

Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College

Sex and Relationships Policy



With God's Grace we Excel and Lead

Definition

Sex and Relationship Education is lifelong learning about physical, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of Christian marriage and family life, stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality and sexual health.

Aims

Sex and Relationship Education is more than a body of knowledge. It is about relationships, feelings and behaviour, i.e. making choices.

Because of this we aim to:

- Engender growth in self-respect and self-worth, recognising that each of us is created in the image of God.
- Have an awareness of where pupils are, in their own knowledge and understanding so that their concerns can be identified.
- Explore the meaning and value of life, and give some appreciation of the values of family life.
- Enable pupils to have an understanding that love is central to and the basis of meaningful relationships.
- Enable pupils to have an understanding of themselves, their own bodies, and their emotional development as they grow and change.
- Encourage pupils to be aware of their attitudes and values and have a sense of responsibility for themselves.
- Enable pupils to reflect on their relationships and recognise the qualities that help relationships to grow and develop positively.

Practice

1. A team consisting of the Deputy Headteacher (Inclusion), Head of RE and Head of Science will co-ordinate the SRE programme with other appropriate staff (including Year Curriculum Leaders).
2. SRE will be incorporated and delivered through the Science, Religious Education and PSHE curriculum and taught by teachers who are informed of their responsibilities of delivering these topics in line with teaching of the Roman Catholic Church.
3. The delivery of SRE will affirm the teaching of the Catholic Church whilst recognising that students need to be aware of different attitudes.
4. The help of outside agencies and speakers, who are in support of the Roman Catholic ethos of the School, will be sought to support the programme and will be invited to complement the School's teaching with their professional perspectives.
5. There will be a regular review and evaluation of the delivery of SRE that will include the views of the students. This may inform future lessons.

6. In our day-to-day work with students we appreciate that each individual is precious in God's eyes. We accept everyone's uniqueness and strive to provide a nurturing environment where students learn and grow to their fullest potential. Within this positive environment Sex and Relationships Education is delivered discreetly in many subjects but more directly in three curriculum areas.

Religious Education

The very nature of the subject lends itself to the spiritual dimension of humanity. SRE is taught within the context of Roman Catholic teaching about the dignity of the human person and the significance of relationships in the development of the human person. All students are taught from Years 7 to 13 that we are made in the image and likeness of God and are all part of the body of Christ. Therefore our vocation in life is to become more fully like Christ in ourselves and through our relationships with others.

Science

Across Years 7-13 the following topics are taught: Reproductive structure, Human fertilisation, Genetic engineering, Embryonic stem cell research, Menstrual hormones and Mammalian. The department delivers and teaches topics of this nature from the stance held by the Catholic Church.

PSHE

Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) helps to give students across Years 7-13 the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy and independent lives. It is here that students will learn about Bullying, Citizenship, Drug Education, Healthy Eating and Lifestyle, Mental and Emotional Health, Wellbeing, and Sex and Relationships. Through the delivery of PSHE students are taught about the dangers of various types of behaviours as well as risks involved in such behaviour.

Date for Review

1 year after approval and finalisation by the Governors.

Related Policies:

Anti-Bullying Policy

Teaching and Learning Policy

Child Protection Policy

PSHE Policy

References

Catechism of the Catholic Church

Sex and Relationship Education December 2006 – RCDOW

The Catholic approach to Sex and Relationships Education) - Bishop Malcolm McMahon March 2010

Next review due: December 2016