

Philosophy

As a Church School, Relationship Education (Re Ed) is taught within a Christian context of love and faithfulness. Relationship Education teaching puts in place the key building blocks of healthy, respectful relationships, focusing on family and friendships. It is an integral part of our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme that will help children to respect themselves and others, as taught in the parable of the Good Samaritan. We believe that Relationship Education is an ongoing process which should start in the home and continue at school and be delivered in partnership with parents and carers. The programme is tailored to the age and the physical and emotional maturity of the children. Parents are encouraged to discuss the planned curriculum and have the right to withdraw their child from all or part of any Re Ed teaching provided, but not from the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction under the National Curriculum Science orders.

Aims

To provide a secure, sensitive, caring environment where learning and discussion can take place.
To provide high quality, personalised teaching of Re Ed which is easy to understand, relevant and appropriate for the needs, age and maturity of the pupils.
To use and encourage the use of the correct vocabulary while being sensitive to colloquialisms.
To foster self worth and awareness, together with a sense of moral responsibility through the acquisition of a range of life skills including critical thinking, decision making and assertiveness.
To ensure that the Re Ed is available to all children regardless of gender, ability, cultural or religious background in line with the school's policy on equal opportunities.

Guidelines

1. Re Ed content will be taught in the context of relationships and family values, delivered through Science, R.E and PSHE and not as a standalone unit or lesson. Teaching and learning styles will be used that encourage children to ask and respond to key questions, discuss, listen to others and reflect on social and moral choices.
2. LGBT content will be taught through looking at others' families, either in school or in the wider world, knowing that sometimes families look different from their family, but that they should respect those differences and know that other children's families are also characterised by love and care.
3. To deliver a programme designed to be age and maturity appropriate.
4. To teach children about online safety and that people sometimes behave differently online and that the same principles apply to online relationships as face to face relationships.
5. To teach children that a person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate or unsafe physical, and other, contact.
6. Children will be taught how important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure, and how people choose and make friends.
7. Through our Christian Ethos, and the parable of the Good Samaritan, we will demonstrate to children the importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them (for example, physically, in character, personality or backgrounds).
8. Pupils will be taught about the nature of the human body and how it grows and changes.
9. Resources and expertise from appropriate outside agencies may be utilised to support the delivery of the curriculum.
10. Teachers will attempt to respond sensitively to questions in an open, frank and matter of fact way.
11. Teachers will use their own discretion when responding to difficult or explicit questions.
12. Ground rules for discussion, excluding personal questioning of staff or pupils, will be established.

Monitoring

The Governing Body, Senior Management, PSHE Manager.
The policy will be reviewed every two years.

Formulated by Curriculum Team

January 2020

Agreed by all staff

Agreed by Governing Body

Reviewed Date: January 2022