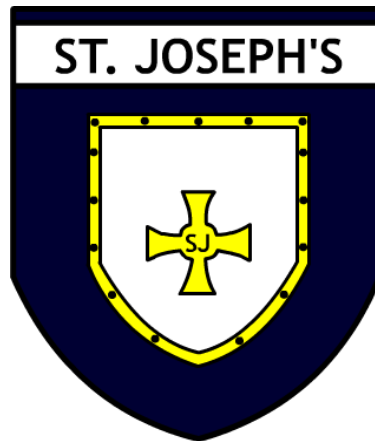


St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

RELATIONSHIPS, SEX AND EDUCATION (RSHE) POLICY



'We are all God's children
and will try to live, love, work
and serve as Jesus taught us.'

Approved by Governing Body: Autumn 2020 – Reviewed Autumn 2023

Review Date: Autumn 2026

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) Policy

This policy is designed to reflect and support our vision, aims and values.

The infographic is titled 'ST. JOSEPH'S' and features a central white circle on a yellow background. The circle is divided into three sections: 'VISION', 'AIMS', and 'VALUES'. The 'VISION' section states: 'Our vision is for each child to shine their own **unique light**, to be **kind and compassionate** and **stewards of God's creation**. We have **high expectations** of our young learners and we **believe that everyone is capable of learning**.' The 'AIMS' section states: 'Our aim is to deliver a rich and varied curriculum that stimulates our children, enabling them to become **confident** and **successful** learners, who articulate their views positively and with respect. Using educational research into high-quality teaching and learning, our curriculum intends to provide an education for the whole child. We value **speaking, reading and writing** as essential skills in education. It is important for children to have a good understanding of the world, **art, literature and science**. For us, teaching is not just about knowledge but about developing children of **great character**. Through **sports** and extra-curricular activities, we promote our key values and our belief in using the **gifts** that God has given us.' The 'VALUES' section states: 'We promote our core values of **Respect ~ Honesty ~ Resilience ~ Independence ~ Curiosity ~ Community ~ Courage ~ Compassion**.' Below the 'VALUES' section is a yellow banner with the text: 'WE ARE ALL GOD'S CHILDREN AND WILL TRY TO LIVE, LOVE, WORK AND SERVE AS JESUS TAUGHT US.' The infographic also includes three circular images: a group of children in school uniforms, a group of children sitting at a table, and a group of children standing in a circle on a lawn. The background features a blue sky with clouds, a green lawn, and a blue sea with stars.

ST. JOSEPH'S

VISION

Our vision is for each child to shine their own **unique light**, to be **kind and compassionate** and **stewards of God's creation**. We have **high expectations** of our young learners and we **believe that everyone is capable of learning**.

AIMS

Our aim is to deliver a rich and varied curriculum that stimulates our children, enabling them to become **confident** and **successful** learners, who articulate their views positively and with respect. Using educational research into high-quality teaching and learning, our curriculum intends to provide an education for the whole child. We value **speaking, reading and writing** as essential skills in education. It is important for children to have a good understanding of the world, **art, literature and science**. For us, teaching is not just about knowledge but about developing children of **great character**. Through **sports** and extra-curricular activities, we promote our key values and our belief in using the **gifts** that God has given us.

VALUES

We promote our core values of
Respect ~ Honesty ~ Resilience ~ Independence ~ Curiosity ~ Community ~ Courage ~ Compassion

WE ARE ALL GOD'S CHILDREN AND WILL TRY TO LIVE, LOVE, WORK AND SERVE AS JESUS TAUGHT US.

This policy has been written in consultation with all teachers, parents and governors.

DEFINING RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION

The DfE guidance states that 'children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way.' It is about the development of the pupil's knowledge and understanding of them as a sexual being, about what it means to be to form right relationships with themselves and others. The focus is on 'teaching the

fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships and relationships with other children and with adults.

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS AND RATIONALE

The context of teaching Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) in a Catholic school must go further than government definitions and guidelines.

"I have come that you may have life and have it to the full." John 10:10

The belief that we are all created in the image and likeness of God underpins the approach to teaching RSHE at St. Joseph's. Our approach to teaching RSHE therefore is rooted in the Catholic Church's teaching of the human person and presented in a positive framework of Christian ideals.

All RSHE 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.

AIMS

Education is about the growth and development of the whole person for life. At St. Joseph's we aim to integrate a pupil's intellectual, spiritual, moral, emotional, psychological and physical development, thus assisting progress towards Christian maturity. At St. Joseph's, children are helped to reach their full potential in their family, school and society, by the creation of a sympathetic and caring atmosphere in which they can develop high self-esteem and a sense of responsibility for their actions.

RSHE is fundamentally about the development, growth and journey of the whole person towards becoming 'fully human, fully alive' as a unique creation made in God's image.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of RSHE is to help and support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development. A successful programme will help young people learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood to adolescence and into adulthood.

In order for Catholic RSE to be fully effective at St. Joseph's it needs to:

- Be faithful to the Church's vision and celebrate that we are God's greatest creation;
- Involve parents as they are primary educators of their child;
- Provide a positive view of human sexuality and dignity of the human person;
- Equip young people with the ability to make practical judgments about the right thing to do in particular circumstances;
- Explore and promote virtues which are essential to promoting respect and dignity;

- Be delivered in an age-appropriate way which reflects the development of the child;
- Be sensitive to the needs of the individual pupil and recognise the mix of pupils with different sexual orientations, genders and family backgrounds in each class;
- Be taken seriously by governors and teachers as an integrated part of the broad and balanced curriculum that Catholic schools offer;
- Be delivered by competent professionals who understand the Church's teaching.

PROGRAMME

At St. Joseph's, we will be following the Ten Ten programme, as recommended by Portsmouth Diocese. As well as this, we will be using Coram Life Education to support in the teaching of physical health; healthy eating; and drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

Whilst promoting Catholic values and virtues and teaching in accordance with Church teaching, we will ensure that pupil's are offered a balanced programme by providing an RSE programme that offers a range of viewpoints on issues. Pupils will also receive clear scientific information. Knowing the facts and enabling young people to explore differing viewpoints promotes Catholic teaching.

MONITORING OF RSHE

The teaching and children's development are monitored through our monitoring programme; through classroom observation, pupil interview and work sampling.

INCLUSION

At St. Joseph's children with special educational needs are taught RSHE in the same way as other pupils. If necessary, work is differentiated so that all have the same learning experiences. We will ensure that RSHE is sensitive to the different needs of individual pupils in respect to their personal circumstances.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR RSE

The RSE subject leader, along with the headteacher has a general responsibility for supporting other members of staff in the implementation of this policy and will take a lead in the dissemination of the information relating to RSHE.

All staff have a responsibility of care and have their own role in delivering RSHE, as well as being good role models for the pupils. Teachers will be expected to teach RSE in accordance with the Catholic Ethos of the school. Appropriate training will be made available to all staff teaching RSHE.

EXTERNAL VISITORS

At St. Joseph's, we may call upon the help and guidance from outside agencies to deliver aspects of RSHE. Such visits will always complement the current programme and never substitute or replace teacher led sessions. Any visitor must adhere to our code of practice.

PARENTS AND CARERS

We recognise that parents and carers are primary educators of their children. We wish to build a positive and supporting relationship with parents of children at St. Joseph's through, mutual understanding, trust and co-operation. Therefore, the policy and overview of RSE will be available on the website and on request. In addition, parents will be informed by letter when the more sensitive aspects of RSE will be covered in order that they can be prepared to talk and answer questions about their child's learning. Parents will also be given the opportunity to watch any videos prior to them being shown to the children.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from Sex Education, except in those elements which are required by the National Curriculum in Science. Should parents wish to withdraw their child, they are asked to notify the school by contacting the headteacher.