



St Paschal Baylon Catholic Primary School

Following In The Footsteps Of Christ

Relationships, Sex and Health Education

Dear Parents/Carers

As a school we recognise that parents have the prime responsibility in teaching your children how to build healthy, loving relationships, but our Catholic school also plays a vital part in supporting you as the first educators of your children. The staff and Governors at St. Paschal Baylon continue to consult with you regarding how we teach Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) in our school. To support this aspect of the curriculum, we use the recommended resource 'Journey In Love' throughout the school. The programme of study is authentic to the teachings of the Catholic Church and recommended by the Archdiocese, following guidance from the Catholic Education Service. Below is a brief outline of the programme content and details about our annual information and consultation sessions for parents and guardians.

A Journey in Love

'A Journey in Love' has, as its foundational premise, the belief that we are made in the image and likeness of God and, as a consequence, gender and sexuality are God's gift, reflect God's beauty and share in the divine creativity. In order that children may grow and develop healthily and holistically towards an understanding of their gender and its implications for successful relationships, they must be at ease with themselves and grow in self-knowledge.

An aspect of the mystery of love is treated in an age-appropriate way for each year 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 progressive and developmental tasks, activities and reflections which focus on physical, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual development.

REC: The wonder of being special and unique

Y1: We meet God's love in our family

Y2: We meet God's love in the community

Y3: How we live in love

Y4: God loves us in our differences

Y5: God loves us in our changing and development

Y6: The wonder of God's love in creating new life

Head Teacher: Mr E Flood

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'Love is light – and in the end, the only light – that can always illuminate a world grown dim and give us the courage needed to keep living and working. Love is possible, and we are able to practise it because we are created in the image of God.' Deus Caritas EST39

Parents continue to have the right to request to withdraw their child from sex education lessons (those aspects which are not part of the Relationships Education) but not from the statutory Science National Curriculum which includes some elements of sex education. This is after discussion with the headteacher. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Flood, Miss Kavanagh, Mrs Carr or your child's teacher.

Your thoughts and comments regarding the statutory Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) are also important to us. RSHE is supplementary to, not instead of, how we currently teach RSE and also falls under the Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education umbrella. At our parent meeting, we will also discuss, 'My Life', the programme of study we use to teach PSHE. There is an outline of this content on our school website.

To ensure our RSHE curriculum reflects our school culture and the priorities of our parents, pupils and staff, we will be holding our annual consultation session for parents and guardians on the date below. The purpose of this meeting, as in previous years, is to discuss the content of these lessons and to hear your thoughts and comments which are important to us. The meeting will be held via Zoom and a text will be sent out to families on the morning of the meeting with a link. **The meeting is not compulsory for parents and carers but please feel free to join if you wish to.** The time of 1:30pm has been chosen to ensure children are in school and cannot overhear the meetings at home.

Tuesday 14th July 1:30pm

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr E. Flood

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