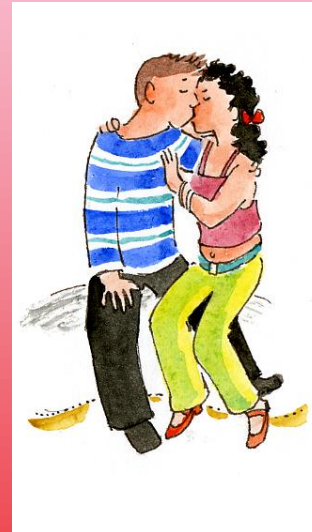
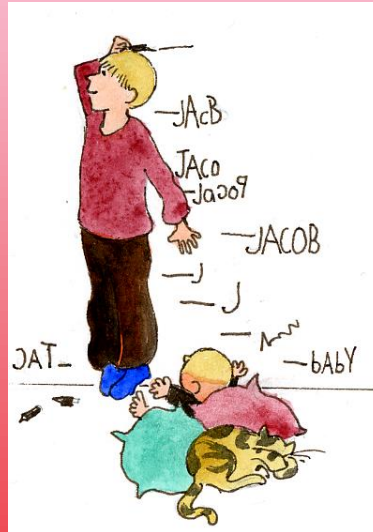


A Journey in LOVE

A developmental programme for children in the primary years



Frequently Asked Questions

Why teach Sex and Relationship Education in Catholic Schools?

We teach Sex and Relationship Education because the Book of Genesis teaches us that we are made in the image and likeness of God male and female. So our gender is part of our identity and is essential to making healthy relationships with other people. The most fulfilling and deepest relationship for most people will be within the Sacrament of Marriage when the complementarity of genders allows us to have a glimpse of God our Creator Himself. Other relationships such as father/son, mother/sister, brother/sister are also influenced by our gender as are relationships of friendships and other forms of love.

The above is part of our understanding of God's Creation and we respect and worship God by relating to his Creation in the appropriate way according to our age and our commitments to God and one another.

Cardinal Basil Hume: *“Love is an art to be learned. It is a giving experience, a selfless act. Every experience of love gives us yet another glimpse of the meaning of love in God himself. Human love is the instrument we can use to explore the mystery of love which God is.”*

What do we teach?

In the Southwark Diocese the Programme a”**Journey in Love**” is the recommended resource for the teaching of Sex and Relationship Education because it is compiled specifically to present a Catholic vision.

In each Year group, an aspect of love is explored and developed starting from Year R to Year 6. Young people are encouraged to marvel at the wonder and beauty of God’s creative love reflected in each person under the components: physical, intellectual, social emotional and spiritual. Each section has suggested progressive/developmental tasks/activities/reflections. Cross curricular links e.g. Come and See, science, art, drama, music, literacy, circle time, worship, prayer and hymns.

OVERVIEW of Themes

Year R: God loves each of us in our uniqueness.

Year 1: We meet God’s love in our family.

Year 2: We meet God’s love in the community.

Year 3: How we live in God’s love.

Year 4: God loves us in our differences.

Year 5: God loves me in my changing and development.

Year 6: The wonder of God’s love in creating new life.

Programme presents the ideal (a comment from a parent)

The programme presents Church teaching which is what is expected in Catholic schools.

The compilers and all those using this are sensitive to the fact that not all children are from the same background or family setting. It is good to allow parents to see the power-point presentations of the programme for each relevant Year group so that they can see for themselves what the children will be experiencing (these are available to view on our school website)

Do you find that having Sex Education lessons draws attention to the subject and thereby encourages children and young people to ‘try it out’?

We have no evidence to support this but surely knowledge is better than ignorance. We do not want to leave our children in dangerous spaces.

Programme presents the ideal (a comment from a parent)

The programme presents Church teaching which is what is expected in Catholic schools. The compilers and all those using this are sensitive to the fact that not all children are from the same background or family setting. It is good to allow parents to see the power-point presentations of the programme for each relevant Year group so that they can see for themselves what the children will be experiencing (these are available to view on our school website)

Do you find that having Sex Education lessons draws attention to the subject and thereby encourages children and young people to 'try it out'?

We have no evidence to support this but surely knowledge is better than ignorance. We do not want to leave our children in dangerous spaces.

'Love is an art to be learned. It is a giving experience, a selfless act. Every experience of love gives us yet another glimpse of the meaning of love in God himself. Human love is the instrument we can use to explore the mystery of love which God is'.

Cardinal Basil Hume