

St Paul's C of E Infant School The Cardinals Tongham, Farnham Surrey GU10 1EF

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Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)

This policy covers our approach to Relationships Health and Sex Education. We believe that Relationships, Health and Sex Education is vital for the personal, social and emotional development of children. It equips children and young people with the information, skills and values they need to have safe, respectful and enjoyable relationships.

We believe that there is a need to teach age and developmentally appropriate sex education as part of Relationships and Health Education. Statutory requirements are that relationships and health education are compulsory in all primary schools but sex education is not. We believe that all children have a right to holistic, inclusive and needs-led Education. We believe that through providing high quality Relationships and Health Education, we are upholding the ethos and values of our school and its commitment to equality and celebration of difference.

This policy was produced in consultation with our staff, governors, pupils and parents. We will ensure the policy is effectively communicated to staff and parents, including through publishing the policy on our school website. The policy complies with our statutory obligations to deliver Relationships Education under sections 34 & 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017. It has due regard for the statutory Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education Guidance and other relevant guidance.

We believe that education is a key vehicle for promoting equality, inclusion and social justice. Our Relationships Education is designed to promote equality through challenging stereotypes and harassment in schools. We take these issues seriously and ensure that we embed content on equality throughout the curriculum. We are also committed to education that makes every pupil feel valued and included and is relevant to them.

Through covering the curriculum content that we have chosen for RSHE (Christopher Winter Project (CWP) Resources) plus our wider curriculum, our family links work and our ethos, we will support our pupils to build positive and respectful relationships. We seek to ensure that it gives pupils the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that will help them to:

- realise their health, wellbeing and dignity
- build self-esteem and self-worth
- explore and value their personal identity and the identities of others
- explore a range of family structures
- understand and make sense of the real-life issues they are experiencing in the world around them
- manage and explore difficult feelings and emotions
- consider how their choices affect their own wellbeing and that of others
- develop as informed and responsible citizens
- understand and ensure the protection of their rights throughout their lives.

At St Paul's we work hard to teach and foster healthy and respectful peer to-peer communication and behaviour between all children and include a focus on boys and girls, which challenges perceived limits on pupils based on their gender or any other characteristic.

Our policies, ethos and curriculum is in line with government guidance, which states that "The focus in primary school should be on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to friendships, family relationships, and relationships with other children and with adults."

Content and Delivery

In line with statutory requirements, relationships education is taught at St Paul's and focuses on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships including:-

- Families and people who care for me
- Caring friendships
- Respectful friendships
- Online relationships
- Being safe

We do not teach any sex education at St Paul's. Our science curriculum covers some essential precursors to later sex education, in particular

- Identify, name, draw and label the basic parts of the human body.
- Notice that animals, including humans have offspring that grow into adults.

Relationships education is taught sensitively and inclusively in line with our teaching and learning and curriculum policies. This means that some themes will be taught discretely and others integrated as part of our topic based approach to teaching. Classteachers send parents information on topics and areas of learning so that they can support at home.

Answering pupil questions

Relationships Education explores a range of issues that may provoke questions from pupils. We view questions as a positive sign that pupils are engaged with what is being taught and feel able to explore natural curiosities about themselves. As much as possible, where a question is relevant to the whole class, we will answer it to the whole group. There may occasionally be the need to deal with a question outside of the classroom if it is not suitable for the entire class.

Questions will always be answered in an age and developmentally appropriate way.

Parents right to withdraw

Parents have the right to withdraw their child(ren) from sex education but not from relationships education.

As we do not teach any sex education at St Paul's there is no right to withdraw. However parents are encouraged to discuss any concerns with either their child's classteacher or with the headteacher.