

St James Church of England Primary School



Name of Policy	Relationship & Sex Education
Signed ratification by Governors	<i>Ratified 27.11.2018</i> 
Review Date	October 2018
Next Review Date	October 2020

This policy is based on the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education policy statement and takes into account statutory and non-statutory guidance issued by the DfE.

Introduction

At St James' our teaching of Relationship and Sex Education is rooted in Christian values and reflects the diverse and inclusive nature of our Diocese. Effective Relationship and Sex education is essential if young people are to make responsible, confident and well-informed decisions about their lives. It is to be firmly rooted within the framework of Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and the National Curriculum. It is to be taught within a moral, family-orientated and Christian context.

Definition of RSE

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) has been renamed as RSE: Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) to emphasise the relationships aspect of RSE. This was one of the recommendations from the Commons Education Committee Feb 2015

Relationship and Sex Education is not just learning about growing up, changes and reproduction. It is also about enabling children to make and maintain relationships with others, to understand about human sexuality and to feel good about themselves and the choices they make. This involves helping children to gain knowledge, develop skills and form positive beliefs and attitudes.

1. Knowledge and Understanding including; emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, puberty, reproduction and pregnancy, similarities and differences between males and females, parts of the human body including the male and female reproductive parts, gender stereotyping and discrimination, different families, different types of relationships, healthy and unhealthy relationships and where to get help if needed
2. Personal and Social Skills including; talking and listening to others, managing emotions, making friends and managing friendships, forming and maintaining loving, caring and respectful relationships, developing self-respect and empathy for others, respecting the differences between people, resilience to cope with change, making responsible and safe decisions, including on line
3. Attitudes and Values including; feeling positive about growing up, the importance of respect, care and love, the value of family life, the importance of stable and loving relationships, including marriage (both heterosexual and gay) and civil partnerships, respect for rights and responsibilities in relationships, acceptance of difference and diversity, promoting gender equality.

Aims and Purpose

As part of relationship and sex education, pupils should be taught about the nature and importance of marriage and family life in bringing up children, and the significance of stable relationships as key building blocks of community and society. Care needs to be taken to ensure that there is no stigmatisation of children based on their home circumstances.

This is a lifelong learning about physical, social, moral, spiritual and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. Alongside this we aim to develop positive attitudes, values and self-esteem and challenge negative attitudes, prejudices and stereotypes towards gender, sexual orientation, disability, ethnicity and religion.

Relationship and sex education also prepares children for the physical and emotional changes that will take place at puberty, with the biological aspects of RSE covered as a statutory part of the science curriculum.

Finally our teaching of RSE aims to protect children from sexual exploitation and inappropriate online content, teaching them how to keep safe online and offline as well as recognising when something is risky or unsafe.

Responsibility

Parents and carers are the key people in teaching their children about sex, relationships and growing up. Schools should always work in partnership with parents and carers consulting them regularly on the content and approach of this curriculum. Others in the wider community such as health professionals etc may also have a valuable part to play.

We do our best to find out about cultural views which may affect the RSE curriculum and will try to balance parental views with our commitment to comprehensive RSE and equality.

Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their children from RSE, apart from the statutory national curriculum (Science).

Confidentiality, safeguarding and child protection

Although RSE is not about personal disclosures and personal issues, it is possible that a pupil may disclose personal information. Staff understand that they cannot promise pupils absolute confidentiality, and pupils know this too.

If teachers are concerned in any way that a pupil is at risk of sexual or any other kind of abuse, they will talk to the Designated Child Protection Officer and follow the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Procedures. If a pupil discloses to a teacher that they are sexually active, or are considering sexual activity, then this would be viewed as a child protection issue.

This policy links to the Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco policy, the Safeguarding and Child Protection policy, anti-bullying policy and E-safety policy.