



**St. Joseph's Catholic Primary & Nursery School,
A Voluntary Academy.**

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Executive Head: Mrs D Tibble

Head of School: Mrs S Broad

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Dear Parents,

I am writing to inform you that we will be beginning our teaching of Sex and Relationship Education in school this term. We teach Sex and Relationship Education (RSE) because the Book of Genesis teaches us that we are made in the image and likeness of God, male and female. So our gender is part of our identity and is essential to forming healthy relationships with other people. The greatest fulfilment and deepest relations for most people will be within the Sacrament of Marriage, when the complementarity of genders allows us to glimpse our God as Creator. Other relationships, such as those with parents and siblings, are also influenced by our gender, as are friendships and other forms of love. This is part of our understanding of God's creation and we respect and worship God by relating to His creation in the appropriate way according to our age and our commitments to God and one another.

Our chosen programme for teaching RSE, 'A Journey in Love', is a recommended resource because it is compiled specifically to present a Catholic vision. In each year group, an aspect of love is explored and developed starting from: Early Years to Key Stage Two. Young people are encouraged to marvel at the wonder and beauty of God's creative love reflected in each person under the components; social, emotional, physical, spiritual and intellectual. Each section has suggested progressive and developmentally appropriate activities and reflections. As a school, we have adopted a sequence of planning that allows RSE to be woven throughout our curriculum within all terms. This will allow children to focus on an element of relationships (physical, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual) across the year. Teachers will carefully adapt their planning to meet the needs of the children within their class. This teaching across the year groups is progressive and allows children to deepen their understanding of relationships at an age appropriate level.

Through our RSE policy we aim to:

- Establish a firm understanding that we are all created in the image of God and that it is God's love that makes us unique and special;
- Promote a love for ourselves and our neighbour establishing ways that we can demonstrate our love for others;
- Give the children the knowledge and skills needed to keep themselves safe and develop healthy relationships with themselves, others and God.

Overview of Themes

Early Years: The wonder of being special and unique

Year One: We meet God's love in our family

Year Two: We meet God's love in our community

Year Three: How we live in love

Year Four: God loves us in our differences

Year Five: god loves us in our changing and developing

Year Six: The wonder of God's love in creating new life

Year Group	Aim	Key Words	Key Skills
Reception	To explore the wonder of being special and unique	God, wonder, love, hands, fingers, nails, faces, noses, lips, ears, hair, features, colour, shape, size, unique, belonging, different, special, womb, describe, friends, generous, worried, Baptism	Listening, sharing, speaking, respecting, observing, praying, relating, celebrating and creating.
Year One	To focus on families and specially growing in a loving, secure and stable home.	Unique, friend, respect, secure, God, love, care, commitment, stable, important, different, special, signs, healthy, safe, kindness, teasing, bullying, positive, negative, wrong, unacceptable, truth, lies, head, eyes, nose, mouth, teeth, tongue, neck, shoulders, arms.	Listening, observing, relating, speaking, respecting, praying, reflecting, understanding, recognising, supporting, celebrating and deciding.
Year Two	To describe how we are growing and developing in diverse communities that are God-given.	Community, local, global, impact, responsibility, harm, improve, God-given, belonging, family, diverse, father, mother, carer, guardian, feelings, recognise, emotions, friendships, relationships, secrets, stereotypes, respect and equal.	Listening, observing, relating, speaking, respecting, praying, reflecting, understanding, describing, recognising, informing and forgiving.
Year Three	To describe and give reasons for how we grow in love in caring and happy friendships where we are secure and safe.	Community, God-given, belonging, family, diverse, father, mother, carer, guardian, feelings, emotions, friends, loyalty, kindness, trust, selfless, generous, reasons, difficulties, positive, respectful.	Listening, observing, relating, speaking, respecting, praying, reflecting, understanding, describing, articulating, welcoming and choosing wisely.

Year Four	To make links and connections to show that we are all different. To celebrate these differences as we appreciate that God's love accepts us as we are not and as we change.	God, gifts, talents, difference, development, change, stereotype, acceptance, cultural, biological, respect, courtesy, manners, sensitivity, religious, belief, bullying, polite, uniqueness, innate, beauty, dignity.	Respecting, encouraging, recognising, appreciating, celebrating, relating.
Year Five	Show a knowledge and understanding of how we grow in awareness of the physical and emotional changes that accompany puberty- sensitivity, mood swings, anger, boredom etc. and grow further in recognising God's presence in our daily lives.	God, sensitivity, puberty, presence, celebrate, external, internal, change, develop, ovulation, biological, respect, reproduction, menstrual cycle, hormones, pituitary gland, uterus, fertilised ovum, fallopian tube, vagina, vulva, cervix, womb, period.	Respecting, adapting, relating, developing, considering, supporting, deciding, accepting, helping.
Year Six	To develop a secure understanding of what stable, caring relationships are and the different kinds there may be. Focussing on Catholic teaching, children will also know and understand about the conception of a child within marriage.	God, Christian, appropriate, dignity, sexuality, intercourse, fallopian, conceive, relationship, uterus, cervix, fiancé, fiancée	Categorising, observing, classifying, listening, questioning, speaking, relating, respecting, reflecting, thinking, identifying, accepting, empathising, understanding, communicating, presenting, evaluating, researching..

The programme presents Church teaching and how God has a love for all. During all lessons, teachers will be sensitive to the fact that not all children are from the same background or family setting and that God's love stretches to all.

RSE will be taught across each term, beginning this term, to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum. This will allow children to explore different aspects of relationships and how this links to keeping them safe, Prevent and Radicalisation Guidelines, British Values and Black Lives Matter. These will fit into the RSE curriculum under the following headings.

Physical	Intellectual	Social	Spiritual
Keeping physically safe	Prevent and Radicalisation	British Values	Black Lives Matter

It is our hope that all parents will wish their children to be involved in the school's programme of RSE. However, we recognise that parents have the right to withdraw their children from the sexual aspect of this teaching but not from the Relationships aspect or those areas which are required by the Science National Curriculum.

Parents with concerns are invited in the first instance to arrange an appointment with the school to discuss these concerns and to seek a resolution. As the child's first educators we continue to deeply value your support and how we work successfully in partnership.

If you do have any further questions regarding the teaching of RSE, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Mrs D Tibble