

Relationships & Sex Education Policy



St Werburgh's C of E
Primary School

Date approved: September 2018

Date next review : September 2019

Approved by:

Model Relationships and Sex Education

Sex and Relationship Education is a lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of marriage and family life, in all its diversity as found in our culture today. This is the focus we teach at St Werburgh's, not the promotion of sexual activity or orientation. This is in line with the parishes mission statement of inclusion.

Here at St Werburgh's we understand Relationships and Sex Education to be a lifelong process and a central God given aspect of healthy human development not about the promotion of sexual activity. At St Werburghs our focus is to provide information and an appropriate learning environment unbiased as to gender identity and sexual orientation.

RSE is integrated into and delivered via a broad and balanced PHSE/Citizenship Scheme of Work and through the Science National Curriculum

Aims and objectives

We aim to promote gender equality and LGBTQIA+¹ equality and challenge discrimination. We also aim to foster a climate that encourages children to express their views and feelings and to respect the views and feelings of others, with clear, established boundaries. We also aim to help children understand sexuality is God given and part of our make up as we are created in God's image and therefore sex and sexuality is fundamentally a blessing from God. Our RSE policy prepares all pupils for the future regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation.

The following principles apply:

- We teach aspects of RSE through different curriculum areas including PSHE, science and PE, where we feel that they contribute significantly to a child's knowledge and understanding of his or her own body, and how it is changing and developing.
- In keeping with our aim to be supportive and informative, we will answer the children's questions openly and honestly but if we feel these questions are taking us beyond the growth and development aspects of sex education and on to the sexual act we will advise the children to talk to their parents.
- Parents will be informed of when the Year 5/6 growing up talks are to take place so that they can discuss the matter with the school if they wish. They will be invited to view any resources.

We provide for this through:

- We follow the guidance material in the national scheme of work for science and PHSE. In Key Stage 1 we teach children about how animals, including humans, move, feed, grow and reproduce, and we also teach them about the main parts of the body. Children learn to appreciate the differences between people and how to show respect for each other irrespective of their sexual orientation. They also look at keeping healthy and the importance of hygiene even in PE. In Key Stage 2 this work is developed and we teach about life processes and the main stages of the human life cycle in greater depth.
- In Years 5/6 we place a particular emphasis on health education, as many children begin to experience puberty at this age.
- Resources used within the school will be consistent with our framework of values. They will be appropriate to the needs of our pupils in terms of language, images, attitudes, maturity and knowledge required and recognises and values the variety of loving relationships within our society.

The role of parents

The school is well aware that the primary role in children's sex education lies with parents and carers. We wish to develop a positive and supporting role with parents and carers. In promoting this objective we:

- signpost parents to the school's RSE policy;
- answer any questions that parents may have about the RSE of their child;
- take seriously any issue that parents raise with teachers or governors about this policy or the arrangements for RSE in the school.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from any RSE that is provided outside the National Curriculum Science Order. If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn, they should discuss this with the Headteacher .

Safeguarding

If safeguarding issues arise through discussion, they will be dealt with sensitively and in line with our safeguarding policy.

The role of the Head teacher

- It is the responsibility of the Head teacher to ensure that both staff and parents are informed about our RSE, and that the policy is implemented effectively.
- The Head teacher ensures that all adults, who work with children on these issues, are aware of the policy, and that they work within this framework.
- The Head teacher monitors this policy on a regular basis and reports to governors, when requested, on the effectiveness of the policy.

Monitoring and Review

The governing body monitors our sex education policy on an annual basis. If the policy needs amending, the Curriculum Committee will undertake this review process and report back, with any recommendations to the full governing body, as necessary.

1 lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, intersect, asexuality