

ST ALOYSIUS CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL
SRE
(SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION)
POLICY

INTRODUCTION

This Policy fulfils the requirements of the 1996 Education Act in which the Governing bodies have to consider the provision of sex and relationship education and ensure that the school has a SRE (Sex and Relationship Education) policy.

St Aloysius' governing body have decided that Sex and Relationship Education should be part of the secular and religious curriculum and will make and keep up to date this policy statement of the content and organisation of Sex and Relationship Education in the curriculum.

This is inline with the view of the Diocese that recommends that “ Each Governing Body...should produce a brief statement on its policy and practise concerning sex education” (Diocesan Guidelines on Education for Personal Relationship May 1998)

The content and nature of our policy is in line with our school mission statement

Through Jesus, we learn, love and grow together.

This Policy is reflected in the information published by the school in the prospectus about the manner and context in which education as respects sexual matters is given.

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Governors and Staff at St Aloysius Junior School believe that sex and relationship education in the school is an entitlement of every child.

The school has a responsibility to educate its pupils in sex and relationship education in a balanced and objective way.

It recognises that children gain sex and relationship education from a multitude of sources such as friends, television, magazines, the internet, social media, films and parents. Some of this can be misleading and misinformed. The school can help to give accurate information and dispel myths.

Sex and Relationship Education is an intrinsic part of Catholic education. St Aloysius also believes that Sex and Relationship Education is part of every pupils preparation for the future and so fulfils the requirements of the Education Reform Act 1988 which states that schools must provide a “ balanced and broad curriculum which:

- a) promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society
- b) prepares pupils for opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of adult life

All pupils will have equal access to SRE which when given will be sensitive to the cultural background of all pupils.

AIMS OF SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

This governing body believe that our Sex and Relationship Education programme is based on the viewpoint that SRE is part of every child's Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship (PSHCE) development and to this end our aims are to ensure that our pupils learn to:

- understand the teachings of the Catholic Church regarding relationships
- develop and take responsibility for decisions they make and understand the effect of their actions on others
- develop decision making skills which will enable them to make their own informed decisions and not to be unduly influenced by peer pressure
- be aware of the facts of growing up
- prepare for puberty by knowing how the body changes at puberty and beyond
- understand the biology of the human body and the nature of human reproduction
- understand the dangers of exploitation and how to keep themselves safe
- understand the nature of relationships and respect for others
- value themselves highly and develop personal skills, self confidence and self esteem
- develop skills to manage friendships and relationships
- keep healthy and promote positive health
- appreciate the value of family life and appreciate the varieties of family which exist in our community.
- Share their concerns and have misunderstandings corrected

Sex and Relationship Education will be taught within the framework of the teachings of the Catholic Church, guidance from the Diocese of Westminster and the intent outlined in the St Aloysius' School mission statement. Teachers will deliver lessons within this framework and intent rather than from their own personal viewpoint.

CONTENT OF SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

Sex and Relationship Education is about acquiring information and forming attitudes, beliefs and values about relationships and sexuality.

The knowledge, understanding, skills, values and attitudes we aim to provide includes understanding about reproduction and growing up, but is also about being able to make decisions, respecting oneself and others.

The SRE programme will ensure that all pupils who leave St.Aloysius have covered the following:

- Correct anatomical names of the different parts of the body and how they work
- The facts about reproduction, conception and childbirth
- The various stages of change in human development – baby, teenager (puberty & menstruation), adulthood, old age
- Personal hygiene and how to care for their bodies
- Keeping safe

- People who can help me
- Families
- Valuing similarities and differences
- Awareness of stereotyping and prejudice
- Appropriate and inappropriate behaviour
- The skills needed for effective communication, loving, caring and happy relationships and positive behaviour

Sex and Relationship Education is a developmental process beginning in the early years and progressing through childhood into adolescence and adulthood

TEACHING OF SRE

Sex and Relationship Education is not an isolated subject and as such is integrated throughout the curriculum.

In Years 3 ,4 ,5 and 6 it will be delivered by the class teachers through :

the topics covered by the R.E curriculum

the compulsory elements of National Curriculum for Science for Key Stage 2 which are that pupils should be taught to:

- describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, and insect and a bird
- describe the life processes of reproduction in some plants and animals
- describe the changes as humans develop to old age
- recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function
- recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally off-spring vary and are not identical to their parents

Sex and Relationship Education contributes to and adds to our PSHCE and Healthy Schools Programme through the following themes:

Year 3 My Healthy Body

Year 4 Me and My Relationships

Year 5 Lifestyles and Cultures

Year 6 Me and My Relationships /Growing up, relationships and responsibilities of puberty

In Year 6 a distinct unit will be covered in the Summer Term based on the content of a BBC Video which covers the themes:

Programme 1 : Growing –Puberty

Programme 2: Someone New – Birth

Programme 3: Life Begins

Pupils will be taught in mixed groups but single sex classes will be organised where appropriate e.g. to cover the topic on Menstruation and allow discussion on specific issues related to gender

SRE is not just what is taught in lessons but is also reflected and enhanced by the ethos and values of the school.

Outside educators, for example the school nurse, LA adviser will be invited to enhance the teaching of SRE. They are not there to replace the teachers or deliver SRE in isolation.

A range of teaching methods will be used to teach SRE (refer to PSHCE policy for details). SRE will be assessed in line with the assessment procedures used in PSHCE (refer to PSHCE policy for details).

In order to feel confident in teaching SRE teachers will have an INSET to build on their existing knowledge and develop their skills in appropriate teaching methods.

Any disclosures of a confidential nature that a pupil may intentionally or unintentionally talk about in relation to SRE will be discussed with the **Designated Safeguarding Lead**.

THE ROLE OF PARENTS:

We place the utmost importance on sharing equal and joint responsibility with parents/carers for their children's education, including sexual matters. We do our best to find out from them any religious or cultural views they may have which may affect the PSHCE they wish to be given to their children, although we would consider carefully any request that compromised our equal opportunities policy.

We will take every opportunity to inform and involve parents/carers:

- By making our commitment clear in the school handbook/brochure
- By inviting parents/carers to discuss personal development when their child enters the school
- By inviting parents/carers to a meeting to discuss SRE in the school.

Parents have a right to withdraw their children from SRE lessons, although not those elements that are in the National Curriculum Orders for Science, or any other part of the National Curriculum. If a parent wishes to withdraw a child from SRE lessons, we ask that they discuss it with the Head Teacher, to be clear about what their child will do when they are withdrawn from the lessons. We should like to make clear that even when a child has been withdrawn from SRE lessons, if the child should ask questions at other times, these questions would be answered honestly by staff.

DISSEMINATION OF THE POLICY

A copy of this policy will be available in the shared area in the school's computer network. In addition, there will be a hard copy available in the school policy file located in the office and a copy on the school website.

Parents will also be able to request a paper copy.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Sex and Relationship provision will be monitored and evaluated regularly through meetings with LA advisors, updating of resources and advice from Westminster Diocese. The existence and implementation of schools' Sex and Relationship.

Education policies may be monitored by OFSTED and the Diocese of Westminster.

The implementation of the policy will be monitored and evaluated by the Head teacher, the PSHCE Subject Leader and the SEN and Curriculum Governors Committee.

Policy updated Spring 2016 to be reviewed in Spring 2019.

Signed.....

Chair of the Governing Body 17th March 2016