Holy Family Cronton Catholic Primary School



Education For Personal Relationships Policy

**MISSION STATEMENT**

**Following in Jesus’ footsteps we will:**

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**Pray together, Play together, Learn together.**

**In fulfilling our Mission Statement we aim to:**

**Pray together:**

* Through our family and community of faith we strive for all to hear the message of God.
* Through the promotion of the Christian values of love, acceptance and respect for all, we will provide opportunities for all to develop an awareness of God’s presence in themselves and in others.
* Through the teachings and practice of our faith we will provide opportunities to respond to the word of God through collective worship, celebration and quiet reflection.

**Play together:**

* Through the development of excellent relationships in our school community we will strive to ensure all experience mutual respect, acceptance and love.
* Through fun filled activities, projects and social events we will provide opportunities to promote community cohesion and togetherness.
* Through our creative curriculum we will strive for all to seek excellence and experience enjoyment.

**Learn together:**

* Through the provision of a stimulating, well-balanced, forward thinking, diverse curriculum we will provide opportunities for all to develop an awareness of themselves, others and the world in which we live.
* Through inspirational, innovative, holistic teaching we will seek to create learners who aspire to succeed.
* Through the promotion of learning and equality for all we will strive to create independent, lifelong learners.

### Rationale

#### *‘I have come that you might have life and have it to the full’*

*(Jn.10.10)*

We acknowledge that Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship, as well as Education for Personal Relationships (EPR) are all underpinned by a theology of relationships.

Our belief in the unique dignity of the human person as made in the image and likeness of God underpins the approach to all education in our school. Our approach to relationship and sex education therefore is rooted in the Catholic Church’s teaching of the human person and is presented positively and prudently.

Stemming from this vision of what it means to be human, we seek to educate the whole child: spiritually, intellectually, morally, emotionally, psychologically, and physically towards our understanding of Christian maturity.

Following guidance from our own Bishop and Diocese, the Conference of Bishops of England and Wales and as advocated by the DFE, EPR in our school will be firmly embedded in the PSHE framework as it is concerned primarily with nurturing the human wholeness of our pupils.

All EPR will be in accordance with the Church’s moral teaching. It will emphasise the central importance of marriage and the family whilst acknowledging that all pupils have a fundamental right to have their life respected whatever household they come from and support will be provided to help pupils deal with different sets of values.

# Our Aims of Education for Personal Relationships (EPR)

* To encourage pupils’ growth in self respect, acknowledging we are all created in the image and likeness of God
* To help pupils develop an understanding that love is the central basis of relationships
* To help pupils to understand the nature of relationships and to encourage them to reflect on their own relationships and respect differences between people.
* To develop pupils’ confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings and relationships.
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* To help pupils acquire the skills necessary to develop and sustain relationships
* To offer personal development education in the wider context of relationships.
* To ensure that pupils protect themselves and ask for help and support when needed.
* To ensure that pupils are prepared for puberty.
* To help pupils to develop a healthier, safer lifestyle.
* To prepare pupils to play an active role as citizens and to understand the Catholic vision of what it means to be citizens of the Kingdom of God.

##### DELIVERY OF THE PROGRAMME

EPR is taught through our life style in school and through the subjects ofReligious Education, Science and by way of a cross-curricular, integrated approach.

All elements of PSHE and Citizenship, whilst non-statutory at Key Stage 1 and 2 are covered. Significant aspects of personal development and relationship education remain part of the National Curriculum for Science. These will be taught to all pupils.

We acknowledge that every area of school life can potentially contribute to EPR. We recognise, value and greatly appreciate the contribution made by all members of staff in deepening the quality of our Christian community.

Teachers will use their professional judgement when addressing issues in EPR. Careful consideration will be given to the wide and varied experience and backgrounds of the pupils in their care.

While we operate a whole school approach to EPR through our Programme, pupils in Year Five will learn about the emotional and the physical changes of puberty. For this particular part of the curriculum, children will be taught together. A similar approach will operate in the autumn term in Year 6. We have adopted the ‘All That I Am’ programme to support teaching in Years 5 and 6. We also supplement this with the video resource ‘All About Me’

**Resources**

We acknowledge that parents and carers are the key persons for children learning about sex and relationships; the foremost educators. Our role and our programme simply complement their role in nurturing their children’s human wholeness. However, the role of parents and our day to day interactions in school are currently supported by the aforementioned resource.

# Assessment Recording and Reporting

A record is kept in teacher’s planning of the delivery of EPR. The programme is assessed, monitored and evaluated; Pupils are given the opportunity for self evaluation at an appropriate level for each year group.

# Outside Agencies

The expertise of outside agencies will be used appropriately to support the school’s delivery.

**Safeguarding Procedures**

The school has procedures to deal with any sensitive issues or children thought to be vulnerable. Staff will pass on any concerns of this nature to the designated child protection officer in school.

# The Governing Body

The Governing body and Foundation Governors in particular recognise their responsibility to ensure the EPR programme follows Diocesan principles and reflects the Church’s teaching

# The role of Parents/Carers

The Church has always recognised that it is the privilege and the responsibility of parents to educate and inform their children in all matters pertaining to personal growth and development particularly in the sensitive area of their moral education and sexual development. The Church also recognises that many parents require help and support in this task from both schools and parishes.

The Governing body fully subscribes to the views expressed by the Bishops’ Conference and will always ensure that:

* Parents/Carers are supported in their task.
* Parents/Carers are consulted and kept informed of the EPR Programme; its contents, evaluation and review and any subsequent developments.

# Right of Withdrawal

It is our hope that parents would wish their children to be involved in the schools positive and prudent programme of EPR, following annual consultation regarding the school’s approach. However, we recognise parents have the right to withdraw their children from such lessons (not included in National Curriculum Science) after discussion with the headteacher.

**Monitoring and Review**

This policy will be monitored bi-annually by the EPR Co-ordinator and will be reviewed bi-annually by the Governing Body. Parents will be consulted before any proposed changes.

This policy has been formally adopted by the Governing Body of Holy Family Catholic Primary School. It will be reviewed by the Governors and headteacher in conjunction with all the staff two years from the date below.

Signed.…....................................................................... (Chair of Governors)

Date………………………………………………………………………………………