SRE Policy

In partnership together families, school and parish we are working to meet our mission which is to:

Love  Protect  Educate  Nurture

St Joseph's is a loving school where all children are known, valued and cared for. Our family includes staff who are dedicated and experienced, parents who are loving and encouraging, Governors who support wholeheartedly and are a guiding presence.

Everyone wishes to do their best for the children in everything we say and do, to set an example through good citizenship based on Gospel values so that our children too will aspire to be like our patron St Joseph.

Reviewed : July 2016, October 2018

Date of next review: October 2020
What is SRE?

Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is lifelong learning about physical, moral, social and emotional development. It is the understanding of the importance of marriage and family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care.

Context

At St. Joseph’s in conjunction with BOSCEP, our ethos is to educate our children with Christ at the centre, and thus all that we teach is focused upon Catholic values and morals. We recognise each of our pupils as unique individuals, created in the image and likeness of God, and our curriculum reflects the Gospel values of our faith. Our policy is integral to teaching the Gospel values, and is taught in the context of Christian relationships and virtues. SRE promotes children’s self-esteem and emotional wellbeing. It helps them to form and maintain worthwhile and satisfying relationships based on respect for themselves and for others, at home, at school and in the community.

Policy, Leadership and Management

Governors, in consultation with the head teacher, have a statutory responsibility for SRE in their school. Governing bodies, together with the PSHE co-ordinator, are expected to involve parents, pupils, staff, health professionals and other agencies to ensure that the school’s SRE programme addresses the needs of the community, education, health priorities and the needs of the pupils themselves.

Aims

Within a Catholic context, the purpose for teaching SRE at St Joseph’s is:

- To engender growth in self-respect and self-worth recognising that each of us is created in the image and likeness of God
- To appreciate and understand the role of God our Father as creator of our world and the founder of productive and purposeful relationships
- To enable pupils to have an understanding that love, trust and faith is central to relationships
- To promote an appreciation of the nature, purposes and value of marriage and the family
- To enable pupils to have an understanding of themselves, their bodies and their emotional development
- To enable pupils to reflect and recognise the qualities that helps them to grow, develop and sustain positive and effective relationships

Delivery of SRE

SRE is delivered through the ‘A Journey in Love’ scheme recommended by Salford Diocese. It is the school’s policy that the scheme is delivered from EYFS to Year 6 over a period of one week during the Summer Term. School staff are responsible for the delivery of the scheme; material is strictly year group specific. External agencies and healthcare professionals may also have an input, although always in line with our school ethos and the Church’s teaching.
SRE Programme content

An aspect of the mystery of love is taught in each year group; children are encouraged to marvel at the wonder and beauty of God’s creative love. This is reflected through a series of progressive and developmental tasks, activities and reflections which focus on physical, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual development.

The following themes are studied in each year group:

- Reception - God loves each of us in our uniqueness
- Year 1 – We meet God’s Love in our family
- Year 2 – We meet God’s Love in the Community
- Year 3 - How we live in Love
- Year 4 - God Loves us in our differences
- Year 5 – God loves me in my changing and development
- Year 6 - The wonder of God’s love in creating new life

Teaching Sensitive Issues

More sensitive questions/areas will be discussed with parents, who as the first educators of their children, will decide the best approach. Within the boundaries of the programme, we will answer all questions from children in a manner which is straightforward, honest, age and maturity appropriate and inclusive, ensuring that all children feel equally valued within the school community.

Working with Parents

Before the delivery of the SRE curriculum each year, parents are invited to a session to view resources and discuss the content of the curriculum. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from SRE lessons. When this situation arises, parent must consult with the Headteacher.

Monitoring, Assessing and Reviewing

To ensure that the policy is adhered to and is effective, it will need to be reviewed annually.