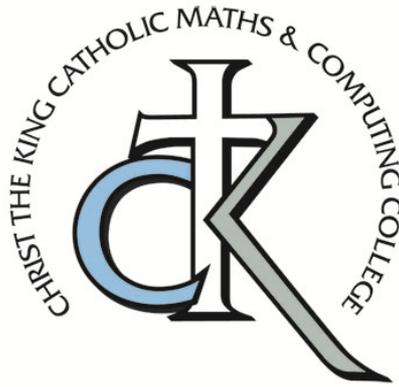


Personal Relationships Policy

Approved by Governors on 29 April 2014

Signed

Review: Summer Term 2016



PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS POLICY

Mission Statement

“Love one another as I have loved” (John, 15)

We believe that Jesus Christ and his Gospel Call – to love God and all people – are at the heart of what we do.

He inspires us, as children of God, to uphold the dignity of each individual.

We strive to develop a community in Christ which fully supports all in achieving their potential – spiritually, academically and personally.

PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION (PRE)

Philosophy of the Personal Relationships Policy at Christ the King Catholic Maths and Computing College

Christ the King is a Catholic Voluntary Aided school. Our Mission Statement provides the vision for our school that all who work and learn here are children of God, and as such, should be treated with respect and dignity.

Our PRE policy is designed to support and reflect the school's aims, values and ethos, as set out in the Mission Statement.

The policy is not simply about the physical aspect of puberty and reproduction, but encompasses relationships of a wide and varied nature.

It is to prepare students for the opportunities and responsibilities of adult life, including parenthood, with due regard to moral considerations and the values of marriage and family life.

It is to help our students to consider the importance of self-restraint, dignity and respect for themselves and others, sensitivity towards the needs and views of others and the values of loyalty and fidelity.

It is to make students aware of the consequences of their actions and the risks that they take, in no way compromising their religious or cultural traditions, but instead supporting them.

Ultimately, it is to raise the self-esteem, self-respect and levels of ambition of our students.

The teachings of the Catholic Church, inspired by the Holy Spirit, will guide us as teachers in our approach to Personal Relationships Education.

AIMS

- To place personal relationships education within the context of the teachings of the Church.
- To develop attitudes and values which are truly Gospel inspired, such as love, truth and integrity.
- To increase students' awareness of cultural and religious influences in relationships and sexuality.
- To help our young people to learn the importance of values, individual conscience and moral considerations.
- To provide a partnership, built on trust, between parents, carers, teachers, and governors, in which the students may explore and acquire information, attitudes, values and beliefs based on facts.
- To help students acquire/learn the information and skills which will enable them to make responsible, well informed decisions about their lives.
- To encourage students to behave responsibly and to respect and value themselves and others.
- To help and support the students throughout their physical, moral and emotional development, thus enabling them to live confident, healthy and independent lives.
- To provide a safe, developmental framework within which to explore the often misleading and contradictory messages that students receive from the outside world.
- By using the information and skills acquired, students will be better able to resist the pressures put upon them by their peer group, the media and society in general.

- To offer all students a planned programme of education about human development, relationships, sexuality and family life appropriate to the age and maturity of the class.
- To encourage students to develop a positive attitude towards all bodily functions.
- To respond to the needs of individual students and take their cultures, faiths and family backgrounds into consideration.

PRINCIPLES

PRE is an important aspect of PHSE which at KS3 is delivered through the RE programme of study.

The RE Department will be responsible for the delivery for the following reasons:

The actual biological content is, of course covered in the Science lessons and for those who opt for Health and Social Care and Child Development at KS4. However it is felt that the need for the acquisition of a broader range of information, the development of social skills and of moral responsibility and values is more easily and appropriately delivered within the framework of the RE scheme of work at both KS3 and KS4.

Many of the areas to be covered are already included in the KS4 schemes of work for the Religious Education GCSE syllabus eg adolescence, marriage, responsible parenting, contraception, abortion and the uniqueness, value and dignity of the human being as God's creation.

PRE will be taught primarily in class sets to enable lessons to be differentiated according to the ability range of the students and mindful of the specific needs of SEN students.

The teachers must always be careful to apply their professional judgement when answering questions and be aware of the issues of confidentiality and child protection.

The PRE programme will be regularly reviewed and the teachers responsible for the delivery will evaluate and amend the course as and when the need arises.

The School acknowledges that parents are the first educators of their children and as such, endeavours to work in partnership with them.

Parents and carers have the statutory right to withdraw their children from PRE lessons, excepting those elements which are required by National Curriculum Science. Those parents/ carers wishing to exercise this right are invited to discuss their objections and concerns and reflect on the impact withdrawal will have on their child. They will be given the opportunity to view materials and lesson plans used in the delivery of the PRE programme of study. Any parent/ carer wishing to withdraw their child from PRE must inform the Headteacher in writing.

Equal Opportunities

The programme will be made accessible to all students unless they are withdrawn from it by parental or carers request. Every effort will be made to ensure that students of all abilities are capable of understanding and accessing the material, thereby taking a full part in the programme.

Whilst working in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church, the programme will encourage respect for the views of all religions. The programme may include sessions in both mixed gender and single gender groups, but seeks to address the needs of both male and female students equally.

The programme is supported by the SEN department who deliver PRE when appropriate to students needs at any given time.

Delivery of the PRE Programme

The delivery of the programme will take place within the RE lessons at both KS3 and KS4. The importance of loving, caring relationships and acceptance of the sanctity of marriage, same sex relationships and the importance of family life, and the teachings of the Church will provide the context in which we teach.

It is important that certain ground rules are established and made explicit to the students in advance. For example these could include:

- Using the correct terminology (no slang words or expressions)
- Confidentiality will be respected but cannot be promised if there are legal implications or child protection issues (see Christ the King Child Protection Policy Feb 2014 clause 6 'Procedures')
- No one (teacher or student) will have to answer a personal question or be forced to take part in a discussion.

All visitors contributing to the delivery of this programme eg health professionals, social workers and youth workers will be supervised at all times in lessons by a member of the school teaching staff to ensure compliance with school policy and the teaching of the Church.

The broad areas of content will be available on the School Website and are in line with Lancaster Diocesan guidelines and Edexcel Unit 3 and 8.

Procedures for Monitoring and Evaluation of the PRE Policy

The PRE programme must, by its very nature, be dynamic. It will be reviewed on a two year cycle by the Head of RE, not only to ensure it meets all statutory requirements, but also to ensure that the needs of the students are met.

The Governors are responsible for producing and maintaining a written policy in PRE which will be made available to parents/ carers through the School Website
The Governors will also have oversight of the programme and the changing legislative framework within which it will operate.

Resources

Religious Studies Edexcel Unit 3 and 8

Catechism of the Roman Catholic Church

PSHE National Curriculum Guidelines

Health and Social Care AQA Unit 1 and 2

Home Economics Child Development AQA Unit 1, 2 and 3

SEN Programme

Lancaster Diocese