



ST CHRISTOPHER'S CE HIGH SCHOOL

Policy for Relationships & Sex Education (RSE)

Date: June 2020

Mission Statement

St Christopher's is a Church of England Academy where pupils and staff work together, in the knowledge and love of God. We try to act out our faith in daily life, with Christ as our example.

Within our strong Christian, Anglican context, we seek to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, intellectual and physical development of our pupils, growing together as a caring and supportive community whilst preparing them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of their adult lives.

Rationale and Ethos

This policy covers our school's approach to the teaching of relationships and sex education. It was produced by Mrs R Parkinson, PSHEE co-ordinator in post until August 2020. This role has now been allocated to Miss D Sutton, who is also the school's Careers Leader.

We believe that relationships and sex education is important for our pupils and our school because it involves learning about emotional, social and physical development. In our Christian school, we help our pupils to understand the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love, care, family life and marriage. RSE involves developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes. High quality relationships and sex education creates a safe school community in which pupils can learn, grow and develop positive, healthy behaviour.

Relationships and Sex Education is an entitlement for all students. It aims to enhance the self-worth and confidence of each individual and encourage mutually respectful relationships. Good quality RSE encourages empathy towards others, and so supporting students in making positive life choices. We hope to ensure that our pupils recognise positive and fulfilling relationships. This is supported by our school's overarching aims, which are to promote the spiritual, moral, social, cultural, intellectual and physical development of all of our pupils, within a caring and supportive community. We believe that young people are most likely to thrive when they are well informed and are able to speak openly and honestly about matters relating to relationships and sex.

Roles and Responsibilities

The RSE programme will be led by Miss D Sutton.

Senior Assistant Headteacher/Senior DSL	Mrs S Collier
Senior Assistant Headteacher/Deputy DSL	Mrs S Parkinson
Head of PSHE & Careers Education	Miss D Sutton
Head of RE/Director of Spirituality	Mr C Pountain
Head of Science	Mr J Foy
School Nurse	Kay Jones
Governor with responsibility for RSE	Denise Taylor

Legislation

Current regulations and guidance from the Department for Education states that all secondary schools must deliver relationships and sex education from September 2020. RSE is taught primarily through PSHE lessons but many aspects are also covered within Science and RE. The RE department organise and deliver 'drop down' spirituality themed days for each year group. The Year 10 focus is relationships. Mrs Collier annually organises a 'drop down' health day for Year 9 which encompasses elements of RSE.

RSE is taught in our school in line with the Equalities Act of 2010, no young person should feel excluded on the grounds of gender, sexuality, race or religious belief. As supported by 'Valuing All God's Children' produced by the Church of England in 2017, we want all our pupils to willingly engage in a safe and welcoming environment.

Curriculum Design

Our RSE programme is an integral part of our whole school PSHE education and covers:

- The physical and emotional changes associated with puberty.
- Recognising and aspiring to healthy relationships.
- The importance of consent.
- Gender and sexuality.
- The use of pornography.
- Recognising the signs of grooming and online safety.
- The benefits of delaying sexual activity and the skills to be able to do this.
- The law and how it applies to relationships and sex.
- Being enabled to make informed and responsible choices.
- The dangers of risk taking behaviour.
- Positive self-image.
- Responsibilities and consequences of any decisions they make, including the responsibilities of parenthood.
- Contraceptive choices.
- Sexually transmitted infections and how to avoid them.
- Understanding that they have the right to access information services and advice, and that this is available to them in confidence.

The full PSHE programme of study is available on request. It is the responsibility of the Head of PSHE and the class teacher to deem age appropriate content for PSHE lessons with an RSE focus.

Safe and Effective Practice

We will ensure a safe learning environment by ensuring that the teacher and pupils agree ground rules, where pupils agree what constitutes effective learning in RSE. Distancing techniques will be used in lessons. Pupils will be able to ask anonymous questions through the use of the 'ask it basket'. All staff teaching RSE will be supported by the Head of PSHEE, Miss D Sutton and the SMT link Mrs S Parkinson.

Safeguarding

Teachers are aware that effective RSE, which brings an understanding of what is and what is not appropriate in a relationship, can lead to a disclosure of a child protection issue. Teachers will consult the designated safeguarding leads Mrs S Collier or Mrs S Parkinson.

Visitors and external agencies delivering any aspect of RSE will be expected to provide a DBS certificate on arrival and will be supervised in the school by a member of staff at all times. The content of such lessons will be thoroughly checked by the Head of PSHEE beforehand.

Engaging Stakeholders

Parents will be informed about the policy via email and it will be available for viewing on the school website. Parents and carers have the right to withdraw their child from RSE content that is not part of statutory National Curriculum Science, they are informed of this in the school prospectus. In a case of a pupil being withdrawn, arrangements will be made to provide the pupil with alternative work, supervised by a member of staff. Materials can be supplied to parents to help them to deliver RSE at home. Parents receive annual PSHEE reports.

Teaching staff generate an atmosphere where questions and discussion on sexual matters can take place without any stigma or embarrassment. As a school we recognise that parents are the key in teaching their children about sex, relationships and growing up.

Pupils will be involved in consultations on the content and delivery of RSE lessons through the use of questionnaires. The programme will be taught through a range of teaching methods including discussions, quizzes, group work, circle work, debating, researching and role play.

St Christopher's aims to help young people develop the confidence and skills to talk, listen and think about relationships and sex education. Pupils are able to ask anonymous questions in class through use of the 'ask it basket' or a 'question box'.

There are a number of teaching strategies used, including:

- Establishing ground rules with pupils.
- Distancing techniques.
- Interactive games.
- Knowing how to deal sensitively with unexpected questions or comments from pupils.
- Using discussion and appropriate materials.
- Encouraging discussion and reflection.

Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation

Teachers will critically reflect on their work in delivering RSE through professional development opportunities as and when they arise.

Pupil progress is monitored and work is assessed. Pupils are encouraged to evaluate their learning at the end of each year and suggest improvements. The Head of PSHEE will regularly review the schemes of work to ensure that the policy's aims are being met. Pupils' progress is reported on in the end of academic year reports at KS3 and in progress reports at KS4.

Links to Other Policies

The policy for RSE supports and is itself underpinned by the school's other policies, processes and procedures.

Review

This policy will be reviewed in June 2022. It will be reviewed by Miss D Sutton, new to post as Head of PSHEE from September 2020 who now holds responsibility for this policy. This will ensure that policy is updated and reflects current legislation and guidance.