

St John's C of E Primary School



Policy
For
Personal, Social &
Health Education

POLICY FOR PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Personal and Social Education is central to the educational entitlement of all children at St John's. The Education Reform act of 1988 states that 'All pupils are entitled to a balanced and broadly based curriculum which:

**'Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of all pupils;
Prepares pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experience of adult life.'**

All these are developed through a structured academic curriculum based on the SEAL project and reiterated throughout the school ethos and curriculum. Social, emotional and behavioural skills underpin almost every aspect of school and home life and therefore St John's School recognises and values the importance of the educating children in this area.

The policy encompasses The Instrument of Government (adopted May 2005): 'Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.'

The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.'

Parents' major early influence on pupils dictate their initial approach to school life but teachers then have a vital role because personal and social development is intrinsic to education. Thus it is important that we are consistent in our dealing with children, that we set them a good example and role model to follow, and, above all, that we work in close co-operation with parents.

The way the curriculum is managed, its organisation and the varying teaching styles used are central to the school's philosophy, its aims, attitudes and values. All contribute to the personal and social development of children in school. We aim to give our children the skills they need to deal with and manage their personal and emotional well-being. The curriculum links very closely with the five strands of the Government's 'Every Child Matters' agenda so that 'every child is able to fulfil their full potential and those facing particular obstacles are supported to overcome them.

Through a variety of learning experiences St John's School helps each child to:

- Think and act for him/her self
- Recognise and manage their feelings and the feelings of others
- Acquire personal qualities and values
- Take his/her place in a wide range of roles in preparation for adult life
- Develop confidence/independence
- Value and respect him/her self and value others
- Value and respect belongings/living things/environment
- Know him/her self better and think well of him/her self
- Develop social skills and be able to share and co-operate with others
- Recognise and stand up for their rights and the rights of others

Work to develop this cross-curricular dimension may be included in class, school based topics in assemblies and supported throughout all times of the school day.

Along side National Curriculum subjects, cross-curricular themes form an integral part of the social personal development of our children. Health education considers the physical and sexual development of the child. Citizenship considers moral issues and careers and economic and industrial understanding, vocational aspects.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Aims

St John's School aims to support and promote attitudes, practices and understanding conducive to good health. The school aims to counteract influences which are not conducive to good health with sensitive regard to the relationship which exists between children and their families.

Expectations

Pupils should:

- Meet all the general expectations in the context of their developing awareness of themselves and their relationship with others.
- Know about child development and recognise different parenting roles within their own, and other, cultures.
- Take responsibility for the safety of themselves and others and use basic safety procedures.
- Know about and begin to understand the changes which take place in puberty.
- Recognise the difference between medicinal and other drug use.
- Develop strategies to resist peer pressure.
- Understand the relationship between exercise, food, safety and growth & development.
- Relate the health information they are receiving to life beyond the classroom.

SEX EDUCATION

See Separate policy

CITIZENSHIP

Aims

St John's School aims to give pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding to play an effective role in society. To help them to become more informed, thoughtful and responsible citizens who are aware of their duties and rights. We aim to develop self-confidence and responsibility within school and beyond, encouraging pupils to play a helpful role in the life of the school and the community beyond.¹

Expectations

Pupils should:

- Meet all the general expectations of their developing notions of responsibility within the community setting.
- Consider and debate issues from different people's point of view.
- Take responsibility for the organisation and management of activities within and outside the classroom.
- Compare and contrast rules and codes of behaviour in different situations, groups and cultures.
- Know about the existence of a democratic system of government and how it operates.
- Understand the difference between rules and laws.
- Examine evidence and opinions to form conclusions.

DRUG EDUCATION

The misuse of drugs both legal and illegal by young people can have a serious impact on their educational attainment, relationships with family and friends and their health and well-being, preventing them from reaching their full potential.

Aims

St. John's School aims to play a key role to provide drug education and to create a safe and supportive environment that enables young people to develop their knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes to drugs and drug related issues. Through the PSHE and Science curriculum children will have the opportunity to explore

¹ Also see School Council Policy

and discuss these issues to enable them to make informed decisions now and in the future.

Expectations

Pupils should:

- Increase their knowledge and understanding and clarify misconceptions about:
 - the short and long-term effects and risks of drugs;
 - the rules and laws relating to drugs;
 - the impact of drugs on individuals, families and communities;
 - the prevalence and acceptability of drug use among peers;
 - the complex moral, social, economical and political issues surrounding drugs

- Develop their personal and social skills in order to make informed decisions to keep themselves safe and healthy, including:
 - assessing, avoiding and managing risk
 - communicating effectively
 - resisting pressures
 - finding information, help and advice
 - devising problem-solving and coping strategies
 - developing self awareness and self esteem

- Explore their own and other peoples' attitudes towards drugs, drug use and drug users, including challenging stereotypes and exploring media and social influence.

Planning and Delivering the Curriculum

In planning the curriculum, teachers at St John's School provide:

- A clear, consistent class charter in which to work; supported and agreed by all.

- Supportive relationships between adult and child, child and child.

- A classroom climate which encourages all children to explore, and encourages a high level of interest.

- Opportunities for development outside the classroom situation through responsibilities, extra-curricular activities, educational visits.

All staff encourage positive approaches to behaviour and our behaviour policy reflects this. It sets clear guidelines for both parent and child.

We provide opportunities for personal and social development through a variety of strategies:

- Individual, peer group, collaborative group work
- Discussion and role-play
- Involvement in a range of problem solving activities
- Preparation and presentation of tasks for different audiences
- Positive self-assessment
- Positive marking, with verbal or written comments
- Celebration of achievements

Through our general routines, in and out of the classroom, and the way in which individuals relate to each other, children are encouraged to form their own attitudes and values. By building positive working relationships between children and staff all members of our school family are valued as individuals. They learn to see the need for good manners, self-discipline and appropriate behaviour in whatever situation they find themselves in.

St John's School provides opportunities for parents, the community and outside agencies to contribute to the personal and social development of its children through their active involvement in the life and philosophy of the school.

Evaluation and Monitoring of the Programme

Key Stage 1 & 2 children are assessed at the end of each half term by their class teacher. Contribution and involvement in class discussion, knowledge and understanding along with attitudes and behaviour are all considered. Elements of sex

education in the science curriculum will be assessed formally through teacher's records and end of Key Stage 2 NCT's.

The overall programme will be reviewed annually. This annual review will be conducted by the PSHE co-ordinator. Staff and Governors will discuss any matters arising.