

# St John the Evangelist CE Aided Primary School

## Sex & Relationships Education Policy

(This policy is currently under review 2018-19)

### Our School's Vision Statement

*“St. John’s is a caring, Christian community striving to support its members to achieve their God given potential. Exploring our unique gifts and raising aspirations, we prepare our children for the challenges of the modern world. Following Jesus’ example, we seek to grow good people who can make a difference.”*

We believe that

**“Children are a gift from the Lord.”  
(Psalm 127 v.3)**

We believe that any gift from God is most precious. This makes children the most precious gift. Consequently, developing and supporting every child in our care to become the best that they can be is fundamental to all that we do.

## **AIMS**

- To start where children are
- To generate an atmosphere where questions can be answered openly and honestly and without embarrassment
- To provide an acceptable vocabulary
- To counteract myth and folklore – and images from the media
- To include human reproduction in increasing detail
- To help children to understand that they have 'rights' over their own bodies
- To increase communication skills
- To help children to keep safe and provide coping strategies
- To help to prepare children for puberty
- To develop skills in personal relationships
- To enable children to accept variations in growth
- To challenge stereotypes and explore gender issues
- To work with parents and help them understand the aims of the school sex/health education programme
- To build children's confidence and self esteem

## **Moral & Values Framework**

The sex and relationships education must reflect the school ethos and demonstrate and encourage the following values:

- Respect for self and others
- Respect for difference
- Responsibility for ones own actions
- Responsibility to family friends and wider community
- The rights of the individual
- Equality

Whilst recognising that children in the school come from a variety of family circumstances, as a Christian community we teach that sex should be in the context of stable and loving relationships.

## **Content**

Health for Life

My Body

This curriculum must now be seen as a whole with Personal Social and Health Education and Citizenship.

Sex and relationship education is a focus on a dimension which is supported by the whole programme.

Individual children who demonstrate an interest and awareness of sex education should be supported by sensitive responses to questions. Some questions may arise quite early at Key Stage 1.

Staff should always demonstrate sensitivity to age, developmental awareness and background issues.

## **Child Protection**

All staff and children are subject to the schools safeguarding procedure and any concerns should be raised in the usual way.

## **Specific approaches to Sex Education**

This is traditionally and appropriately undertaken during the Y6 **summer term**.

The adopted approach is to use the video 'Growing Up' provided by the local Health Authority.

This video is used initially with single sex groups as an awareness raising exercise on physical differences and the changes that puberty brings.

The video is shown by Y6 staff, the Head Teacher and an experienced TA

The video is followed by a question and answer time with sensitive answering of any questions within a framework of ground rules.

Sometimes sample promotional materials are obtained for distribution (e.g. female hygiene samples). Should a child be absent for the classes parents will be offered loan of the video to use at home.

### **Parental involvement** (including the right of withdrawal from the specific Year 6 curriculum)

Children develop physically and emotionally at different rates. The PSHE curriculum will match the majority of children. However, we recognise that some individuals may develop earlier and we invite parents to discuss this with us in confidence.

Parents are made aware of their right to withdraw children from these classes.

A formal letter is sent to parents advising them of the dates of these lessons and offering withdrawal if required.

This policy and will be reviewed in 2018—19 to take account of new National guidance