



Sex and Relationships Education Policy

Introduction

The Governing Body has the legal responsibility to determine the Sex and Relationships Education Policy for the School. It has the dual responsibility that the pupils receive the education recommended by the Department for Education (DFE) but within the parameters and teaching of the Catholic Church. Parents are recognised as the prime educators of their children and the School seeks to reinforce this role not replace or erode this important aspect of parenting.

'... children and young people should be helped to develop harmoniously their physical, moral and intellectual qualities... they should receive a positive and prudent education in matters relating to sex... young people have the right to be stimulated to make sound moral judgements based on a well-informed conscience and to put them into practice with a sense of personal commitment...'

Gravissimum Educationis
Second Vatican Council

Sex and Relationships Education will be delivered to all pupils mainly in the context of the Religious Education (RE) curriculum but aspects will also be delivered through the statutory requirements of the Science curriculum and **some curriculum enrichment days**. The entirety of the Sex and Relationships Education curriculum will encourage pupils to develop their personal, moral and social skills and to consider all points of view, whilst upholding the teaching of the Catholic Church.

Guidelines

The following guidelines will apply:

- The majority of the Sex and Relationships Education curriculum will be delivered through the Religious Education curriculum;
- The programme will not be taught in isolated modules but forms a natural part of the RE curriculum. This is in line with the recommendations of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales;
- Staff will be supported in the delivery of the Sex and Relationships Education Policy by health care professionals and by other members of staff eg Science teachers. To ensure the best delivery of this aspect of the curriculum In-Service Education & Training (INSET) needs will be ascertained and made a priority;
- It will be made clear to staff and pupils the limits of the teacher's role in exploring sensitive issues and that teachers are prohibited from advising pupils on individual situations. If advice is sought by pupils the pupil will be encouraged to seek advice from their parents. If the pupil feels he/she cannot do this then teachers may only give the contact details of relevant organisations.

Monitoring and Review

- Parents will be informed of the full content of the RE curriculum including the Sex and Relationships



Policy

Education. Although parents do have the right to withdraw their child from the non-statutory parts of the Sex and Relationships Education the School hopes that parents would take the opportunity of discussing their concerns with the School;

- Any concerns raised by Parents about the delivery of Sex and Relationships Education will be dealt with sensitively with an appropriate member of Staff available for consultation.

Conclusion

This policy of the Governing Body has been drawn up in consultation with staff. It will be reviewed on a regular basis.