



Saint Peter's Catholic Primary School

'Christ in the centre, excellence at the heart'

Mission Statement

To provide a	Catholic Education, embracing world faiths,
Nurturing	Happy and motivated children
Who want to	Reach to achieve high expectations
	In partnership with parents
	Supported by a committed staff and Governing Body
Who help children	To feel self-worth and know success

RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Approving Committee: LGB

Approved /Adopted Date: 17/11/15

Signed: J Connolly

Name: J Connolly

Next Review Date: Summer 2019

Meeting Minutes of: 17/11/15

(Chair of approving/adopting committee)

As a Catholic school, our aim is to teach children about their sexuality and sexual/personal relationships within the context of the Roman Catholic Church's teachings on sexual morality.

The promotion of the Catholic Christian 'vision of creation' is of utmost importance in order to help children to develop a true and deep understanding of the fact that our lives are God's great gift to each one of us. Consequently, the dangers of abusing and misusing that gift need to be included in any programme for education in sexuality and personal relationships. Such a programme should follow a holistic approach and explain that our gift of sexuality enhances our growth as human beings from infancy through to adolescence and beyond.

Dialogue and co-operation between the primary and secondary phases, with parents and with the community should be key features. The Governors should also work in close partnership with school staff, parents and parish priests and other agencies e.g. the school nurse, which have pastoral responsibilities within the school.

The overall aim of the programme is to support the personal, moral and social development of all pupils in accordance with the aims of the Mission Statement.

The specific aims are as follows:

- To improve children's knowledge and understanding of their own physical, emotional and spiritual health.
- To explore their own values and attitudes about sexuality and sexual health.
- To promote competent decision making in order for children to understand the likely outcomes of their actions with regard to their sexuality and sexual behaviour.
- To promote independence and autonomy so that children will learn to be ultimately responsible for making their own choices.

These aims outlined above are to be linked with the following objectives:

- To be aware of the level of children's present knowledge and understanding and to identify their concerns.
- To explore the meaning and value of life, to nurture an appreciation of the values of family life, within the context of Christian values.
- To enable children to have an understanding of their bodies and their emotional development as they grow and change.
- To enable pupils to reflect on their relationships and to recognise the qualities that help relationships grow and develop positively.
- To provide a forum where pupils can share their concerns and offer a climate of support where pupils will know they will be listened to sensitively in a Catholic community.
- To correct misinformation.

The schemes we follow are:

Years 1 - 4 'A Journey in Love'

Years 5 & 6 A scheme developed by Sister Dorothy Black recommended by the Nottingham Diocese

ORGANISATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

A wide range of teaching methods and materials are to be used e.g. discussions, role-play, looking at case studies, video reports etc.

Ground rules are to be established for group discussions when sensitive issues occur.

The school nurse will be involved in several stages of the programme and in meetings with parents.

Parents will be informed of any explicit material to be used e.g. videos and given the opportunity to view it before it is used to teach their children.

In line with parent's right of withdrawal, the school makes provision for pupils whose parents has chosen to exercise this. (see DfES Circular No. 12/Aba).

This policy was reviewed by the *Governing Body* on 17th November 2015

Signed on behalf of the *Governing Body* by Jim Connolly

It will be reviewed in Summer 2019