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Kilbrittain N.S.
Kilbrittain

Co. Cork.

Reviewed: March 2023

RSE (Relationships, Sexuality Education) Policy

School Details

- Name: Kilbrittain N.S.
- Address: Kilbrittain, Co. Cork
- Phone No.: 023/8849890
- Category: Catholic, Rural, Mixed No. 2

School Philosophy

As a catholic school we provide a climate where we strive to help all our children to achieve their full potential in a happy, caring environment. In doing so we are sensitive to the reality of our children's lives in a changing world. It is our ultimate aim and hope that the children who have experienced our care will leave with pride in themselves and in everything they do and go on to live happy and fulfilled lives.

Definition of RSE

RSE is an integral part of social, personal and health education and must be taught in this context. It provides structured opportunities for pupils to acquire knowledge and understanding of relationships and human sexuality through processes, which will enable them to form values and behaviours within a moral, spiritual and social framework. It addresses the development of social and personal skills and aspects of parenting.

Relationship of RSE to SPHE

SPHE provides opportunities for pupils to learn basic personal and social skills, which foster integrity, self-confidence and self-esteem while nurturing sensitivity to the feelings and rights of others.

Current Provision

Over the years the school has been providing a programme of Education under the title of Social Personal and Health Education, which includes:

- ❖ Advice and guidance on healthy eating habits, e.g. stable lunches, avoiding junk food etc.
- ❖ The importance of cleanliness to ones health and well-being
- ❖ Constant advice about safety and social responsibility
- ❖ The importance of showing respect and care for others
- ❖ Older children being made aware of the importance of giving good example to younger children
- ❖ Awareness of the dangers of alcohol and drugs

It is envisaged therefore that the RSE programme would be an integral part of the existing programme in the school.

Aims of our RSE Programme

- ❖ To enhance the personal development, self-esteem, and well being of the child
- ❖ To help young people develop healthy friendships and relationships
- ❖ To develop and promote in the child a sense of wonder and awe at the process of reproduction, birth and new life
- ❖ To enable young people to understand and develop healthy attitudes and values towards their sexuality and that of others, in a moral, spiritual and social framework
- ❖ To enable the child to be comfortable with oneself and others while growing and developing

Management and Organisation of RSE in our school

Time

The teaching of the RSE programme will take place in nine lesson periods over the school year, breaking down to three lessons per term. It is envisaged that their teacher would teach the lessons to the class/group as a whole

Teachers

All the staff is willing to implement the programme

Parents

- ❖ Parents will be given an opportunity to see the programme in some detail i.e. the lesson plans as provided by the Department of Education will be displayed for the parents at a convenient time
- ❖ Parents will have the right to withdraw their child/children from the RSE lessons. Provision will be made for their supervision in such an event
- ❖ From time to time an outside professional e.g. a nurse, may be brought into the school to assist in delivering the more sensitive areas of the programme (i.e. a 5th. and 6th. class lesson) consultation between the parents of such children and class teacher would take place to make the necessary arrangements. Timing of lesson plans may be rescheduled to suit outside visits
- ❖ Finally it is of vital importance that a shared responsibility is accepted by parents and teachers for the successful implementation of the programme

Provision for ongoing support

- ❖ Information on resources to be made available to parents at lesson plan display
- ❖ Teachers use RSE Lesson plans provided by the Department of Education and Science

Review: March 2023

Next Review: March 2025

Signed: _____
Karen O'Donovan Principal

Signed: _____
Imelda Hurley Chairperson BOM