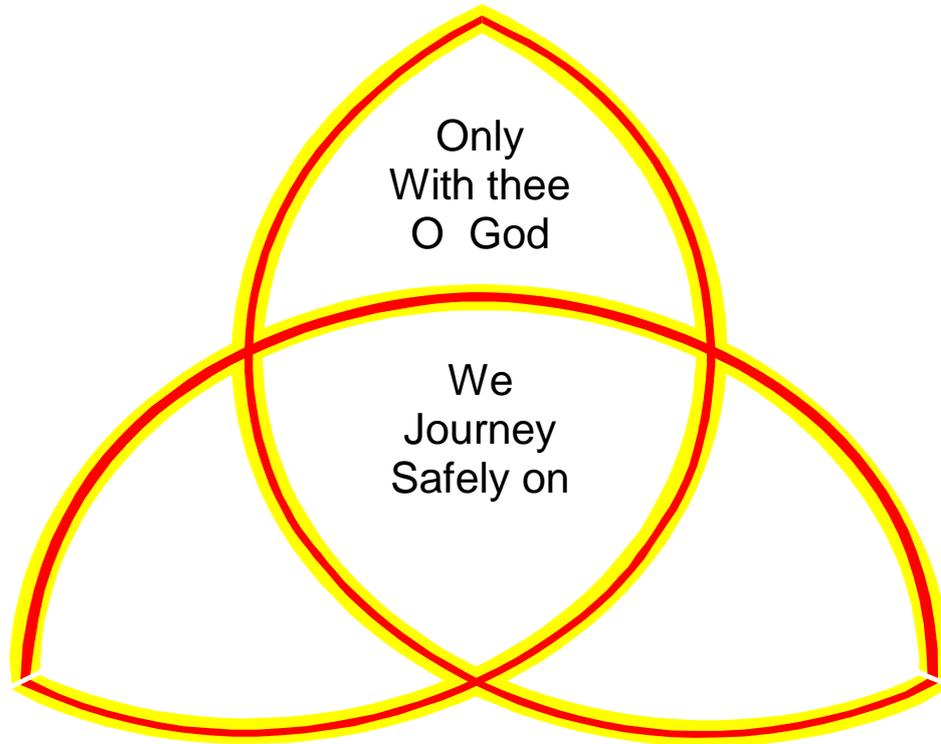


# Holy Trinity CE Junior School



**Policy for:**

**Sex and Relationships  
Education**

**Written by:**

**Andrew East**

**Date Reviewed:**

**July 2017**

**Review Date:**

**Summer 2019**

# Policy

## Sex and Relationships Education Policy

### Principles

Sex and relationships education (SRE) is an essential part of preparing children for adult life, in order for them to make responsible and well-founded decisions about their lives. It is important to have clear guidelines on such sensitive areas as sex and relationships. This policy aims to ensure that teachers and parents of children at Holy Trinity can work together effectively in giving support to their pupils and children.

This policy provides a foundation and rationale for sex and relationships education taught at Holy Trinity giving clear explanations to parents and teachers as to its implementation through the curriculum.

At Holy Trinity we are committed to the statement below issued by the DFE in the document Sex and Relationship Education Guidance (2000). [In delivering sex education, schools are still required to have regard to this document]:

The objective of sex and relationship education is to help and support young people through their physical, emotional and moral development. A successful programme, firmly embedded in PSHE, will help young people learn to respect themselves and others and move with confidence from childhood through adolescence into adulthood.

We also recognise the context of the Supplementary advice (to the SRE DFE Doc of 2000): Sex and Relationships in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century published in January 2016.

In addition we draw upon the principles outlined in the report: Valuing All God's Children: Guidance for Church of England Schools on Challenging Homophobic Bullying (May 2014) published by the Church of England Archbishops Council.<sup>1</sup>

The teaching of sex education involves learning about responsibility and value systems along with developing personal and social skills.

Through such education it is hoped that children will understand the importance of marriage, commitment and meaningful relationships as effective building blocks for a community in which individuals love, respect and care for themselves and others.

At Holy Trinity and as a Church of England school we uphold the official teaching of the Church of England on the biblical teaching on the meaning of marriage: that it is a lifelong union of a man and a woman, and that "it is an act of total commitment which belongs properly within a permanent married relationship and that homosexual acts fall short of this ideal".<sup>i</sup> However we recognise the variety of views on this sensitive subject and note that this policy needs to be read in conjunction with the values and considerations in our anti-bullying policy and equalities policy.

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<sup>1</sup>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/media/1988293/valuing%20all%20god's%20children%20web%20final.pdf>

### **The Aims of SRE at Holy Trinity**

- At Holy Trinity we believe that it is in the pupils' best interests to develop partnerships between home and school in order to promote similar knowledge and attitudes.
- We recognise the role and support of parents in helping answer issues relating to sex and relationships education.
- We teach SRE within a Christian ethos, which stresses the value of marriage, family life and the nurture of children (see appendix).
- We promote self-esteem and the feeling of self-worth in a reassuring environment.
- We encourage children to have a healthy lifestyle.
- We aim to help children in their decision making skills in order that they can counteract influences from the media, peers and social pressures.

### **Practice**

#### **Our SRE is based upon the programmes of study found in the National Curriculum (2014)**

SRE is included as part of our Science and PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) teaching..

Within the KS2 Science curriculum:

Pupils should be taught to:

- describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird
- describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals.
- describe the changes as humans develop to old age
- recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents

Within the KS2 PSHE curriculum:

At primary school level sex and relationship education should contribute to the foundation of PSHE and Citizenship by ensuring that all children:

- develop confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships;
- are able to name parts of the body and describe how their bodies work;
- can protect themselves and ask for help and support; and
- are prepared for puberty.

## **SRE at Holy Trinity**

At Holy Trinity, SRE is taught within the context of a loving, family life. As the school has its foundation in the Church of England, it adheres to the principles found in the Bible and in the Christian community.

SRE is largely taught as a distinct subject within the PSHE curriculum. The science content is taught within the SRE lessons. The teaching of SRE is largely covered in Years 5 and 6, although aspects of relationship education are covered through the PSHE and Social, Emotional Aspects of Learning curriculum in Year 3 and 4 (such as dealing with emotions, friendships, worries and conflict resolution).

Teachers approach each area through discussion and by showing video material. Teachers create a safe environment in order for successful class discussion to be generated. Meanings of words are explained in a factual way and only correct names for body parts are used. All pupils will be treated with respect and their questions answered sensitively and appropriately, with due consideration for any religious or cultural factors.

The video material is shown to the whole class. Discussions and question times will generally be whole class, although there may be the opportunity given for single-sex sessions with a male member of staff leading the boys discussion and a female member of staff for the girls.

Questions about the content of lessons is answered factually. Issues such as HIV/AIDS, termination, homosexuality and contraception are dealt with by answering children's questions in a matter of fact manner and without elaboration. These are not issues specifically covered by the current SRE curriculum at Holy Trinity, but will be addressed if raised by the children in discussions. A question box is provided for children to ask questions anonymously and give the teacher the opportunity to screen unsuitable questions before discussion.

Issues of bullying relating to sexuality will be dealt with through the procedures detailed in the school's anti-bullying policy.

Personal beliefs and attitudes of teachers will not influence the teaching of SRE

### **Confidentiality and Safeguarding**

If a child discloses any information to a teacher or staff member which gives concern, teachers will act in accordance with the safeguarding procedures of the school and inform a member of the DSL team.

### **Communication with Parents**

Parents are informed about, and able to access, the SRE policy through the school website. All Year 5 and Year 6 parents are invited annually to view the video material and ask questions about the content of the SRE curriculum. The video material can also be made available for parents to view at home if unable to make the meetings provided in school.

It is our whole school view that the delivery of high quality SRE is extremely important. However, should they wish, parents can withdraw their child/children as detailed in guidance from the DFEE (2000):

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex and relationship education provided at school **except for those parts included in the statutory National Curriculum [the objectives in the KS2 National Curriculum for Science – above]**. Schools should make alternative arrangements in such cases. The DfEE will offer schools a standard pack of information for parents who withdraw their children from sex and relationship education.

Any parents considering such action are invited to discuss the content of the lessons in more detail with the class teacher.

### **Equal Opportunities**

All children will receive SRE in their own classes with their peers. Additional support deemed necessary by the class teacher will be provided.

### **Monitoring and Evaluating**

The PSHE coordinator is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of teaching and learning in SRE. Throughout the teaching of SRE, teachers will adapt the planning to suit the class and individuals. Planning is monitored by the PSHE co-ordinator.

Reviewed July 2017

Next Review July 2019

### **Appendix I**

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- a. <sup>i</sup> in view of the teaching of Scripture, upholds faithfulness in marriage between a man and a woman in lifelong union, and believes that abstinence is right for those who are not called to marriage;
- b. recognises that there are among us persons who experience themselves as having a homosexual orientation. Many of these are members of the Church and are seeking the pastoral care, moral direction of the Church, and God's transforming power for the living of their lives and the ordering of relationships. We commit ourselves to listen to the experience of homosexual persons and we wish to assure them that they are loved by God and that all baptised, believing and faithful persons, regardless of sexual orientation, are full members of the Body of Christ;

(from Resolution 1.10 1998 Lambeth Conference of Anglican Primates

<http://www.anglicancommunion.org/resources/document-library/lambeth-conference/1998/section-i-called-to-full-humanity/section-i10-human-sexuality?author=Lambeth+Conference&year=1998>)