

St Paul's CE (VC) First School
Coven



Personal, Social, Health and
Education (PSHE) and Relationship
and Sex (RSE) Policy

March 2023

Introduction

Our personal, social, health and economic (**PSHE**) programme promotes children's personal, social and economic development, as well as their health and wellbeing. It helps to give children the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to lead confident, healthy, independent lives and to become informed, active, responsible members of the community and wider society.

At St Paul's, children's wellbeing, happiness and safety are our first priority, and PSHE is the key subject through which we share this with children. We regard PSHE as an important, integral component of the whole curriculum; it is central to our approach and at the core of our ethos.

Relationship and Sex Education (**RSE**) enhances learning based on topics such as; anti-bullying; keeping safe on and off line; keeping physically and mentally healthy and the development of skills and attributes such as communication skills, managing peer pressure, risk management, resilience and decision making. Children are also involved in discussions based on healthy relationships and lifelong learning about the emotional, social and physical aspects of growing up, relationships, sex, human sexuality and sexual health. All of this will depend on the child's age and will be communicated with children in an age appropriate way throughout.

RSE has been mandatory in schools from September 2020.

Entitlement

Each individual child is entitled to PSHE lessons. Our PSHE curriculum is broad and balanced, ensuring that each individual child;

- Develops a good understanding of the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of themselves and others
- Is prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences they already face and for adult life
- Has some understanding on how to keep healthy and safe as well as understanding the need to have a positive mind set

Staff also follow the whole school equal opportunities policy, ensuring every child in school is offered rich and balanced opportunities.

Implementation

PSHE is taking place all the time in school. It is reflected in the ethos of the school, the nature of relationships with, and between staff and children, the displays in school and the outside environment of the school.

PSHE is delivered within a whole school approach which includes:

- Dedicated curriculum time
- Teaching PSHE through and in other subjects/curriculum areas
- Circle Time/Story time (EYFS)
- Specialised assemblies
- PSHE activities and school events e.g. Friends Days
- NSPCC sessions linking to particular topics (Speak Out, Stay Safe)
- Pastoral care and guidance

The teaching of PSHE is down to the class teacher and will happen each week.

Class teachers follow the PSHE Association planning scheme to help ensure a wide range of matters are taught to the children in age appropriate ways.

Health and Safety

All children are made aware of any relevant health and safety issues relating to activities carried out in PSHE. Any school activities connected with PSHE are carried out in accordance with the guidelines in the agreed school Health and Safety Policy.

Assessment

Children are informally assessed by staff throughout their work and the generic reports given to parents at the end of the school year will reflect this.

Recording of work will be in a form appropriate to the planned focus and will be shown in teacher's planning. Evidence of PSHE will be in a variety of forms e.g. photographs as well as written work. The very nature of PSHE means that careful consideration should be given to the best means of recording. Written work may not always be appropriate and staff will use their professional judgment in this.

In year groups 1 to 4, a scrap book may be used to show evidence of PSHE teaching and learning.

Reporting to Parents

At St Paul's we aim for PSHE to complement the personal and social development of children provided in the home and the local community. A high priority is working with parents and is a vital part of the whole school approach. Parents are kept fully informed of the school's policy for sex and relationships education and we aim to keep parents and guardians involved in school life.

Staff encourages parents to speak to staff if they have any worries or concerns over the matters discussed in PSHE lessons.

St Paul's values the contributions of the community and outside agencies to the personal, social and health development of its children through active involvement of life outside school. We sometimes invite a wide range of representatives to talk to the children, including the Fire Service and Paramedics to speak to children appropriately about their roles.

If a parent wishes their child to be withdrawn from the sex education elements of RSE, they should discuss this with the head teacher, and make it clear which aspects of the programme they do not wish their child to participate in. Parents should be aware that schools are legally required to provide a broad, balanced curriculum. Sex education topics can arise incidentally and overlap with relationships education lessons and it is not possible to withdraw pupils from these relatively limited and often unplanned discussions. Requests for withdrawal should be put in writing and addressed to the head teacher. A copy of withdrawal requests will be placed in the pupil's educational record. The head teacher will discuss the request with parents and take appropriate action. Alternative work will be given to pupils who are withdrawn from these lessons.

Liaison

The PSHE Subject Leader has liaised with staff providing long term plans and advice on planning taken from the PSHE Association. Staff meetings may also be put in place throughout the year to ensure all staff are informed of any changes to the subject. After attending subject leader updates, the PSHE Leader will inform staff regularly regarding changes.

Monitoring - Subject Leadership

The subject leader provides support and advice to other members of staff through careful monitoring of the quality of teaching, children's understanding and is responsible for evaluating and reviewing the programme and provision for PSHE across the school. She will also further staff development by providing opportunities for staff to update and extend their knowledge and expertise in PSHE.

Review

The PSHE Policy is to be reviewed on a regular basis as scheduled in the School Development Plan.

Signed: Mrs A Pope / Friday 10th March 2023