



# All Saints

Catholic Primary School, Anfield

## Relationship, Sex and Health Education Policy

In the light of God, we shine on our own  
but we shine brighter together.

In consultation with



Archdiocese of  
**Liverpool**

Updated September 2023

## **Rationale**

***'I have come that you might have life and have it to the full'***  
*(Jn.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 'Relationships, Sex and Health Education' (RSHE).

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 Bishop and Diocese, 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 relationship 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.

### **Aims of Relationship and Sex Education (RSHE)**

- To encourage pupils' growth in self respect, acknowledging we are all created in the image and likeness of God

- To help pupils develop an 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 differences between people.
- To help pupils' confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships.
- To help pupils acquire the skills necessary 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.

### **Delivery of RSHE**

We have developed our curriculum with recommendations from the Archdiocesan Education Department to ensure that they meet with Catholic Church teaching.

Consultation and information about RSHE is shared with parents during our coffee mornings (beginning of the academic year), year group newsletters and via Seesaw. Parent meetings are held specifically for Year 6

regarding sexual intercourse content. Relationship, Sex and Health Education will be covered using the Archdiocesan recommended resource 'A Journey In Love' 2020. After parents have received the information about the coverage for age appropriate content, parents have the right to withdraw their child.

## **Curriculum**

All Saints have considered the age, stage and feelings of pupils and have consulted with parents and staff to ensure we are offering a quality curriculum which is adequately catered to meet their needs. 'A Journey in Love' runs throughout the year alongside Come and See topics. We have adapted our PSHE scheme 'Jigsaw' and the topic of 'coping positively with change' and have mapped it with 'A Journey in Love' to reflect the Catholic Church's teaching on this focus.

Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) is taught both discretely and within the Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum lessons. Some aspects of the RSHE curriculum may be touched upon in other lessons as it shares links with Religious Education, Science and Physical Education. Our RSHE will ensure that content is relevant to the age, experience and maturity of pupils.

The new statutory guidance for Relationships education focuses on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:

- Families and people who care for me.
- Caring friendships.
- Respectful relationships.
- Online relationships.
- Being safe.

These areas of learning are taught within the context of 'family life' and could include married or single parent families, same sex parents, families headed by grandparents, adoptive parents, foster parents/carers amongst

other structures, along with reflecting sensitively that some children may have a support structure around them (for example: looked after children or young carers).

As a school, we promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations. Our inclusive school environment gives respect to all pupils and their families. All staff are actively promote and develop positive relationships and receive regular training.

If pupils ask questions outside the scope of our curriculum, teachers will respond in an appropriate manner so they are fully informed and do not seek answers online.

### **Resources**

Jigsaw - the mindful approach to PSHE [www.jigsawpshe.com](http://www.jigsawpshe.com)

A Journey in Love 2020 (Reception - Year 6)

### **Equal Opportunities**

All pupils have access to the RSHE curriculum. Where pupils have specific educational needs, arrangements for support from outside agencies and support staff are made to ensure these pupils have an appropriate, differentiated curriculum. Roles and Responsibility The Governing Body The governing body will approve the RSHE policy and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

### **The Headteacher**

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSHE is taught consistently across the school and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from the non-statutory element of Relationship and Sex Education in Year 6\* (see right of withdrawal)

## **Staff**

Staff do not have the right to opt out of teaching RSHE as this forms part of the Teaching Standards. Any staff who have concerns about teaching RSHE are encouraged to discuss this with the headteacher. Staff are responsible for:

- Delivering RSHE in a sensitive way which complies with Church teaching.
- Modelling positive attitudes to RSHE.
- Monitoring progress.
- Responding to the needs of individual pupils.
- Responding appropriately to pupils whose parents wish them to be withdrawn from the non-statutory components of RSE.

## **Pupils**

Pupils are expected to engage fully in RSHE and, when discussing issues related to RSHE, treat others with dignity, respect and sensitivity. Parents' right to withdraw Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the non-statutory component of sex education in Year 6. This is where sexual intercourse is taught discretely as part of the Physical aspect within Journey In Love the Archdiocesan recommended resource. Requests for withdrawal should be made in writing and addressed to the headteacher. The headteacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action. Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from RSHE. Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from Statutory Relationships Education as set out in the DFE guidance 2020.

## **Assessment Recording and Reporting**

A record is kept in teacher's planning of the delivery of RSHE. The programme is assessed, monitored and evaluated by the co-ordinator 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.

## **Safeguarding Procedures**

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 in school.

## **The Governing Body**

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

## **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 EPR Programme; its contents, evaluation and review and any subsequent developments.

## **Right of Withdrawal**

It is our hope that parents would wish their children to be involved in the school's 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 (not included in National Curriculum Science) after discussion with the head teacher.

**Monitoring and Review**

This policy will be monitored annually by the headteacher and will be reviewed annually by the Governing Body. Parents will be consulted before any proposed changes. Pupils’ development in RSE is monitored by class teachers as part of our internal informal assessment systems.

This policy has been formally adopted by the Governing Body of All Saints Primary School. It will be reviewed by the Governors and head teacher in conjunction with all the staff two years from the date below.

Signed..... (Chair of Governors)

Date.....  
.....



