



# RHE in St Mary's Priory

November 2024

# Prayer

Father,

Thank you for your great love for us. You sent your only Son to live with us and show us how to love.

As we explore teaching about relationships to the young people in our school, help us to keep them and Christ at the centre of our minds.

May The Holy Spirit bring us wisdom and peace in guiding our conversations.

We commend to you our words and actions.

Amen



# Objectives:

- To explore why RHE is important.
- To share the statutory requirements of RHE.
- To give an overview of the policy consultation process.

# Why is RHE important?

- Majority of parents support RHE.
- Some parents say that RHE is the responsibility of parents, and that they welcome the right they have (enshrined in current law) to withdraw their child from Sex education lessons
- Most of the young people disagreed, stressing that their parents have not in fact taught them!
- Many parents/carers don't discuss RHE as much as they wish to!
- Some parents prefer the teacher to teach their child- too embarrassing

# Why is RHE important?

- Research show that effective, honest, well-delivered sex and relationship education:
  - Delays a young person's first experience of sex
  - Means they have fewer sexual partners
  - Reduces the chance of teenage pregnancy.
  - Abstinence only sex education programmes are not proved effective in these areas.

(Unesco – international technical guidance on sexuality education)

# The world in which they live

- Social media
- Celebrity culture & Media influences
- Unrealistic body images –TV, advertising, online
- AI and deep fakes
- Access to pornography
- Online safety & behaviour, sexting, vulnerability to grooming
- Impact above all on children and young people's attitudes, behaviour and values

# What we can offer through RHE:

- Understanding their value and the values of others.
- Instilling confidence and self-esteem.
- Reliable, correct information in a safe learning environment
- Knowing how to keep safe and how to get help.
- Helping with peer pressure.
- Learning how to make sensible and informed decisions in a changing cultural climate.
- Understanding the positive impact of loving God, self, neighbour and our common home.

# Primary Relationships Education- THE MUSTS

Relationships Education will put in place the building blocks needed for positive and safe relationships, including with family, friends and online.

Your child will be taught what a relationship is, what friendship is, what family means and who can support them.

In an age-appropriate way, your child's school will cover how to treat each other with kindness, consideration and respect.

By the end of primary school, pupils will have been taught content on:

- families and people who care for me
- caring friendships
- respectful relationships
- online relationships
- being safe

You can find further details by searching '**relationships, sex and health education**' on GOV.UK.

# Vision for Relationship and Sex Education in Westminster Catholic Schools

It is our vision for Relationship, Sex and Health Education in Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Westminster that pupils would learn how to foster healthy relationships and friendships in light of the wisdom of the Church.

Pupils will flourish when they truly understand their innate human dignity, love and appreciation of themselves, including respect for their bodies, and the way they were made by God.

Pupils will learn to make sensible and informed decisions in a changing cultural climate, focussing on the virtues, such as patience and chastity, that ultimately lead to true happiness.

Sacred Scripture is key to this vision and the message Jesus gave us to love God, self, neighbour and our common home.

RSHE in our schools must always remain faithful to the teaching of the Church, recognising the diversity of pupils' situations. We aim to be sensitive to each individual, ensuring that their physical and emotional well-being and their safety are of paramount importance.



# Ten Ten- Life To The Full

- We use Ten Ten - Life To The Full in our school, from Nursery to Year 6. This is a programme recommended by the Diocese of Westminster, as it is in keeping with Church teachings.
- It is divided into 3 themes:
- **Created and loved by God**
- **Created to love others**
- **Created to live in community**
- Life to the Full is much more than a series of lessons. It is an entire platform of creative resources that will engage, inform and inspire our children and, indeed, you as parents. This includes interactive video content, story-based activities, employing a wide range of teaching tools, original worship music and an accompanying programme of classroom prayers.

Below are the log in details to the parent portal on the Ten Ten website

<b>Username</b>	<input type="text" value="st-marys-n15"/>
<b>Password</b>	<input type="text" value="ally-pally"/>
<b>Parent Portal</b>	<a href="https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/">https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/</a>

Please note that whilst we use the Ten Ten materials for the vast majority of topics, we always use our professional discretion if we think that a presentation is not age appropriate and on these rare occasions amend appropriately.

# Created and loved by God

**Module One: Created and Loved by God** explores the individual. Rooted in the teaching that we are made in the image and likeness of God, it helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as the basis for personal relationships.



The Christian imperative to love self, made in the image and likeness of God, shows an understanding of the importance of valuing and understanding oneself as the basis for personal relationships.

- Education in virtue
- Religious understanding of the human person: loving myself.
- Me, my body and my health
- Emotional wellbeing and attitudes
- Life cycles and fertility

# Created to love others

**Module Two: Created to Love Others** explores the individual's relationships with others. Building on the understanding that we have been created out of love and for love, this unit explores how we take this calling into our family, friendships and relationships, and teaches strategies for developing healthy relationships.



**Key Stage One:**

God is love. We are created out of love and for love. The command to love is the basis of all Christian morality

- Education in virtue
- Religious understanding of human relationships: Loving others
- Personal Relationships
- Keeping Safe and People Who Can Help Me

# Created to live in community

Human beings are relational by nature and live in the wider community. Through our exchange with others, our mutual service and through dialogue, we attempt to proclaim and extend the Kingdom of God for the good of individuals and the good of society.

**Module Three: Created to Live in Community** explores the individual's relationship with the wider world. Here we explore how human beings are relational by nature and are called to love others in the wider community through service, through dialogue and through working for the Common Good.



- Education in virtue
- Religious understanding of the importance human communities
- Living in the wider world

# Working in partnership with parents

- Primary educators of children
- Unique knowledge of your children
- Ability to have regular conversations
- Impart our shared values.
- Teach alongside the school.
- RHE is most effective when reinforced at home and elsewhere.

- Some parents find it difficult or lack confidence.
- Some homes are unable to provide this.
- Some children prefer these conversations outside the home

Is there anything, as a school, we can do to support you at home?

# DfE- Parents rights

The important lessons you teach your child about healthy relationships, looking after themselves and staying safe, are respected and valued under this new curriculum.

Teaching at school will complement and reinforce the lessons you teach your child as they grow up.

Your child's school is required to consult with you when developing and renewing their policies on Relationships Education. These policies must be published online and be available to anybody free of charge.

You can express your opinion, and this will help your child's school decide how and when to cover the content of the statutory guidance. It may also help them decide whether to teach additional non-statutory content.

Schools are required to ensure their teaching reflects the age and religious background of their pupils.



# Parent Consultation

We are consulting on our RHE policy.

Schools are required to consult with parents when developing and reviewing their policies for Relationships & Health Education, and it is good practice to do this regularly.

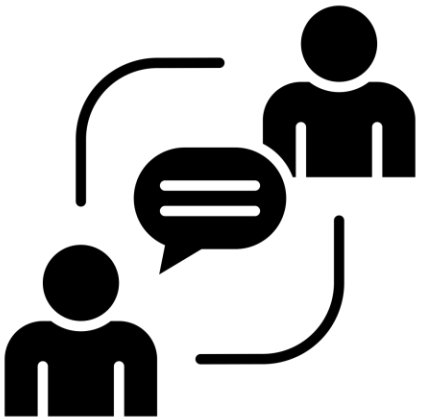
Our consultation period is running from Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> November to Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> December.

The consultation process has included – student council voice and a parent meeting. The results of the consultation will be shared with the Governors and this will inform our policy for the Spring Term 2025 and beyond.

The school welcomes and will take account of and listen to your views. Decisions will also be based on the needs of pupils, the views of staff and governors as well as compliance with legal requirements as set out in the DfE guidance and the Equalities Act 2010.

Ultimate decisions about the curriculum and policy will be up to the school.

***To take part in the consultation please email the school office using the heading CONSULTATION***



# DfE - Right to withdraw your child- Primary

You cannot withdraw your child from Relationships Education because it is important that all children receive this content, covering topics such as friendships and how to stay safe.

Your child's primary school can choose to teach Sex Education. If you'd like to know more about this, we recommend speaking to the school to understand what will be taught and when. If you do not want your child to take part in some or all of the lessons on Sex Education, you can ask that they are withdrawn. At primary level, the head teacher must grant this request.

The science curriculum in all maintained schools also includes content on human development, including reproduction, which there is no right to withdraw from.

# Will my child be taught sex education at primary?

- We are not introducing compulsory sex education.
- We teach Relationships & Health Education at primary, to put in place the building blocks needed for positive and safe relationships of all kinds.
- This will start with:
  - family and friends,
  - how to treat each other with kindness,
  - recognising the difference between online and offline friendships.

# Will my child be taught sex education at primary?

- Children from Reception to Year 6 will still be taught all of the aspects of the **Science curriculum, which link to reproduction.**

These include –

FOUNDATION & KEY STAGE 1 (age 5-7)

- That humans move, feed, grow, use their senses and reproduce
- To name the main external parts of the body
- That humans grow from babies into children and then into adults, and that adults can produce babies
- To recognise similarities and differences between themselves and other pupils

KEY STAGE 2 (age 7-11)

- That life processes common to humans and all animals include nutrition, growth and reproduction
- The main stages of the human life cycle.

# Will my child be taught sex education at primary?

- The only aspect of Sex Education that is planned is the following:  
Non-Statutory Sex Education YEAR 6 (age 10 and 11)
- The basic scientific facts about sexual intercourse between a man and woman

## Right to withdraw:

Parents and Carers have the right to withdraw their children from this one aspect. **All other parts of the curriculum are statutory and there is no right to withdraw.**

# Will my children be taught about LGBT?

**It is not statutory in primary schools to cover LGBT** as part of the curriculum

In teaching Relationships Education and RSE, schools should ensure that the needs of all pupils are appropriately met, and that **all pupils understand the importance of equality and respect.**

Schools **need to ensure that they comply with the relevant provisions of the Equality Act 2010**, (please see The Equality Act 2010 and schools: Departmental advice), under which sexual orientation and gender reassignment are amongst the protected characteristics.

Schools need to ensure that all of their teaching is **sensitive and age appropriate in approach and content.**

Children will be taught about **loving relationships** and the impact that this has on them as children. The make up of **everyone's family background will be respected**, from this children will learn tolerance and respect for all.

# Can we opt out of any of the lessons?

- The statutory parts of the curriculum covered in **RHE and Science** are mandatory
- Parents have a right to withdraw their children from all or part of the sex education provided, but not from the biological aspects of human growth and reproduction as required by the National Curriculum Science Order.

# Timeline - What Next?

## Parent Information Session 1 – Today

- Statutory requirements
- Distinctive Catholic approach



## Parent consultation on policy from 20-11-2024 to 19-12-2024

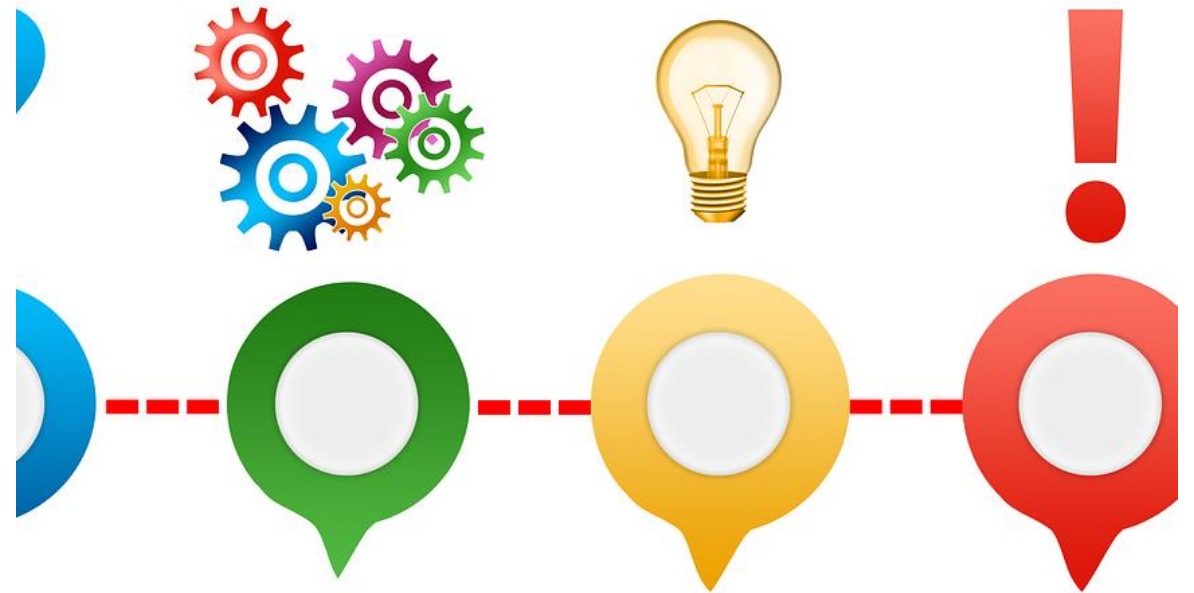
- Please contribute to this consultation by emailing the school office at [office@stmarysrcpriory.haringey.sch.uk](mailto:office@stmarysrcpriory.haringey.sch.uk) using the subject heading: 'CONSULTATION'



## Spring 2025

Parents will be informed of the conclusions that have been reached and the curriculum and policy that has been adopted via the school newsletter and publishing the policy on the school website.

Parents/  
Carers  
responses



# Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father,

As we come to the end of our time together we thank you for what has been accomplished here.

May the matters discussed serve as a catalyst to move us forward and cause us to advance and see growth in all areas of our lives.

May we leave here recognising that you are the God of all wisdom and you are willing to lead us forward.

This we pray in the name of Jesus the Lord,

Amen

