



RSE at St John's

At St John's, good relationships are fundamental to our ethos and our success in being a happy, caring and safe school. Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) is lifelong learning about relationships, emotions, looking after ourselves, different families, sex, sexuality and sexual health. We aim for the children in our school to acquire the appropriate knowledge, develop their skills and form positive beliefs, values and attitudes. RSE has a key part to play in the personal, social, moral and spiritual development of young people.

RSE is taught as explicit lessons through the PSHE and science curriculums but is also embedded in other areas of the curriculum and day-to-day life of the school – such as our Christian Values, ethos of JOY and Collective Worship. In PSHE, RSE is specifically covered in the units 'Family and Relationships and Safety and Changing Body' through the Kapow units of work. Reception follow the PSED objectives from the EYFS Framework. In science, RSE is also included 'Animals Including Humans' and 'Living Things and Their Habitats' which cover the statutory requirements. In Year 5, RSE is delivered discretely with support from the Southport and Area Schools Worker Trust – a local Christian organisation – using a carefully devised programme called 'You, Me and RSE.' This programme covers puberty, conception and pregnancy, therefore overrides these objectives in Year 6. Parents can withdraw their child from the conception and pregnancy objectives, but we strongly advise all children leave primary school with a secure understanding of these areas in preparation for future learning in secondary school. Children are taught by familiar adults who they have a good rapport with, in order to facilitate constructive and supportive discussions around sensitive topics in a safe and secure environment. Staff have high expectations of behaviour which reflect the British Values upheld in our community and wider world. Staff are trained to respond to the needs of the individual child and support children and they are all aware of where to seek further support if needed.

As a result, children in St John's will demonstrate confidence and awareness about sex and relationships in an independent and safe way. They will develop a good understanding about safety and risks in relationships. Children will be prepared for the physical and emotional changes they undergo during puberty and RSE will promote their wellbeing and will prepare them for the challenges, opportunities, and responsibilities of adult life. The RSE programme will have a positive impact on children's health and wellbeing and their ability to achieve in all aspects of their life.