

ST PETER'S SCHOOL BOURNEMOUTH

EDUCATION IN PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS/SEX EDUCATION POLICY

The School Values Statement.

Recognition of the Whole Person

The School recognises and respects each member of the School community as a child of God, blessed with a unique personality and endowed with individual gifts and talents. We do not only teach the demands of justice but we also try to put them into practice in our own community.

The School is characterised by a spirit of freedom that includes respect for others, nurtures the growth of the individual and encourages everyone to begin to understand and experience their dignity as a person.

“Children and Young People should be helped to develop harmoniously their physical, moral and intellectual qualities....they should receive a positive and prudent education in matters relating to sex....and young people have the right to be stimulated to make sound moral judgements based on a well-informed conscience and to put them into practise with a sense of personal commitments.”

Gravissimum Educationis (para 3) Second Vatican Council

The approach to Personal Relations and Sex Education in St Peter's School derives from its distinctive character as a Catholic School. Sex Education must be part of the whole developmental process whereby Students are prepared for life as adults and helped to grow spiritually, emotionally, socially and morally, whilst also coping with physical changes. Their consciences should be informed and they should understand the consequences of their decisions with regard to sexuality. The role of the School is not to replace the special bond and responsibilities that exist between Parent/Carer and child. Rather it is to supplement and support Parents/Carers in this demanding task, and also to involve Parents/Carers as partners with us in the educational endeavour and delivery of these programmes of study.

Sex Education has a clear framework within which the primacy of Catholic teaching and values is emphasised at all times. This is of particular importance where controversial issues such as HIV/AIDS, contraception or sexual lifestyles are raised. All aspects are treated with sensitivity and discretion.

“This education is basically about the development, growth and journey of the whole person towards becoming ‘fully human, fully alive’ as a unique creation made in God’s image.”

Education in Sexuality – Catholic Education Service

Updated: March 2015.

Approved by Teaching Learning and Achievement Committee: 25 March 2015

Ratified by Full Governing Body: 8 July 2015.

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