

# St. John Bosco RC Primary School



## RSE Policy

*Caring for each other as we live, learn  
and grow in God's love*

## INTRODUCTION

As a Catholic school we hold firm beliefs in the value of family life and loving stable relationships. We recognise the importance of moral values which form the basis for all that we do. Effective Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) is essential if young people are to make responsible and well informed decisions about their lives. RSE is concerned with helping and supporting young people through their physical, emotional and moral development.

In the early years it will focus on friendship, bullying and building self-esteem. This will progressively move towards the explanation of puberty and how we change as we grow up, both physically and emotionally, and how life is created through God's loving plan. It is intended to encourage children to learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood. It is lifelong learning about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care.

## RATIONALE

*'I have come that you might have life and have it to the full'*

*(John 10.10)*

At St. John Bosco RC Primary School we are committed to RSE because of our Christian beliefs about God and about the whole human person. The belief in the unique dignity of the human person made in the image and likeness of God underpins the approach to all education in a Catholic school. Our approach to Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education therefore is rooted in the Catholic Church's teaching of the human person and presented in a positive framework of Christian ideals.

At the heart of Christian life is the Trinity, Father, Son and Spirit in communion, united in loving relationship and embracing all people and all creation. As a consequence of the Christian belief that we are made in the image and likeness of God, gender and sexuality are seen as God's gift, reflect God's beauty, and share in the divine creativity. RSE will be placed firmly within the context of relationship as it is there that sexuality grows and develops.

Following the guidance of the Bishops of England and Wales and as advocated by the DfE, RSE will be firmly embedded in the PSHE framework as it is concerned with nurturing human wholeness and integral to the physical, spiritual, emotional, moral, social and intellectual development of pupils. It is centred on Christ's vision of being human as good news and will be positive and prudent, showing the potential for development, while enabling the dangers and risks involved to be understood and appreciated.

All RSE 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 RSE

In partnership with parents, we aim to provide children with a "positive and prudent sexual education"<sup>3</sup> which is compatible with their physical, cognitive, psychological, and spiritual maturity, and rooted in a Catholic vision of education and the human person.

### *To develop the following attitudes and virtues:*

- respect for the dignity of every human being – in their own person and in the person of others;
- joy in the goodness of the created world and their own bodies;
- responsibility for ones actions and a recognition of the impact of these on others;
- recognising and valuing their own sexual identity and that of others;
- celebrating the gift of life-long love;
- recognising the importance of marriage and family life;

***To develop the following personal and social skills:***

- making sound judgements and good choices;
- loving and being loved, and the ability to form friendships and loving, stable relationships;
- managing emotions within relationships including when relationships break down;
- managing conflict positively, recognising the value of difference;
- cultivating humility, mercy and compassion, learning to forgive and be forgiven;
- developing self-esteem and confidence, demonstrating self-respect and empathy for others;
- building resilience and the ability to resist unwanted pressures, recognising the influence and impact of the media, internet and peer groups;

***To develop the following knowledge and understanding***

- the Church's teaching on marriage and the importance of marriage and family life;
- the centrality and importance of virtue in guiding human living and loving;
- the physical and psychological changes that accompany puberty;
- the facts about human reproduction, how love is expressed sexually and how sexual love plays an essential and sacred role in procreation

**PROGRAMME OF STUDY**

RSE will be developed in a variety of ways: through the whole school ethos of our school; through PSHCE sessions and curriculum learning; and working alongside the school nurse, specific RSE sessions delivered.

Life to the Full is the Catholic RSE curriculum and is based upon 'a model Catholic RSE Curriculum' by the Catholic Education Service. The programme follows a three-stage structure which is repeated across three different learning stages:

1. Key Stage 1
2. Lower Key Stage 2
3. Upper Key Stage 2

Within each learning stage, there are three modules which are based on the Model Catholic RSE Curriculum:

- Created and Loved by God;
- Created to Love Others;
- Created to Live in Community

Life to the Full is intended to be a partnership between home, school and church

**TEACHING AND LEARNING**

A variety of teaching and learning strategies will be used from across the curriculum adapted appropriately to the needs and learning styles of pupils.

**INCLUSION AND EQUALITY**

All pupils in our school, irrespective of ability, faith and background will have appropriate, differentiated access to the Religious Education programme.

We have high expectations of all our pupils. More able pupils will be stretched and barriers to learning removed for those children who have low levels of prior attainment. Carefully structured challenges will be created for these children to ensure maximum participation and progress.

**EQUALITIES OBLIGATIONS**

The governing body have wider responsibilities under the Equalities Act 2010 and will ensure that our school strives to do the best for all of the pupils, irrespective of disability, educational needs, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, pregnancy, maternity, sex, gender identity, religion or sexual orientation or whether they are looked after children.

## RIGHT TO WITHDRAW

Parents have *the right to withdraw* their children from RSE. Should parents wish to withdraw their children they should notify the school by contacting the Headteacher in writing. The request will be made on a year by year basis. The school will provide support by providing material for parents to help the children with their learning.

## OTHER RELIGIONS

Other religions are taught from EYFS to Year 6 following the programme of study in 'Come and See' Judaism, Islam and Sikhism are taught either in the Spring or Summer. At least one week's teaching and learning time is given per RE school cycle.

## ASSESSMENT AND TARGET SETTING

Assessment of standards is carried out according to Diocesan guidelines using the Age-Related Standards (3-19) in Religious Education approved by the Bishops of the Department for Catholic Education and Formation on 26 June 2018.

Planning and assessment records are used within each year group to ensure that work is appropriately pitched and children make good progress. Individual assessment judgements are made at the end of each year and are used to inform subsequent planning.

An in-house moderation meeting is held twice a year with staff. Children's books are shared twice a year within the Catholic Primary Cluster school moderation meetings. Samples of books are presented for Diocesan Moderation at RE Coordinators Moderation meetings in the Summer Term.

We believe that effective assessment provides information to improve teaching and learning. To do this in our school, we undertake two different but complimentary types of assessment: assessment for learning and assessment of learning.

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Religious Education Subject Leader is responsible for monitoring the implementation of this policy. The Subject Leader will sample children's work and planning and observe the policy in action in classrooms.

The Link Governor for Religious Education will meet the Subject Leader at least annually to support and challenge the implementation of this policy.

This policy will be reviewed every two years or earlier if required.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Review Date: November 2022