupils for puberty, and give them an understanding of sexual development and the importance of health and hygiene
- Help pupils develop feelings of self-respect, confidence and empathy
- Create a positive culture around issues of sexuality and relationships
- Teach pupils the correct vocabulary to describe themselves and their bodies

Wider school aims/ethos: To deliver RSE in the wider or context of the Christian values of respect, responsibility, honesty, love, friendship and compassion.

Consultation: This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils, parents and the clergy. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

1. Staff consultation – staff were given the opportunity to look at the teaching materials and policy, ask questions, make recommendations and gather further information and support where needed (January 2018).
2. Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties were invited to attend a meeting about the policy (March 2018); a further information evening was held for interested parties with the opportunity to view the teaching materials and ask questions (May 2018).
3. Pupil consultation – we asked children to review the Jigsaw scheme for RSE.
4. Clergy – we outlined the Jigsaw theme and progression to our vicar, who felt that this fitted with the ethos of our Church school.
5. Ratification – once amendments were made, the policy was shared with governors and ratified

Sources and references:

Jigsaw PSHE scheme

Sex and relationship education (SRE): statutory components on 'the Key'

RSE Policy on 'The Key'

Procedures and practice:

RSE is taught within the personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum. Biological aspects of SRE are taught within the science curriculum

Across all Key Stages, pupils will be supported with developing the following skills across a comprehensive PSHE curriculum:

- Responsibility
- Celebrating difference, including anti-bullying
- Recognising and developing a healthy lifestyle
- Relationships, including respect and empathy for others
- Changes, including: self-respect, communication and how to manage changing relationships and emotions
- Recognising and assessing potential risks
- Seeking help and support when required, including knowing where to go
- Informed decision-making
- Discussion

These skills are taught within the context of family life and our school Christian values.

Equal opportunities: Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation. We believe that this policy is in line with the Equality Act as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school.

Health and safety: RSE involves a combination of sharing information, and exploring issues and values; it is not about the promotion of sexual activity.

Planning: is based on the Jigsaw PSHE scheme of work

Teaching: Most sessions will be taught by the class teacher or other member of staff; some stand-alone sex education sessions may be delivered by a trained health professional.

Parent partnership: parents are informed about the content of RSE through specific documentation (emailed and found on the school website) and information sessions.

Parents' have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory components of RSE (any topic covered in the science curriculum is compulsory).

Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the Headteacher. A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's educational record. The Headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action. Alternative provision will be made at school for children who have been withdrawn from RSE.

Assessment: Children's development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal assessment systems.

Monitoring and review: The PSHE curriculum will be reviewed by the SLT and subject leaders through observations, learning walks and pupil voice.

Other documents and appendices: The RSE policy should be read in conjunction with other policies and documentation:

- Curriculum policy (PSHE)
- Values education

Governor approval and review dates: This policy was reviewed by the pupil committee on 27th March 2019 and passed by the Full Governing Board on 15th May 2019.

It will be reviewed in March 2020