



Holy Trinity CE (VA) Primary School

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy

Policy Review

The policy was last reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body in July 2020.

It is due for review – July 2023.

The 2020 review has been completed with reference to Government statutory guidance for September 2020: Relationships Education, Relationships & Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education.

Signature

Date

Head Teacher

Signature

Date

Chair of Governors

Holy Trinity CE (VA) School Aims and Values

As a Church of England school the primary aim of the school is to help each pupil reach his or her full potential so that they may develop the attitudes, skills and knowledge to take full advantage of the opportunities available in their future lives.

In terms of this policy we focus on:

- fostering the values, attributes and lifestyles that a Christian faith demands in the family, among friends, in the school and in the wider community.
- creating an environment for staff and pupils that is happy stimulating and supportive in which core values and beliefs of high expectations can flourish

Introduction

The Governors of Holy Trinity CE School have made safeguarding an essential priority and are committed to make sure that the safeguarding of their children remains central to their work. For this reason, the principles of excellent safeguarding practice are interwoven within the Christian culture of Holy Trinity and every aspect of the school's work. This policy supports this commitment to safeguarding and should be read in conjunction with all school policies as appropriate.

It is every person's responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and it remains a principal concern to everyone within the school community.

Safeguarding is 'everyone's responsibility'. This policy sets out Holy Trinity CE School's responsibilities under the Children Act 2004 to ensure children, young people and adults at risk are kept safe from harm.

At Holy Trinity CE (VA) Primary School Sex and Relationship Education enables pupils to learn about physical, moral and emotional development. The term covers the learning needed for pupils to gain an understanding of their bodies, changes and differences experienced as they grow and know their feelings to prepare pupils for permanent relationships in the future. As a church school, we believe that sex education should be presented within a framework that embraces Christian values, love, faithfulness and forgiveness.

Aims

In accordance with statutory government guidelines, coverage is in two distinct parts: Relationships Education and Physical & Mental Well-being which, for upper key stage two, includes changing adolescent body and sex education. Sex Education is taught through the Science curriculum studies of Life Processes including reproduction, puberty and lifecycles. SRE is also supported by our broader Jigsaw PSHE curriculum and is inclusive of all pupils. Our programme aims to respond to the diversity of children's cultures, faiths and family backgrounds. We have a commitment to ensure that it is relevant to all our pupils and is taught in a way that is age appropriate.

It ensures that pupils at Holy Trinity:

- are prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life
- develop their personal skills to enable them to establish and maintain relationships
- make responsible and informed decisions about their health and well-being
- receive sex education in the wider context of relationships presented within a framework of Christian values
- develop positive attitudes to sexuality

Programme and Resources.

The resources and materials used to support sex education in the school link into the Science curriculum where appropriate. It is also linked to the PSHE curriculum which is planned using the Jigsaw resource.

The agreed video material used 'All about Us; Living and Growing (alternative)' has been recommended and used in many Hertfordshire schools.

Yr 5	Boy talk/Girl talk (unit 2 programme 5&6)
Yr 6	How Babies are Made/How babies are born (unit 3 programme 7&8)

In Year 5 and 6 we use the specific programme of sessions planned (see above) which is linked with video footage. These sessions are provided to ensure pupils have an overview about puberty and body changes and teaching about sex in a family context at an age appropriate level. The sessions are provided for all pupils in separate gender groups to allow children to ask questions and develop their understanding in a suitable environment.

Implementation

Class teachers have an overall responsibility for the delivery of SRE in each class, however as a school we may also involve other appropriate professionals, such as the school nursing team, to support the delivery of a session or ask a more experienced member of staff to lead the teaching.

Withdrawal from the SRE sessions.

Parents/carers do have the right to withdraw their child from the sex education element of RSE lessons, but not statutory Science, Relationships or Physical & Mental Well-being lessons. We give parents the opportunity to view the materials we use for sex education. When dates are confirmed for Year 5 and 6 children to have their specific sessions, we invite parents (in those classes specifically but all parents are invited) to view materials used in school. If parents are concerned about the content or any aspects of the sessions then we ask that they see the teacher or Headteacher so that these concerns can be discussed and hopefully solved.

Controversial and Sensitive Issues

Teachers are often supported by the NHS school nursing team in delivery of the SRE videos for older children. Questions and queries may be referred to this team where it is felt appropriate by staff. All staff are aware that views around SRE related issues are varied. However, while personal views are respected, all SRE issues are taught without prejudice or bias. We teach our children respect for others values and beliefs and ensure that all pupils' opinions are respected, topics are presented using a variety of views and beliefs so that pupils are able to form their own, informed opinions.

Questions

It is important that teachers know how to respond to unexpected or awkward questions:

- Opportunities are provided for children to ask questions anonymously should this be felt appropriate.

- If the question is of a more personal nature, the teacher may respond privately
- If the teacher doesn't know the answer, this should be acknowledged and the correct answer provided in a later lesson. Support may be provided from the school nursing team in this instance

Child Protection and Safeguarding.

Holy Trinity CE (VA) School aims to provide all pupils with a safe and secure environment. Teachers are made aware that effective SRE, with its focus on non-exploitive relationships, may lead to disclosures of child protection issues. All staff are trained in Child Protection and Safeguarding and are alert to signs of abuse and know that they should be reporting their concerns to the Designated Senior Person for Child Protection(Headteacher) or deputy DSP (Deputy Headteacher). If a question raises concerns about possible sexual abuse, child protection procedures must be followed. See Child Protection Policy. Please see the Child Protection Policy.

Review of the policy

This policy will be reviewed every three years unless otherwise required. The next review date is 2023.