

Carleton St Hilda's CE Primary School



Carleton St Hilda's Relationships Policy

Mission Statement

Our mission statement, 'Open hearts, open minds. Learning together with God.' underpins all the work that we do.

'I give you a new commandment. Love one another, as I have loved you.'
John 13:34

Introduction

At Carleton St Hilda's our Christian values and ethos are at the centre of everything we do. We believe that every child is a gift from God, and as such brings with them unique talents and characteristics which are to be nurtured and celebrated, enabling every child to flourish.

Our school focuses on the importance of relationships and the qualities and character needed to sustain the best relationships with respect for each other. Our school seeks to enable children to develop through an inclusive programme of teaching that is based on Christian principles, which both respects the human body and seeks to ensure health and well-being.

Aims

The aims of Relationship Education at our school are:

- To ensure Relationships Education is part of a child's broad, balanced curriculum, integral to PHSE and part of the child's all-round development throughout their life at St Hilda's .
- To enable pupils to understand the qualities of healthy relationships and to create a positive culture around relationships, including family and friendships.
- To prepare children for healthy relationships in an online world.
- To understand how to stay safe, know the importance of boundaries and how to report abuse or feelings of being unsafe.
- To help pupils develop a positive and secure personal identity, a sense of their own value and feelings of confidence and empathy.
- To ensure that all understand the importance of respecting others and accepting those who differ.
- To understand what it means to disagree with someone respectfully.
- To challenge those behaviours and attitudes which exploit others and do not reflect the Christian values at the heart of our school ethos.

The Pastoral Principles for Living Well Together Church of England 2019 contribute to our commitment to ensure that children's minds are open and respectful to each other and all people.

Supporting documents:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2019-02/PAG-PP-website.pdf>

The Church of England Education Office document Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education 1 (RSE) and Health Education (RSHE) in Church of England Schools 2019

Statutory Requirements

It is a statutory requirement for primary schools to deliver Relationships Education, under the Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019 and DfE's 2025 RSHE statutory guidance.

The statutory guidance makes clear that in primary schools the focus on Relationships Education should be on teaching the fundamental building blocks and characteristics of positive relationships, with particular reference to respectful peer to peer relationships, family and carer relationships, online relationships and staying safe.

PSHE in school is based on The Coram Life Education online SCARF (Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience, Friendship) programme. See PSHE policy.

SCARF RSE-specific lessons are designed to cover key skills, attitudes and values children need to explore in order to develop healthy relationships with their peers and others and how to keep themselves safe and to ask for help when they need it.

Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing Education is also statutory in all schools. The programme covers mental wellbeing, online safety and harms, physical health and fitness, healthy eating and drugs, alcohol and tobacco, first aid and the changing adolescent body.

Parents cannot withdraw their child from any part of Relationship Education as this now forms part of the basic curriculum and is a requirement of the government's statutory guidance

Primary schools can decide whether to teach Sex Education beyond national curriculum science. As a school we teach children about physical development, puberty and personal hygiene within the PSHE curriculum, however we do not teach about human conception or the act of sexual intercourse. Following internal consultation, it is our belief that not all children of primary school age are emotionally ready for this step, and that if introduced before secondary school it should be at the discretion and responsibility of parents. This policy will be reviewed regularly, drawing on the views of pupils, parents, staff and the community at the time of review.

Our school's Relationship Education programme provides opportunities for children to 'talk honestly and openly'. If children ask questions relating to sexual acts, we will answer them as honestly as possible while avoiding discussing sexual acts and conception. Parents will be informed if such a conversation arises so that they can choose whether to further engage with the subject at home. In Year 5 and Year 6, we ensure that both boys and girls are prepared for the changes that adolescence brings as well as drawing knowledge of the human life cycle set out in the national curriculum for science.

In some cases, a question or request for advice may indicate the pupil to be at risk or in danger, in which case appropriate action will be taken in accordance with the school's written policy and procedure for Child Protection.

Inclusion

SCARF allows for teachers to meet the needs of the children in their class and to adjust their content in order to meet the learning outcomes. Teachers provide learning opportunities matched to the individual needs of all children including children with additional needs.

The **Learning Mentor** is available to provide support and guidance to children who are experiencing difficulties due to emotional or behavioural needs. The Learning Mentor role involves creating and maintaining positive relationships with children, teachers, parents/carers and external agencies in order to assist children to develop their academic, social and emotional skills so they are able to reach their full potential.

Children will find it difficult to access learning opportunities if they are experiencing barriers to learning. These barriers can include:

- Anxiety and worries
- Difficulties at home

- Behaviour for learning
- Issues concerning friendships/social anxieties
- Dealing with bereavement/loss
- Transition between phases/from primary to secondary
- Transition between home and school in the mornings
- Anger Management
- Self-esteem
- Emotional Literacy
- Mental Health

Equal Opportunities

Teachers deliver PSHE through suitable learning opportunities for all children in school, within a respectful environment regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexuality or home background. The children are taught about similarity and difference and challenging stereotypes.

Parental Involvement

Parents are acknowledged as the main influence on a child's development spiritually, morally, socially and culturally. Parents are encouraged to support teaching and learning developing children's independence, confidence and responsibility, including their understanding of a healthy, safe lifestyle. Parents do not have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from Relationships Education. The Learning Mentor is available to meet parents at 'drop-in' times after school as well as giving a range of support and guidance to children and families.

Monitoring arrangements

The delivery of Relationship Education is monitored through looking at children's work, staff and pupil voice in PSHE. Staff are responsible for delivering Relationships Education with sensitivity, responding to the needs of individual children.

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that Relationship Education is taught within the planned programme and in line with the Church of England foundation of the school.

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Links to other policies-

Safeguarding Policy
 Behaviour Policy
 Anti-Bullying Policy
 Relational Policy
 Online Safety Policy
 Equality Policy
 PSHE Policy
 SEND Policy
 Teaching and Learning Policy
 RE Policy
 Science Policy

Coram Life Education SCARF webpage at <https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/scarf>