

**St Faith and St Martin CE Junior School**

**Relationships and Sex Education Policy**

**Last Reviewed: July 2019**

**Next Review: July 2022**

## **St Faith and St Martin CE Junior School**

### **Relationships and Sex Education Policy**

#### **1. Purpose of the Relationships and Sex Education Policy**

An up to date Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) policy is the statutory responsibility of the Governing Body which sets out the content, organisation and approach to teaching RSE at St Faith and St Martin CE Junior School.

The purpose is to:

- Give clear guidance to staff and outside visitors about the content, organisation and approach to teaching RSE.
- Give information to parents and carers about what is taught and when.
- Give parents and carers information about their involvement with RSE.
- Give a clear statement on what the school aims to achieve from RSE and why it thinks RSE is important.
- Clarify the content and manner in which RSE is delivered.

#### **2. Development of the Policy**

This policy was developed by the school Leadership Team in consultation with; Governors, pupils, staff, parents and carers, and wider community partners, including the school nurse, other health professionals and the PSHE and Citizenship Advisor at the LEA. It is part of our commitment to maintaining our healthy school status.

A copy of this policy will be made available to parents on request.

Copies will also be supplied to other professionals whose work relates to RSE or whom may be involved in its delivery.

#### **3. Definition of Relationships and Sex Education**

RSE is not just about learning about growing up, changes and reproduction. It is also about enabling children to feel good about themselves and the choices they make and making and maintaining relationships with others.

At St Faith and St Martin CE Junior School we value the importance of RSE as a means of helping and supporting young people through their physical, emotional and moral growth. This policy is implicit and closely linked with other relevant school policies throughout the whole curriculum. More explicit teaching occurs as part of Science and PSHE programmes of work.

#### **4. Why teach Relationships and Sex Education?**

- It promotes skills necessary for effective communication and loving, caring and happy relationships
- It develops positive attitudes, values and self esteem and challenges negative attitudes and prejudices

- It helps to answer concerns and corrects misunderstanding that children may have gained from the media and their peers. It allows them to develop confidence to talk, listen and think about their feelings and relationships and provides an opportunity for them to do this.

#### **5. Aims of Relationships and Sex Education**

Through RSE we aim to help the children:

- Develop the confidence to talk, listen and think about their feelings and relationships
- Develop friendship and relationship skills
- Develop positive attitudes, values and self esteem
- Gain knowledge and understanding about puberty and the changes that will take place
- Gain knowledge and understanding about reproduction and sexuality
- Develop skills to help children protect themselves against unwanted sexual experiences
- Know where and how to seek help
- Challenge negative attitudes and prejudices

#### **6. Moral and Values Framework**

RSE will be delivered within the school's agreed aims, values and moral framework which is sensitive to the needs and beliefs of pupils, parents/carers and other members of the school community. This will be delivered within the school's agreed equal opportunities framework.

Our moral and values framework includes:

- Respect for self and others
- Non-exploitation in relationships
- Honesty with self and others
- Self-awareness
- Exploration of rights, duties and responsibilities
- Understanding diversity regarding religion and culture
- Valuing strong supportive relationships

RSE will support the importance of strong and stable relationships, including marriage and civil partnerships for family life and bringing up children. Care is taken to ensure there is no stigmatization of children based on their different home circumstances.

#### **7. How is Relationships and Sex Education taught?**

- Teachers will ensure that an atmosphere is created where pupils feel able to ask questions, discuss concerns, feelings and relationships, but not discuss private information.
- Questions from pupils will be addressed and dealt with honestly and sensitively in the most appropriate manner and not disregarded, in line with the scheme.
- Resources will be assessed to ensure that they are appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils as well as avoiding unrealistic expectations of body image. They will take into account equality of opportunity through their use of language, cultural attitudes and images, including body image, avoiding stereotyping, racism and sexism.
- A variety of teaching and learning styles are used.

- On the whole, pupils will be taught in mixed groups to encourage boys and girls to work together. However, consideration will be given to teaching specific issues such as the management of periods and puberty, in single sex groups, but ensuring that girls and boys learn the same information.
- The RSE policy reflects, and is in line with, our equal opportunities policy and the school ensures that the RSE teaching programme is an inclusive one and is appropriate and relevant to all pupils. Where needed, RSE will be differentiated to meet the needs of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.

#### **8. Working with Parents/Carers and Child Withdrawal Procedures**

Schools place the utmost importance on sharing equal and joint responsibility with parents/carers for their children's education. The school will do their best to find out from them any religious or cultural views they may have which affect the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum, although we would consider carefully any request that compromised our equal opportunities policy.

Section 405 of the Education Act 1996 gives parents the right to withdraw their children from any or all parts of a school's programme of RSE where it is not part of the national curriculum. The following outlines the Science statutory requirements from the national curriculum which a child cannot be withdrawn from:

##### **Key Stage 2**

- Reproduction
- About the main stages of the human life cycle


If a parent wishes to withdraw their child from the RSE aspect of the PSHE curriculum, they must arrange a meeting with the Headteacher who will talk through their concerns.



St Faith and St Martin Church of England Junior School

Policy adopted on: 15 July 2019

Signed by:  ..... Chair of Governors

Dated:  .....

