



POLICY ON RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION

This policy is rooted in the Mission Statement and aims of the school, fostering partnership between parents, teachers and the community in the interest of children's learning. All parents and students will be treated with respect and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability, colour and ethnic group or nationality.

AIMS:

1. To help young people develop healthy friendships and relationships.
2. To promote a positive, healthy and mature understanding of sexuality.
3. To enable students to develop healthy attitudes and values towards their sexuality in a moral, spiritual and social framework.

FORMULATION OF POLICY

RSE policy will be organised by SPHE co-ordinator in consultation with the Pastoral Care Committee and school management in accordance with Department of Education and Science guidelines and school ethos.

IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY

The policy will be implemented by SPHE co-ordinator who will:

1. Provide resources for teaching RSE. These are available on the common folder/<http://www.pdst.ie/jc/sphe/rse>.
2. Work with support agencies and structures outside the school for up to date resource packs. (B4UDecide.ie)
3. Communicate policy and procedure to staff, parents and pupils.
4. RSE will form part of the wider framework of SPHE and will be allocated 3 class periods as recommended by the Department of Education Guidelines.
5. Tutors may work with RE teachers and link lessons on RSE if necessary.
6. RSE is included in the senior RE plan and will be implemented by RE teachers at senior cycle.
7. Parents will have the right to request withdrawal of their child from the RSE aspect of the SPHE programme.
8. The SPHE team supplement the RSE programme offering focused classes by rotating with Tutors. This is coordinated by the SPHE coordinator.

MONITORING PROCEDURES

1. The Pastoral Care Committee will be informed on a regular basis as to how the programme is being implemented.
2. Principal and Deputy Principals will review programme with SPHE co-ordinator and evaluate implementation.
3. Key areas for each year group are outlined on the subject plans as follows; SPHE (Junior Cycle) RE subject plan (Senior Cycle).
4. First years will have a focus session on RSE to supplement class work. This focus session will be delivered by staff members. Presentations are available on the common folder/Purberty DVD in SPHE folder.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

1. That each student acquires knowledge and understanding of attitudes, beliefs and values.



2. That parents, staff and students are satisfied that the student is benefiting from the programme.

REVIEW PROCUDURES

1. Policy is reviewed annually by Principal, Deputy Principals and SPHE co-ordinator.
2. Views, experiences and ideas will be sought from teachers.
3. Evaluation from teachers and students will be sought in relation to content using a review sheet.

Date: _____

Chairperson of the BOM: _____