

ST PETER IN THANET CE JUNIOR SCHOOL

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Consultation

This policy was drawn up as part of a consultation process with parents, children and governors in line with the National Curriculum guidelines, government legislation and Diocese advice.

Aims and Objectives

Relationships and sex education is an integral part of the whole education programme and is not treated in isolation. This policy has been drawn up to give guidance and to clarify the school's approach to controversial matters.

We recognise that knowledge alone is insufficient and that it needs to be reinforced by developing and shaping social skills and attitudes to relationships and sex education. We aim to stress the importance of family life and of feeling 'cared for'.

Christian Ethos

Sex is not only a given fact of human existence but, in Christian belief, a gift of God as part of Creation.

Children from both happy and unhappy marriages and homes need to glimpse something of the wonder and security of family life as the proper context of sexual expression – and to grasp the Christian values of acceptance, forgiveness and loving another as yourself.

At St Peters we believe that all our Christian values stem from Love and this is totally reflected throughout this policy.

From a Christian viewpoint we aim:

1. To develop children's notions of self esteem and self worth.
2. To increase their respect and understanding of their own and others' bodies. To develop understanding and knowledge of the development of the human body and changes which occur.
3. To develop in them a caring and considerate attitude to each other and to society.
4. To develop a sensitivity and respect for others, regardless of gender, race, creed, culture or age.
5. To increase children's confidence in forming, maintaining and ending relationships.
6. To develop responsibility in relationships.

7. To foster thoughtful and informed responses to a range of different family circumstances and relationships as children grow in their awareness and understanding of the world.
8. To generate an atmosphere of trust in which questions about sexuality and reproduction can be raised and answered without embarrassment.
9. To challenge media stereotypes of masculinity and femininity and to establish the value of equal opportunities for males and females.
10. To develop children's understanding of the moral issues involved in human sexual behaviour and to explore the stances adopted by different cultures and groups.

Objectives

These objectives take into account local and national priorities including the high teenage pregnancy rate in Thanet and the work of Thanet Teenage Pregnancy Local Implementation Group

1. To help children to become aware of their own emotions and how to manage them.
2. To enable them to make healthy positive choices.
3. To help them assess, understand and resist peer and social pressures and protect themselves from abuse.
4. To enable them to accept their sexuality as part of their whole personality and use an agreed acceptable vocabulary for discussing sexual matters with confidence and dignity.
5. To enable them to understand about personal safety and to know the difference between good and bad touches.
6. To develop a clear understanding of their bodies, including the changes which have taken place since birth and those which will take place in the years ahead.
7. To understand the reproductive process in humans and animals, using the correct vocabulary for body parts alongside their own terminology.
8. To ensure they acquire a basic knowledge of human development, highlighting the part played by the family in the child's own culture and in other cultures.

Planning and Organisation

Our Relationships and sex education programme aims to embrace the needs of all pupils, recognising gender, diverse backgrounds, and special educational needs. The scheme of work is specifically integrated into the science and PSHE schemes throughout Key Stage 2 as outlined. Relationships and sex education will be clearly led by teachers yet will encourage discussion.

New teachers to the school will be given copies of relationships and sex planning relevant to their year group and access to the policy by the PSHE coordinator. Visitors to the

school involved in relationships and sex education will be given access to this policy and to the guidelines for visitors in the Staff Handbook.

Parental Involvement

The school will liaise with parents. Parents will be informed of the syllabus and will be invited to view the précis video and resources and discuss matters arising.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from all or any part of relationships and sex education except those elements that are required by the National Curriculum for Science.

Pupils who ask for Individual Advice

Helping pupils who want advice about personal problems is recognised as part of the school's role. Teachers will encourage pupils to discuss their concerns with their parents and/or outside agencies including Healthy Schools and social services.

Children who feel unable to ask questions in front of the class may hand their questions in anonymously. These questions will be considered by staff and answered in an appropriate manner.

Teachers may give advice within boundaries of their own professional role in accordance with the confidentiality section in the school's Child Protection policy and in line with the Guidance for Safe Working Practice for the Protection of Children and Staff in Education document.

Visitors

Visitors to the school likely to be involved in relationships and sex education will be referred to the Relationships and Sex Education Policy.

Curriculum Links

This policy is closely linked with RE, PSHE and Science.

Review

This policy will be reviewed and updated in September 2017.

Reviewed April 2014

Reviewed November 2015