



HOLY NAME CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

The DfE statutory guidelines have recently changed around the way 'Relationships, Health and Sex Education' lessons are structured. Following the guidance of the Bishops of England and Wales and as advocated by the DfE (and the Welsh Assembly Government) RSE will be firmly embedded in the PSHE/RSHE framework as it is concerned with nurturing human wholeness and integral to the physical, spiritual, emotional, moral, social and intellectual development of pupils. It is centered on Christ's vision of being human as good news and will be positive and prudent, showing the potential for development, while enabling the dangers and risks involved to be understood and appreciated.

All Relationship, Sex and Health Education RSHE 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. It will also prepare pupils for life in modern Britain.

To support the teaching of RSHE at Holy Name we use 'A Journey in Love', this is an Archdiocesan recommended resource. We also use 'Jigsaw'; a PSHE programme which helps deliver the outcomes of Relationships, Sex and Health Education according to the statutory requirements of the DfE. Both of these promote the ethos of our Catholic identity and mission.

'A Journey in Love' is a resource created by Sister Jude Groden of BRES. It is the recommended programme of study for Catholic schools for Relationships and Sex Education, and has been written as a progressive scheme of work that supports the Religious Education, PSHE and Science curricula taught within the school. This resource has been recently revised to ensure it is up to date and links where appropriate to DfE guidelines.

Throughout 'A Journey in Love', an aspect of the mystery of love is treated in an age appropriate way for each age group. Children and young people are encouraged to marvel at the wonder and beauty of God's creative love. This is reflected in each stage of a person's growth in the Primary Years through a series of suggested, progressive and developmental tasks, activities and reflections which focus on physical, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual development.

As with all aspects of learning, children are naturally curious and many will have questions related to their lessons. Opportunities to discuss questions form part of the lessons and again these are treated with care and understanding.

'A Journey in Love' highlights the importance of parental input and children will be told to discuss their lessons at home. As a parent, you have the right to withdraw your child from Relationships and Sex Education at any time if you wish to do so, however, this is not to be confused with Science topics such as 'Life Cycles' as they are statutory requirements.

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Ordinarily, we would invite you to a parents' information session to explain the programme further and show examples of the content but due to COVID-19 restrictions we will be unable to do this. Therefore to provide further information, we will be holding two zoom sessions for parents and carers on Friday 14 January.

Reception – Year 4 – Friday 14 January at 10:00am

Year 6 and year 6 – Friday 14 January 11:30am

A text will be sent out to all families on the morning of the meeting with the zoom link to enable parents and carers to join the zoom meeting if they wish. The times have been chosen to ensure that children are in school and cannot overhear the meetings at home.

Samples of content from the programme of study along with our RSHE policy can be found on the RSHE section of our school website.

If you have any concerns or queries around the teaching of RSHE then please do not hesitate to contact myself, Mrs Hughes or your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support, Mr N Morris Head of School or Mrs C Hughes RE Coordinator.

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