

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School & Nursery
Sex & Relationships Education Policy
December 2011

"At Sacred Heart School we are a loving Christian family who live and learn happily together and grow in the Catholic faith."

Introduction

At Sacred Heart School we recognize each of our pupils as unique persons, created in the image of God and intended to have life to the full. Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) reflects the Christian values of our Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education programme, and is taught in the context of relationships. SRE promotes children's self-esteem and emotional wellbeing. It helps them to form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships, based on respect for themselves and for others, at home, at school and in the community.

The school shares with the parents the responsibility to provide positive and prudent sex and relationship education. The school aims to keep pupils safe and protect them from exploitation.

What is SRE?

SRE is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is the understanding of the importance of marriage and family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care.

Aims

- To engender growth in self-respect and self worth recognizing that each of us is created in the image of God
- To enable pupils to have an understanding that love is central to relationships
- To promote an appreciation of the nature, purposes and value of marriage and the family.
- To enable pupils to have an understanding of themselves, their bodies and their emotional development.
- To enable pupils to reflect and recognize the qualities that helps them to grow and develop positive relationships.

Delivery of SRE

SRE is delivered through 4 broad themes within the context of the Hertfordshire Programme of Study for KS1 and KS2.

- Developing confidence and responsibility for making the most of pupils' abilities
- Preparing to play an active role as citizens
- Developing healthier and safer lifestyles
- Developing good relationships and respecting differences between people

Delivery of SRE is the responsibility of the class teacher. However outside agencies, e.g. school nurse, may also have an input, although always in line with our school ethos and the Church's teaching. Parents are asked to support the teaching at home.

SRE Programme content

SRE at the primary phase builds on the personal and social development work carried out to meet the Early Learning Goals at the Foundation Stage. It builds foundation of emotional and social skills which is central to all later SRE work.

At KS1, the SRE programme continues the work from Foundation Stage. It helps to build skills of:

- Developing confidence in talking
- Listening to others
- Thinking about feelings
- Naming emotions
- Developing self-esteem
- Developing assertiveness skills and friendships skills.

At KS2, the above skills are developed and pupils look specifically at:

- The changes that will take place at puberty
- How babies are conceived, develop and are born

Legal requirements of SRE-DFe Guidance 2000

These areas are compulsory in the National Curriculum Science programmes of study at KS1 & 2.

At KS1, pupils are taught:

- That animals including humans move, feed, grow, use of senses and reproduce
- To recognise and compare the main external parts of the body of humans
- That humans can produce babies and that these grow into adults
- To recognize similarities and differences between themselves and others, and treat others with sensitivity

At KS2 pupils are taught:

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

Teaching & Learning Approaches

SRE is generally delivered using interactive methods of learning and these include:

- Whole class discussion
- Circle time
- Small group work
- IWB
- One-to-one
- Teaching in single sex groups as appropriate

Teaching Sensitive Issues

Puberty

We aim to provide accurate factual information about the physical and emotional changes that take place at puberty. Both boys and girls are given a basic knowledge of what happens to each gender. We also explain that it is normal for everyone to develop at different rates.

Menstruation

We provide accurate information about menstruation in Y5. Sensitive arrangements are organized to prepare the girls for menstruation. Sanitary

facilities are available in the Y5/6 girl's toilets. Staff are prepared to deal with requests for sanitary towels in a helpful manner and without embarrassment.

Staff CPD

Staff training is carried out through staff meetings and discussions. The policy is reviewed yearly and the school has taken advantage of the SRE consultation surgery with the PSHE/Citizenship advisor to update its knowledge.

Partnership with parents

Parents have the opportunity to view any materials the school uses with the children. The DVD can be viewed beforehand to enable parents to see first hand the content, which in turn enables them to have informed discussions with their children.

Inclusion

We have a commitment to ensuring that all pupils will have equal access to the SRE curriculum, following guidelines in the Equal Opportunities and Inclusion policies. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the SRE at school, except for those parts included in the National Curriculum Science orders. In such cases, parents must notify the school and alternative arrangements will be made.

Confidentiality

Some pupils may choose to mention specific problems or individual issues involving themselves or members of the school community. While staff will want to be supportive, it is made clear to all staff they work within child protection guidelines (see Child Protection policy) and therefore must state to their pupils that they may not be able to guarantee confidentiality

Monitoring & Review

The PSHE and Science subject leaders will monitor teaching and learning according to our school's policy. Implementation will be monitored by the Head teacher, RE and PSHE subject leaders and reported on to the Governing Body who are ultimately responsible for the provision of SRE.

It is reviewed annually.

Date of Review December 2012