

St Oswald's Catholic Primary School



Relationships and Health Education Policy

The Local Governing Committee of St Oswald's Catholic Primary School adopted this Policy in Summer 2023 and it will be reviewed annually

Signed _____ (Chair)

Mission Statement

We will see Christ in everyone.

This policy for Relationships and Health Education (RHE) for St Oswald's Primary School takes into account the National Curriculum statutory requirements which are mandatory from September 2020. The entire teaching of RHE at St. Oswald's is underpinned with the Church's message that our deepest identity is as a child of God - created chosen and loved by God.

Aims and Objectives

Pupils will be taught about the following:

- personal health
- physical and emotional wellbeing
- strong emotions
- private parts of the body
- personal relationships
- family structures
- trusted adults
- growing bodies: puberty, periods, life cycles, where babies come from
- the dangers of social media
- the Common Good and living in the wider world.

The Centrality of Virtue

RHE at St. Oswald's acknowledges the centrality of the following values and virtues in line with the Church's teaching:

- faith
- hope
- love
- wisdom
- temperance (moderation and restraint)
- courage
- fairness

Delivery

RHE will be taught by all class teachers as a planned, sequenced programme of lessons. It will be integrated into the core school curriculum timetable.

We will be following the scheme of work from TenTen:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/relationship-education/>

Each year group has its own age-appropriate objectives which are split into three sections: Created and Loved By God, Created to Love Others and Created to Live in Community.

Learning about RHE will have many natural links to PSHE, RE, Science and PE but it will be taught as a separate, stand-alone subject.

Answering difficult questions

Sometimes an individual child will ask questions in class which are not ordinarily dealt with in primary school. We acknowledge that questions do not have to be responded to immediately. They may be addressed later in an appropriate setting after consultation with Mrs Musgrove, Miss Horkan, parents and/or Diocesan advisors. The subject coordinator, Miss Horkan, is responsible for ensuring that all staff know where to go to receive help and subject knowledge.

Supporting children who are at risk

If we have any reason to believe a pupil is at risk, all staff are trained to follow the school's safeguarding procedures. This is outlined in detail in our Safeguarding Policy.

Inclusion

We identify pupils' different starting points through teacher assessment. We adapt the pupils' unique starting points by providing learning that is differentiated and well planned to ensure each child is able to achieve his or her potential.

Parents/Carers and the Right to Withdraw

We are committed to working with parents and carers. We notify parents/carers when sensitive areas of RHE will be taught by letter and text.

Parents are not able to withdraw their child from RHE. Parents will be able to withdraw their child from primary school classes which address sex education i.e. those that do not sit within the RHE curriculum. The National Curriculum for science includes some elements of sex education. Parents do not have a right to withdraw from this.

We provide support for parents/carers by being available to face-to-face meetings and by ensuring they have all the information needed to support them. If a parent requests to withdraw their child, we will do the following:

- Talk with the parent to ensure that their wishes are understood
- Clarify the nature and purpose of the curriculum
- State the benefits of the child receiving this education

We will keep a record of this process.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The programme will be monitored and evaluated by the subject coordinator, Miss Horkan, and the headteacher, Mrs Musgrove, through lesson observations and pupil conversations. Miss Horkan will keep abreast of developments in the subject area and will keep staff informed of these developments.

Cultural recognition

At all times we will give sensitive recognition to the beliefs, values and cultures of others.