



**St Brigid's School**

To Inspire and be Inspired

## Sex and Relationship Policy

Report Author	LP/RJ
Report Status	Final
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## **St Brigid's School - Sex & Relationship Policy**

### **Introduction / Rationale**

In St Brigid's school our principles of love respect, faith truth and excellence permeate the delivery of our SRE programme in the context of the Christian faith and values. Sex and Relationship Education is a lifelong learning about physical, sexual, moral and emotional development. It is about the understanding of the importance of stable and loving relationships, respect, love and care, for family life. It involves acquiring information, developing skills and forming positive beliefs, values and attitudes.

### **Links with other policies**

The SRE Policy links directly to the Science PSE and Religious Studies programmes of studies and policies as well as equal opportunities, child protection and anti bullying policies.

### **Aims**

#### **Principles and Values**

In addition St. Brigid's school believes that Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) should:

- Be an integral part of the lifelong learning process, beginning in early childhood and continue into adult life.
- Be an entitlement for all young people.
- Encourage every student to contribute to our community and aims to support each individual as they grow and learn.
- Be set within the wider school context and support family commitment and love, respect and affection, knowledge and openness.
- Encourage students and teachers to share and respect each other's views. To encourage the important values of love, respect and care for each other.
- Generate an atmosphere where questions and discussions on sexual matters can take place without any stigma or embarrassment.
- Recognise that parents/guardians are the key people in teaching their children about sex, relationships and growing up. We aim to work in partnership with parents and students, consulting them about the content of programmes.
- Recognise that the wider community has much to offer and we aim to work in partnership

### **Aims**

The aim of Sex and Relationship Education is to provide balanced factual information about human reproduction, together with consideration of the broader emotional, ethical, religious and moral dimensions of sexual health. St. Brigid's SRE programme aims to prepare students for an adult life in which they can:

- Develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviour; have the confidence and self esteem to value themselves and others and to be able to demonstrate respect for individual conscience and the develop skills to judge what kind of relationship they want.

- Understand that physical changes happen throughout life and the reasons for these changes.
- Develop understanding of emotional needs, and keeping the body and mind healthy.
- Understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within relationships.
- Avoid being exploited or exploiting others or being pressured into unwanted or unprotected sex.
- Communicate effectively by developing appropriate terminology for sex and relationship issues.
- Develop awareness of appropriate and inappropriate behaviour; challenge sexism and prejudice and promote equality and diversity and challenge stereotypes.

### **The delivery of the SRE Programme**

St. Brigid's School delivers Sex and Relationship Education through its PSE programme, SEAL programme ( Primary School), Religious Studies and Science lessons and visits from Denbighshire's multi agencies support programme.

Most of the SRE at St. Brigid's takes place within the PSE programme of study. Delivery is through the PSE programme with support from professionals e.g. school nurse, police liaison officer where appropriate. SRE lessons are set within the wider context of the PSE curriculum and focus more on the emotional aspects of development and relationships, although the physical aspects of puberty and reproduction are also included.

The Science National Curriculum is delivered by staff and these lessons are more concerned with the physical aspects of development and reproduction although the importance of relationships is not forgotten.

The Religious Studies curriculum addresses the spiritual, moral and ethical dimension of sex and relationship in line with religious beliefs.

The PSE programme, Religious Studies and the Science National Curriculum is taught in every year.

### **Involving Learners**

Any SRE lessons may consider questions or issues that some students will find sensitive. Before embarking on these lessons ground rules are established which prohibit inappropriate personal information being requested or disclosed by those taking part in the lesson. When students ask questions, we aim to answer them honestly, within the ground rules established at the start of the sessions. When it is felt that answering a specific question would give information at a level inappropriate to the development of the rest of the students, the question may be dealt with individually at another time.

### **Confidentiality**

Please refer to the Child Protection Policy.

**Right of withdrawal of students from Sex and Relationship Education**

Some parents prefer to take the responsibility for aspects of this element of education. They have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the Sex and Relationship Education other than sex education included in the statutory National Curriculum, (i.e. in Science lessons) the school would make alternative arrangements in such cases. Parents are encouraged to discuss their decisions with staff at the earliest opportunity. Parents are welcome to review any SRE resources the school uses. Parents wishing to withdraw their children from all or part of SRE programme should make a written request to the school.

**Inclusion**

The SRE policy is inclusive taking account of and is sensitive to the needs of all learners regardless of ethnicity and ability.

**Monitoring and Evaluation of Sex and Relationship Education**

It is the responsibility of the PSE co-ordinators to oversee and organise the monitoring and evaluation of PSE, in the context of the overall school plans for monitoring the quality of teaching and learning.

The Governors Curriculum committee is responsible for overseeing, reviewing and organising the revision of the Sex and Relationship Education Policy.

**Arrangements for reviewing and updating the policy**

The Policy will be reviewed regularly in line with the agreed cycle for Policy review.

Signed.....Headteacher

Signed.....Chair of Governors

Date.....