



*Together Everyone
Achieves More*

Relationships and Sexual Education Policy

St Patrick's Primary School Portrush

Policy No:	08		
Date Ratified:	Sept 2018		
Review Date:	Term 1 2021	Person responsible for review	Principal

Translate this document at:

Przetłumacz ten dokument na: <https://translate.google.co.uk/>

Преведете този документ на адрес:

Who is this Policy for?

1. This policy is for the entire school community including staff, volunteers, parents/carers, children and relevant authorities (such as the Education Authority, Department for Education and the Catholic Council for Maintained Schools).

What is this Policy for?

2. It aim is to inform parents/carers and the wider school community about how Relationships and Sexual Education (RSE) is delivered within the school.

What is RSE?

3. RSE plays an integral part in helping children grow and develop confidently though their early and teenage years and to prepare them for adult life. RSE is part of the NI Curriculum within Personal Development and Mutual Understanding area of learning¹. RSE runs through all the Key Stages in a learning process that grows and evolves along with the children.
4. This RSE Policy and the delivery of RSE within the school has strong linkages with an number of other policy areas includes the: Pastoral Care Policy; Safeguarding Children Policy; Positive Behaviour Policy; Acceptable Use of the Internet Policy and the Curriculum Policy.

¹ The school's Curriculum Policy provides more detail on the delivery of the curriculum in school.

RSE and our Pastoral Care

5. Delivery of RSE in the school is rooted in our pastoral care and reflects our Catholic ethos. There will be no direct teaching of topics or issues that are in conflict with our Catholic ethos; however if these issues are raised by pupils, the teacher will address them sensitively and with respect to our values, this includes the tolerance, respect and appreciation of others.
6. A cornerstone of our Pastoral Care is that we take every action to ensure every child at St. Patrick's *is safe, feels safe and knows who to turn when they need help*. This forms part of our safeguarding duties and will be reinforced through RSE.
7. If you have any queries regarding the teaching of RSE within our Pastoral Care and Catholic ethos you can request a meeting with the class teacher or Principal who will be happy to discuss the school's approach.

RSE in the Classroom

8. As outlined in the Curriculum Policy our teachers are skilled professionals and are best placed to make decisions about how to interpret and combine the requirements of the curriculum in a rapidly changing world, including RSE. This policy therefore does not provide specific details on RSE delivery in the Key Stages.
9. The following provides our school's basic principles for delivering RSE. It will enable pupils to:
 - a. acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of self (body and mind), providing a sense of self-awareness, self-esteem and self-worth as they grow and develop through the school and prepare for secondary education;
 - b. form values and establish behaviour within a moral, spiritual and social framework;
 - c. examine and explore the various relationships in their personal lives, including fostering healthy attitudes to human sexuality and relationships in a moral, social and spiritual framework;

- d. learn how to develop and enjoy personal relationships and friendships which are based responsibility and mutual respect;
- e. build the foundations for developing personal relationships in later life;
- f. be able to identify appropriate (non-exploitive) relationships to protect themselves and to identify those (both inside and outside school) who they can turn when they need help; and
- g. make positive, responsible choices about themselves and others and the way they live their lives.

Use of External Agencies / Speakers

10. Where appropriate, the school will use the skills and expertise of external agencies and speakers. Where this occurs, the school will be satisfied that their contribution reflects our Pastoral Care Policy, Catholic ethos and Safeguarding Children Policy.

Withdrawal from RSE

11. RSE is a statutory requirement of the NI Curriculum. It is important for pupils to be able to explore and discuss issues relating of relationships and sexuality in a controlled and professional environment. It also complements our safeguarding procedures. We strongly discourage withdrawal from RSE topics but will, as far as reasonably possible, consider parent/carer concerns or requests for withdrawal alongside our statutory responsibilities.

Roles and Responsibilities

12. The Board of Governors has responsibility to keep this policy under review, monitor the delivery of the curriculum and ensure that safeguarding procedures and best practise are being followed.
13. The Principal will report / provide updates to the Board of Governors on all matters relating to the delivery of RSE in the curriculum.

14. The Designated Teacher for Safeguarding and/or the Principal may report / provide updates on RSE issues relating to the school's safeguarding procedures or policy.

Policy Monitoring and Evaluation

15. The Board of Governors and the Curriculum Committee receive reports on the delivery of the curriculum. This is recorded in the Board of Governors meeting minutes.
16. This policy will be reviewed bi-annually.

Policy Accessibility Statement

17. The following steps have been taken to make the document accessible. We have:
- used clear and direct language wherever possible;
 - used correct tagging, formatting, numbering and use of headings for e-readers; and
 - followed [government guidance](#) on document accessibility.
18. If you need this document in another form, such as large print or you have any suggests as to how we could improve the accessibility please contact the school office.