



St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy

Sex Education Policy

Review due Autumn 15: awaiting further guidance from Diocesan Education Service – Leadership booked on training July 15

Education in Personal Relationship including Sex Education Policy

Education in Personal Relationship (EPR) including sex education.

This policy document embraces all that underpins the School's Aims and Objectives, and the School Mission Statement in its desire to provide for our children an education which truly helps to prepare them for life. It recognises E.P.R. as a partnership task (home and school working together to educate the child), it reflects a growing concern on the part of governors, staff and parents at the state of the world our children will inherit, and it promotes aspects of personal development regarded as fundamental to Christian behaviour:

- How we treat each other, how we speak to each other, how we care for and share with each other.
- How we see ourselves, how we value ourselves, how we promote ourselves.
- How we relate to family and friends, how we relate to adults and peers, how we relate to members of the wider community.
- The centrality of God to each other of the above, the personal relationship we have/should have with Him, the example given to us by Jesus Christ.

Here at St John Fisher we aim to develop in all children:

- self-respect and self-esteem (the 'feel-good' factor about one's self)
- a loving pride in one's own family, and an active association with one's parish community
- an understanding of true friendship
- healthy friendships within school, tolerance with peers, and (in the case of older children) a pastoral attitude towards younger members of the school community as recognition that we all belong to the 'family' of St John Fisher
- high codes of discipline arising out of respect for one another, respect for adults and respect for their school environment
- citizenship and stewardship in a world created by God
- a Christian love for all members of the wider family of God (an understanding of "Love thy Neighbour")
- recognition that human love takes many forms
- an understanding of how human relationships grow and deepen through friendship, love and affection
- appreciation of the importance of the family unit (regardless of structure/composition)
- to recognise the value of parental partnership (sharing the role of bringing up a family)
- to appreciate the demanding responsibilities of parenthood and the sacrifices which parents have to make for the sake of a new-born child
- to value every form of life and to value themselves within the framework

Specifically on Sex Education we want our children....



- To celebrate life as God-given gift
- To understand life cycles and life processes
- To appreciate the notion that God intended new life to be a result of a union between (mature) male and female
- (in humans) to associate love as a special feature of this union
- To celebrate their own uniqueness
- To know by name the various parts of the body
- (with Year six pupils) to recognise, understand and prepare for the body changes that they (and their friends) will undergo in the years ahead (puberty)

How will we achieve our aims?

As an aid to educating the child in the ways of personal development and personal relationships

the school has devised its own resource materials – “**In the Beginning...**” is a wholly **Catholic life education programme** covering Years 1-6 and includes **sex education** as a key element of the programme. The scheme consists of a carefully structured series of pupil workbooks designed to be completed by the child, partly in school under the guidance of the class teacher, and partly at home alongside parents/guardians who are encouraged to involve themselves in the child’s work through open discussion and assisting in the completion of each task. It provides both teacher and parent with appropriate ‘starting points’ on which to build a greater understanding of God, life and life processes, the sanctity of life, personal development, and the values underpinning socially acceptable behaviour. The children will also learn on a day-to-day basis from the Christian example set by adults.

In School:

- the friendly school environment created by staff who work in the building
- the care we have and the patience we show towards children when dealing with accidents, incidents, disputes etc.
- the messages we give out through religious celebrations, assemblies, discussions etc, which bring home to children the importance of
 - *the family unit, the protective love and care given by parents and guardians, and the ways children should respond to this love
 - * the way they should treat and relate to each other
 - * the hardship endured by developing communities and the means by which we can help
 - *tolerance, understanding and forgiveness in both work and play situations
- the friendly interaction we promote with other schools (sporting competitions, choral performances etc) and the willingness to share (and enjoy) the company of others on these occasions
- the encouragement we give and the standards we uphold in terms of sportsmanship....fairplay, accepting decisions and taking both winning and losing in the same spirit
- our desire to respond to the needs of others (CAFOD, Catholic Children’s Society, Padley Centre and impromptu appeals)
- the respect we have for and show to all members of our community
- our acceptance of (and having children to take up) the stewardship of a world created by



God.

At Home:

-as first educators parents are expected to lay the foundations for all acceptable patterns of behaviour, leading by example, and sharing with school the joint task of bringing the child through to age of eleven with a balanced understanding of life and a healthy appreciation of the human relationships they may form in years to come.

Approved by the Governors Signature

..... Date

..... Review Date