

# St. Anne's Catholic Primary



***“Learn to love, love  
to learn.”***

***RSE Policy***

## Mission Statement

### ***“Learn to love, love to learn.”***

By using and referring to our mission statement and its aims and objectives on a daily basis, we can ensure that we are building a strong Christian Community where all children and adults feel valued.

At St. Anne's we aim to:

#### **Nurture a vibrant Christian Community living with shared values -**

- By being a welcoming, celebrating community,
- Through positive role models,
- Through quality Religious Education, enriching daily Collective Worship,
- Through a positive Code of Conduct - centred on Gospel Values & supporting Core Value Statements,
- Through a stimulating, vibrant learning environment,
- Through nurturing relationships & pastoral care,
- Through knowledge, understanding and respect for other Faiths & Religions,
- Through the development of Spirituality, Awe & Wonder.

#### **Celebrate the uniqueness of individuals within our school community & empower them to achieve their dreams & aspirations -**

- By knowing each individual,
- By delivering a broad, balanced, enriched and creative curriculum,
- By planning thoroughly to meet the needs of every child,
- By enabling children to move their learning forward, through Quality First Teaching & Assessment,
- By having effective, well-embedded Appraisal Systems,
- By providing all staff and governors with opportunities for Continuing Professional Development,
- By offering additional enrichment activities,
- By giving every child a voice,
- By celebrating every step of life's journey.

#### **Be a community that fosters positive relationships -**

- With Parents & Carers - home visits, open days, an open door policy, newsletters, website, diaries, PTFA, INSPIRE Days, Community Celebrations,
- With Parish - celebration liturgies, sacramental preparation, service of welcome, leavers' mass,
- With Archdiocese/LA - link advisor, CPD, spirituality courses,
- With Local Community - choir performances, inter-school sports, senior citizens Christmas bingo, Sutton Smile,
- With other learning communities - networks, outside agencies, teaching schools & colleges,

- With National Communities - educational visits/residential, exchange visits, student placements,
- With Global Communities - supporting a variety of charities, links with schools, exchange visits, learning Spanish!

**In all we do,  
We Learn to Love & Love to Learn...**

## **Rationale**

***“I have come that you might have life and have it to the full”***

(John 10:10)

We acknowledge that Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship, as well as Relationship and Sex Education (RSE), are all underpinned by a theology of relationship and are all encompassed in the title ‘Relationship and Sex Education’ (RSE).

Our belief in the unique dignity of the human person as made in the image and likeness of God underpins the approach to all education in our school. Our approach to relationship and sex education therefore, is rooted in the Catholic Church’s teaching of the human person and is presented positively and prudently.

Stemming from this vision of what it means to be human, we seek to educate the whole child: spiritually, intellectually, morally, emotionally, psychologically, and physically towards our understanding of Christian maturity.

Following guidance from our own Archbishop and Archdiocese, the Conference of Bishops of England and Wales, and as advocated by the DFE, all relationship and sex education in our school will be firmly embedded in the Religious Education framework as it is concerned primarily with nurturing the human wholeness of our pupils.

All relationships and sex education 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.

## **Context**

The school's approach to, and the content of its RES teaching, will be differentiated appropriately to reflect the different ages and levels of maturity of the pupils being taught. In this school effective RSE is seen to be essential if young people are to make responsible, well informed decisions about their lives. It will not be delivered in isolation but firmly rooted within the curriculum with strong links to the RE, PSHE and Science curriculum. It will be part of lifelong learning about physical, moral, spiritual and emotional development. It will be about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, marriage for family life, respect, love and care.

## **Values and attitudes**

There are clear values that underpin RSE, including:

- Mutual respect
- The value of family life; marriage and of loving and stable relationships in bringing up children
- Rights and responsibilities for ourselves and others
- Commitment to safety and well being
- Gender equality
- Acceptance of diversity, and
- That violence and coercion in relationships are unacceptable

## **Aims of RSE**

- To encourage pupils' growth in self-respect, acknowledging we are all created in the image and likeness of God.
- To help pupils develop understanding that love is the central basis of relationships.
- To help pupils to understand the nature of relationships and to encourage them to reflect on their own relationships and respect difference between people.
- To develop pupils' confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships.
- To help pupils acquire the necessary skills to develop and sustain relationships.
- To offer sex education in the wider context of relationships.
- To ensure that pupils protect themselves and ask for help and support when needed.
- To ensure that pupils are prepared for puberty.
- To help pupils to develop a healthier, safer lifestyle.
- To prepare pupils to play an active role as citizens and to understand the Catholic vision of what it means to be citizens of the Kingdom/reign of God.

## **The role of parents**

The Church has always recognised that it is the privilege and the responsibility of parents to educate and inform their children in all matters pertaining to personal growth and development, particularly in the sensitive area of their moral education and sexual development. The Church also recognises that many parents require help and support in this task from both schools and parishes.

The Governing body fully subscribes to the views expressed by the Bishops' Conference and will always ensure that:

- Parents are supported in their task.
- Parents are consulted and kept informed of the RSE programme; its contents, evaluation and review of subsequent developments.

## ***Delivery of RSE***

RSE is taught through our life style in school and through the subjects of Religious Education, Science, and by way of a cross-curricular, integrated approach.

All elements of PSHE and Citizenship, whilst non-statutory at Key Stage 1 and 2, are covered. Significant aspects of sex and relationship education remain part of the National Curriculum for Science. These will be taught to all pupils. **Parents are unable to withdraw pupils from science lessons.**

### **Key Stage 1 (ages 5-7)**

- That humans move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce.
- To name the main external parts of the body.
- That humans grow from babies into children and then into adults, and that adults can produce babies.
- To recognise similarities and differences between themselves and other pupils.

### **Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11)**

- That the life processes common to humans and all animals include nutrition, growth and reproduction.
- The main stages of the human life cycle.

We acknowledge that every area of school life can potentially contribute to RSE as the school, of its very nature operates through positive human relationships. We recognise value and greatly appreciate the contribution made by all members of staff in deepening the quality of our Christian community.

Teachers will use their professional judgement when addressing issues in RSE. Careful consideration will be given to the wide and varied experience and background of pupils in their care.

While we operate a whole school approach to RSE through our RSE programme pupils in Year 5 and 6, will learn about the emotional and physical changes of puberty. For this particular part of the curriculum, children will be taught through the Journey in Love programme. The school also maintains the option to use other suitable and relevant programmes and/or educators of RSE.

## **Outcomes**

Effective RSE will be achieved through a whole-school approach which will ensure that the school's policy and educational programmes tailored to the age and physical and emotional maturity of the children. Staff will be given appropriate training and support to carry out their work sensitively.

## **Assessment, recording and reporting**

A record is kept in teachers' planning of the delivery of RSE. The programme is assessed, monitored and evaluated by the RE and PSHE co-ordinator(s) and SLT in accordance with the school's monitoring and evaluation policy. Pupils are given the opportunity for self-evaluation at an appropriate level for each year group. Reporting is made in individual pupil's reports under 'General Comments'.

## **Outside Agencies**

The expertise of outside agencies will be used appropriately to *support* but not at the expense of the school's delivery. The school is particularly thankful of the help available from local diocesan agencies and charities such as Nugent Care, Barnardo's, Childline and the NSPCC.

## **Safeguarding**

The school has procedures to deal with any sensitive issues or children thought to be vulnerable. Staff will pass on any concerns of this nature to the designated child protection officer(s) in school.

## **The Governing body**

The Governing body and Foundation Governors in particular recognise their responsibility to ensure the RSE programme follows Archdiocesan principles and reflects the Church's teaching.

## **Right of withdrawal**

It is our hope that parents would wish their children to be involved in the schools positive and prudent programme of relationship and sex education, following annual consultation regarding the school's approach. However, we recognise parents have the right to withdraw their children from such lessons after discussion with the Head of School. **It must be noted that children cannot be withdrawn from science curriculum lessons.**

## **Context**

This policy will be monitored annually by the RSE co-ordinator and will be reviewed annually by the Governing body. Parents will be consulted before any proposed changes.

This policy has been formally adopted by the Governing Body of St. Anne's Catholic Primary School. It will be reviewed by the Governors and Senior Leadership Team in conjunction with the staff two years from the date below.

Signed ..... (Chair of Governors) Carmel Foster

Date .....

Signed.....(Executive Headteacher) Sara Johnson

Date.....

Signed .....(Head of School) Rachel Crolla

Date.....