

St. Wilfrid's Family Life and Sex and Relationship Education (S.R.E.) Policy

Our Mission Statement promotes:

Belonging to a caring, sharing community which promotes learning through respect and love for all through our shared Catholic faith.

Background Information

St Wilfrid's Catholic school is a one-form entry school with 317 children on roll. At present 32% of our children are catholic. The school is located on the Firs and Bromford estate in the Hodge Hill ward of Birmingham. 80% of our children are from Hodge Hill which is within the parish of St Wilfrid's. This is an area of high deprivation and challenging socio – economic factors, including every 1/19 girls becoming pregnant under the age of 18. High percentages of our families live in the most deprived areas for Income, Education, Skills and Training, Employment and Living Environment.

Policy Development

This policy has been developed following a series of consultations with children, parents/ carers and staff. The policy has been written working with the Health Education Service and is a statement of the aims and objectives and strategies for the teaching of Sex and Relationship Education in our school.

Rationale

a. The Family Life Policy is based upon the Catholic values which are promoted in the school through its Mission Statement. * Appendix A

The Bishop's Conference Statement of 1987 is speaking of the school's programme of Education for Personal Relationships and states that:-

“..... aims to enable them (the pupils) to make right judgements, and to take the right actions in the many and varied situations in which they may find themselves.”

And again in the Bishops' Conference Statement of 1994 it states that:-

“We must help them develop an appreciation of the values underpinning *that* teaching in order that they can make them their own and thus be helped to make informed decisions and choices throughout their lives.”

b. Family Life Education is an important part of a child's life. If provision is not made at school, children may receive inaccurate versions of relationships and sex. A comprehensive approach to support our children's understanding in these areas is vital to their emotional well being, their health and relationships which are all aspects of the Every Child Matters five key outcomes.

As a school that strives to promote all aspects of health and currently has achieved the LA's Healthy Standard award in 2005, we need to ensure this important area of learning for our children is reviewed regularly, monitored, and given the time and status that it needs.

Family Life Education will permeate all areas of life at St. Wilfrid's and will in all it's facets strictly adhere to the teachings of the Catholic Church under the guidance of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

The government law on Sex Education states that schools should have a written statement on Sex Education. It is part of the National Curriculum Science Orders for Key Stage 1 and 2 (“Health of the Nation”).

Schools have a responsibility to provide Sex Education in response to the Education Reform Act 1988 Section

To ensure this comprehensive document consultation has taken place by considering the Eastern Birmingham P.C. T. three key goals, one being to “. empower the community..” which this policy will partly support, so our children make informed choices and understand the impact of their choices on themselves and others.

As a Catholic school a significant emphasis is placed on our moral values and how following our church's teaching will support their physical, emotional and social well-being.

This Family Life and Sex and Relationship Education Policy is part of the school's policy on Health Education.

Aims and Objectives

Values and attitudes

- Develop self esteem
- Value others and themselves, respecting others ideas and views
- To develop an appreciation of family life, enabling them to live in families as part of their commitment to Christ

Knowledge and Understanding

- Understand that life is the most important and special gift from God
- Have an understanding of safe and unsafe situations and the right to feel and be safe
- Have the correct terminology to talk about their bodies
- Be able to keep themselves clean and healthy
- Be aware of their own bodies and understand and be prepared for the physical and emotional changes that happen to them as they grow up
- Be taught positive and clear sexual information appropriate to their level of maturity, always presenting sexuality in the context of a loving relationship of which marriage is the ideal
- To encourage pupils to prepare for growth, development and change
- It is life long learning about physical, moral and emotional development
- It is about the understanding of the importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care
- It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health
- It is NOT about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity – this would be inappropriate teaching

Skills

- Keep themselves safe and be able to ask for help in the different situations they may face
- Use knowledge and make informed choices
- Form positive relationships

It has three main elements,

Definition of Family Life Education

The school's Family Life Education supports the DFEE 0116/200 Guidance

“SRE is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding and importance of marriage for family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health. It is not about the promotion of sexual orientation or sexual activity”

Family Life Education is taught within the context of personal and social education as part of the Health Education and Religious Education.

Moral and Values Framework

The S.R.E. programme will reflect the school philosophy and ethos to encourage the following values:-

- Respect for self
- Respect for others
- Responsibility for own actions
- Responsibility for family, friends, school and the community
- Equal Opportunities for all to succeed and achieve through the programme of learning

SPECIFIC ISSUES

Confidentiality

Pupils will be informed that 100% confidentiality cannot be assured. For suspected child protection concerns the school will follow the LEA policy and procedure.

Use of outside visitors

School will follow LA guidelines and will contact LA/HEU teams if in any doubt about the suitability of any programmes.

Curriculum Planning

Family Life Education will be developed through the school's termly topics in Science, R.E. and PSHE.

Pubertal Provision

- Sanitary disposal units are available for use in the Y5/6 girls toilets.
- Supplies of sanitary protection will be available from the Y6 classroom. Children will be able to speak to any member of staff they feel comfortable with to access supplies. All male teachers will refer to a female member of staff.

Topics

Foundation

Personal, social and emotional development – personal hygiene, growing, families.

RE – Creation, God's family and Celebration

(Science)

Year One

PSHE: healthy eating, exercise, family feelings, belonging to a family.

RE : Creation, families and Celebration

Science: Ourselves and growing plants

Year Two

PSHE: Belonging to a family, family responsibilities, making friends, personal safety

RE: Sharing in the life of Jesus, Special Celebrations

Science: Health and growth, plants, animals

Year Three

PSHE: Healthy diet, exercise and personal hygiene, healthy diet, family responsibilities

RE: Belonging, Reconciliation

Science: Teeth and eating, helping plants grow well

Year Four

PSHE: Health and healthy diet, family responsibilities, protecting our bodies

RE: Creation, special roles and responsibilities

Science: Moving and growing

Year Five

PSHE: Fitness, friendships and family life, special relationships, puberty, avoiding drug, alcohol and smoking and abuse

RE: Creation, marriage and Holy Orders

Science: Keeping healthy, life cycles

Sex education: All That I Am – Year 5 Menstruation

Year Six

PSHE: Fitness, family life, establishing supportive relationships, avoiding drug, alcohol and smoking abuse, puberty

RE: Belonging, Followers of Christ

Science: Revision of life cycles, plants and animals

Sex education: All That I Am – Year 6 Male physical development

The school follows the following schemes:-

PSHE

“Learning for Living” - this covers the National Curriculum Framework for PSHE and Citizenship at Key Stage 1 and 2 and curriculum guidance for the Foundation Stage (DFES 2000)

Science

Q.C.A. units of work

RE

Archdiocese Scheme “Learning and Growing as the People of God”, “All That I Am” materials for Year 5 and 6 – Family Life and Sex Education.

All family and life education will be appropriate to the age, needs and experience of each child at St. Wilfrid’s, using a sensitive approach which will recognise special needs, gender and culture issues.

Each year there is a focus week in which children work on healthy living in which the Life Education Centres Mobile Classroom and staff focus the children’s attention on improving their health.

Specific Sex and Relationship Education Content

St. Wilfrid’s governors and staff have agreed this content and guidance (see Appendix B). This guidance is reviewed annually.

Specific Family Life and Sex Education lessons are taught in Year 5 and 6 using the “All That I Am” materials. The school nurse will support the teaching of menstruation to Year 5 and 6 girls while teachers will teach the boys initially before all children together then focus on the “All That I Am” materials.

**Issues which will not be discussed are:-

- Contraception
- Abortion
- Homosexuality
- Masturbation
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Questions

The school aims to support and encourage children in asking for help; therefore any questions will try to be answered appropriately.

- Correct and appropriate terminology will be used
- It is inappropriate for both teachers and children to answer personal questions
- Questions referring to issues staff are unable to discuss will be signposted to the school nurse or home, where appropriate.

Teaching Methods

The way that Family Life Education is taught is as important as the content. Children need to feel confident and safe enough to talk about the things that worry them.

Teachers will use a variety of methods and resources; videos, role play, group work, circle time, research discussion with small and large groups.

A “Question Box” is available so that children can ask questions anonymously. Staff will review the content and make a decision on how each question will be addressed.

Monitoring Teaching & Learning is through the planned units in the curriculum, verbal and written evaluations of the sessions particularly in Y5&Y6, from pupils, parents and staff.

Working with Parents

The Governing Body recognise that the prime responsibility for sex and relationship education must rest with the parents and any teaching will be in support of the parents. Parents are invited to sessions that the school nurse delivers about menstruation.

Parents have the right to withdraw pupils from the Sex and Relationship Education that is outside the Science National Curriculum.

If parents are considering this they are invited to see the Head Teacher and discuss their concerns. Teaching staff are available to see parents to discuss concerns or queries about the programme.

Staff Training

Effective Family Life Education is based on teachers who feel confident and skilled to deliver this sensitive part of the curriculum and therefore the school will ensure that staff are offered appropriate training.

This policy was written in April 2008 and approved by the Governors on 17th April 2008.

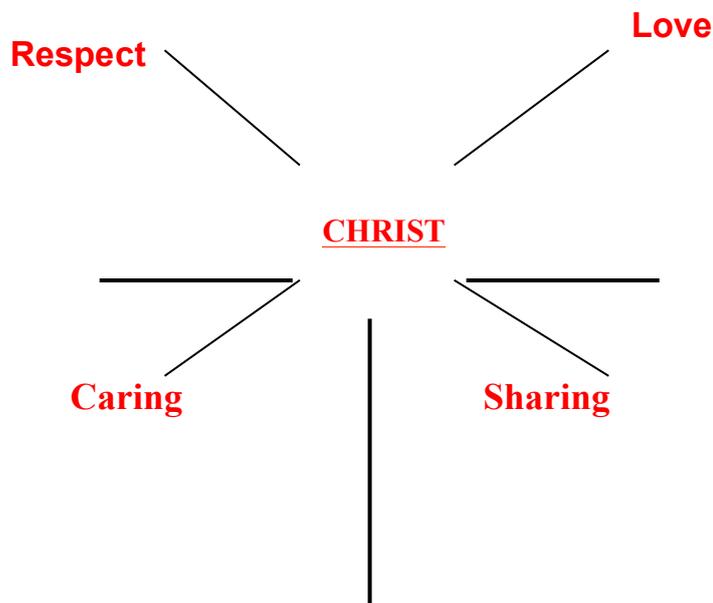
Reviewed September 2016

Written by R. Baker, and discussed with all staff, Mr. Baker is available for parents to express an opinion.

Appendix A

Our Mission Statement promotes:

Belonging to a caring, sharing community which promotes learning through respect and love for all through our shared Christian values and faith.



School Aims

Our principal aims at St Wilfrid's are as stated in our Mission Statement.

- ◆ To strive to nurture the “whole” child, developing each child’s emotional, physical and spiritual needs.
- ◆ To create a dynamic interaction between home, parents and school which provides preparation for the pupils’ entry into the wider community.
- ◆ To ensure that the pupils experience within St Wilfrid’s has a formative and significant influence on their relationships/social skills, developing understanding of the wider community and world in preparation for a multi-cultural society
- ◆ To strive for high standards in all areas of the curriculum, reflected in our teaching and learning throughout the school
- ◆ To ensure that the curriculum and learning environment provides a Catholic setting in which each individual can fulfil his/her potential, growing in understanding and in the acquisition of skills, attitudes and values
- ◆ To make prayer, worship and liturgy part of our daily life and to contribute successfully to the development of the faith of each individual in our school community.
- ◆ To use Christ’s teaching to help us understand our world, and how it affects daily life and all our relationships with our children, parents, visitors, staff and governors

Appendix B

Specific Sex Education Content

Parents are offered the opportunity to view “All That I Am” DVD for Years 5 and 6.

Year 5 (ages 9 – 10 years)

The whole class will be introduced to the terms puberty, period, menstruation and have these terms explained. This will take place during health week in the summer term and will be taught by the year 5 teacher.

Parents will be reminded of this at the Autumn or Spring parents evening and by letter in April/May. During health week there will be a separate meeting led by female members of staff for the girls and their parents. This

will explain again the process of menstruation and give the opportunity to discuss sanitary protection and answer any other concerns, worries and queries the girls may have.

Year 6 – (aged 10 – 11 years)

During health week the whole class will be introduced to the terms fertilisation, conception, sperm, ovum, making love, intercourse and have these terms explained.

Parents are reminded of this at the Autumn/Spring parent's evening and by letter in April/May.

The explanation given will be as follows:

The male and female (the husband and wife) join together in an act of love called intercourse. The male penis enters the female vagina. Only then can the sperm pass from the father to the mother. If only one of the sperm reaches the female ovum, then fertilisation may take place and the wonderful act of creation has begun.

This will be taught in a sensitive manner with great emphasis upon the fact that intercourse is part of God's plan within the vocation of marriage and that with physical growth there must be maturity, responsibility and control of emotions.

Issues Which May Be Raised But Not Discussed

CONTRACEPTION

ABORTION

HOMOSEXUALITY

MASTURBATION

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

In the instance of these issues being raised the child will be signposted accordingly, either to the school nurse, or home. The children are also made aware of the Birmingham Signposting service.

Issues Which May Be Raised and May Be Discussed

- Conception does not always take place after intercourse because
 - * the ovum is not exactly in the right place
 - * no sperm reaches the ovum
- How sperm reaches the ovum
 - * swims in fluid through the uterus to the fallopian tubes
- The penis needs to be erect before it enters the vagina

- How the baby survives in the womb
- How the baby is born

Sept 2016