

Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy

(from Sep 2020)



EXCELLENCE • LEARNING • LEADERSHIP

ST JOHN'S
SCHOOL

St John's School, Episkopi

A small 11-18 secondary school, serving the military community in British Forces Cyprus (BFC) as well as the local British, ex-pat community.

MOD Schools are part of the Defence Children Services (DCS) in the UK Ministry of Defence.

To be approved by:	Head of PSHE and teachers of PSHE	Date: 1 st November 2020
Created on:	1 st September 2020	Reviewed 18 th December 2020
Next review due by:	Spring 2021	

1. School Mission Statement

'We are a unique community where learning and leadership ensures excellence for all'

2. School Aims

- To have outstanding learning in every lesson every day
- To inspire responsibility, respect and enthusiasm in all
- To provide a personal curriculum, that ensures all can thrive
- To provide the tools to lead with confidence within a caring community
- Empower and challenge all to achieve their full potential

3. The aims of relationships and sex education (RSE)

Our Mission Statement commits us to the education of the whole child. PSHE at St John's School aims to provide knowledge and understanding of safe and healthy relationships based on respect. To encourage the development of safe and healthy relationships throughout life and to endeavour to raise pupils' self-esteem. Our PSHE curriculum is designed to help children from all backgrounds build positive and safe relationships, providing them with the tools to thrive in the wider world.

Effective RSE at St John's endeavours to provide:

- Students with clear, accurate and sound knowledge
- 1 hour a fortnight of PSHE lessons under the following PHSE Association recommendations; Wellbeing & Health, Relationships (RSE) and Living in the Wider World.
- In presentation of knowledge, age appropriateness and awareness of child development is key. Instruction should match the student's developmental level and, as with all learning, be aware of individual differences.

RSE is taught within the Relationships component and aims:

- To develop in students a sense of their own self-worth and value
- To enable all pupils to develop a positive self-image and positive attitudes towards sexuality, independent of peer group pressure
- To encourage students to have respect for themselves and for others
- To develop good relationships and respect the differences between people allowing for an appreciation of the different types of family
- To ensure that all students receive adequate factual information regarding their own and others' sexual development and lifestyle
- To develop an awareness of an individual's legal context regarding sexual behaviour
- To educate students in the responsible management of relationships and help them to overcome any prejudices and misunderstandings they may have about sexuality
- To teach students about the importance of love and respect in relation to all relationships and especially sexual relationships.

4. Statutory requirements

Following the guidance of the DFE, RSE will be firmly bedded in the PSHE framework as it is concerned with nurturing human wholeness and integral to the physical, spiritual, emotional, moral, social and intellectual development of students.

Following the requirements, by the end of their time at St John's students will cover:

- Family relationships, marriage, long term relationships, family responsibilities and raising children.
- Respectful relationships, positive friendships, conflict management, stereotypes, bullying, sexual harassment, and equality.
- Online and media rights and responsibilities, risks, online material, harmful content, pornography, and the law.
- Being safe including consent, domestic abuse, and rape.
- Sexual relationships and health, reproduction, contraception, STIs and pregnancy.
- The law, sex and safeguarding, age of consent and sexting.

Parents have the legal right to withdraw their children from certain aspects of RSE – this will be done through written communication and consultation with the Head Teacher, Mrs Emma Bryson and Head of PSHE, Ms Marina Lea.

5. Policy development

This policy has been developed in consultation with staff, pupils, and parents. The consultation and policy development process involved the following steps:

1. Staff consultation – 4 staff members of PSHE team formed, training and purchased resources, Head of PSHE employed 2019, resources reviewed and changed, curriculum shared with parents and students.
2. School staff were given the opportunity to look at the policy and make recommendations.
3. Parent/stakeholder consultation – parents and any interested parties will be invited to feedback on curriculum mapping and topics.
4. Pupil consultation – we will investigate what exactly students want from their RSE.
5. Ratification – once amendments are made, the policy will be shared with governors and ratified.

6. Delivery of RSE

RSE is taught within the PSHE curriculum. Biological aspects of RSE are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in religious education (RE).

Students in Y7 – Y13 receive 1hour per fortnight of PSHE, delivered by one of the 4 PSHE team. RSE is delivered by Head of PSHE to all Year groups. The focus is always on active learning.

For more information about our RSE curriculum, see Appendices

7. Roles and responsibilities

7.1 Parents

St John's recognises that parents are the first teachers of their children. It is their right and responsibility to inform their children in matters relating to human relationships and sexual development. They will be given the opportunity to discuss the content of any programme of RSE that will be delivered and resources that may be used.

7.2 The governing board

The governing board will approve the RSE policy and hold the headteacher to account for its implementation.

7.3 The headteacher

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that RSE is taught consistently across the school, and for managing requests to withdraw pupils from non-statutory components of RSE.

7.4 Staff

Ms Marina Lea has the specific responsibility for overseeing and the delivery of much of the RSE curriculum through designated PSHE lessons. This ensures consistency in the delivery of important topics however RSE is a whole school issue. All staff are involved in developing the personal and social skills that contribute to human flourishing. As well as delivering curriculum content in the classroom, staff are also role models around the school, giving examples of conflict resolution and establishing relationships of mutual trust and respect. All staff have a responsibility of care and safeguarding students. They should actively contribute to guidance of the physical, moral and spiritual well-being of all students.

7.4 Pupils

Pupils are expected to engage fully in RSE and, when discussing issues related to RSE, treat others with respect and sensitivity.

8. Training

Marina Lea has received initial training in Delivering RSE through the PSHE Association training. Visitors from outside the school, such as school nurses or sexual health professionals also provide support and training to staff teaching RSE and PSHE.