

Catherington C of E Infant School

Board of Governors



Relationships Education Policy

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| Name of School | Catherington C of E Infant School |
| Date of Policy Review | September 2024 |
| Date of Next Review | September 2026 |
| Name of Headteacher | Mrs Maria Burden |

This policy is linked to:

Child Protection Policy and Safeguarding Policy

PSHE Policy

Mental Health and Well-Being Policy

Behaviour Policy

Anti-bullying Policy

Religious Education Policy

| Relationships Education Policy | |
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| Date of Policy Issue/Review | September 2024 Review September 2026 |
| Name of Headteacher | Maria Burden |
| Signature of Headteacher | (Signed)(Dated) |
| Reviewed by Chair of Governors | |
| Signature & Date |(Signed)(Dated) |

At Catherington Church of England Infant School, we work together to ensure our school is a safe, happy and exciting place, where children can grow on their unique academic, social and emotional journey.

Our schools Christian Values underpin our schools curriculum and aim to ensure all children feel loved and show Love for others, have Courage to face new challenges and fulfil their potential and develop Respect for God’s creations.

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| <p>We want our children to learn how to build positive realtionships with others and recognise what is good mental health and wellbeing. They know who they are and how to lead safe, healthy and fulfilling lives.</p> | <p>We want to equip our children with the resilience and perseverance to become independent learners.</p> <p>We are empowering our children to take appropriate risks without fear of failure.</p> <p>We want our children to grow into responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to local, national and global communities, helping them to see their place in the world.</p> | <p>We want our children to celebrate and respect difference and be proud of who they are.</p> <p>We want our children to have enquiring minds to question and to be confident in their own thoughts and actions.</p> |
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Lead members of staff

Sarah Fennell- PSHE lead.

Maria Burden- Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing lead

Maria Burden- Head teacher, Designated Child protection/safeguarding officer.

Our Vision and Values

To embrace the challenges of creating a happy and successful adult life, pupils need knowledge that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships. (DofE)

At Catherington Church of England Infant School, we all work together to ensure our school is a safe, happy and exciting place, where children can grow on their unique academic, social and emotional journey.

Our Christian vision shapes all we do and it is through this we develop a child's understanding of caring, respectful and safe relationships.

Catherington's Core Christian Values

Love is thinking about others before yourself.

Respect is valuing everyone and everything and celebrating our differences.

Courage is doing the right thing even when it is difficult.

We believe that:

- Relationships are good gifts from God and should bring joy
- Relationships Education is about the spiritual and moral aspects of relationships within a context of a Christian vision
- We should educate pupils to understand the rights of all people to live freely without discrimination
- Children should be taught to cherish themselves and others as unique and wonderfully made, and to form healthy relationships where they respect and offer dignity to others
- We should promote resilient relationships, our teaching should include the beliefs and practices of people with a specific faith commitment, as well as those from the many different types of families that make up our cultural context

We undertake to follow the principles in the Church of England *Charter for faith sensitive and inclusive relationships education and health education* (RSHE).

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/education-and-schools/church-schools-and-academies/relationships-sex-and-health-education>

Aims of Relationships Education

We aim for all children in our school to develop the understanding, respect and self-confidence to play an active part in school life, be valued and be a valuable member of their communities. We strive to equip children to develop healthy, robust relationships with themselves, others and with God. At Catherington Church of England Infant school we aim to develop children's relationships so that they can lead safe, fulfilling lives and make the world we live in a better place for everyone.

Our school is committed to Relationships Education which:

- Promotes safe, equal, caring and enjoyable relationships and discusses real-life issues
- Gives pupils chance to reflect on values and respect different views
- Seeks pupils' views about relationships so teaching can be made relevant and adapted as their needs change
- Delivers lessons where pupils feel safe and encourages participation by using a variety of teaching opportunities to develop relationship skills
- Is an identifiable part of our PSHE curriculum with planned, timetabled lessons
- Meets the needs of all pupils with their diverse experiences and needs

Curriculum Organisation

Under section 78 of the Education Act 2002 and the Academies Act 2010 a curriculum must:

"promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society, and prepare pupils at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life."

Opportunities to learn about caring, respectful and safe relationships at Catherington are part of both the formal and informal curriculum. Promoting positive relationships is embedded throughout the school and has clear links to our Christian values of Love, Respect and Courage.

At Catherington, the content set out in this policy is taught in the context of a broad and balanced curriculum. Class teachers ensure that core knowledge is taught in a carefully sequenced way, within a planned programme of lessons. Teaching includes sufficient well-chosen opportunities and contexts for pupils to embed new knowledge so that it can be used confidently in real life situations.

Our school delivers relationships education as part of a timetabled PSHE programme, supported by the SCARF resource provided by Coram Life Education. The content is closely linked to both the computing and science curriculum and covers the following areas:

- Families and People who care for me
- Caring Friendships
- Respectful Relationships
- Online Relationships
- Being Safe

Families Who Care For Me

Pupils should know:

- That families can give love and security
- That families should protect and care for each other
- That others' families may look different from their own, but should be respected

Caring Friendships

Pupils should know:

- How important friendships are in making us feel happy and secure
- The characteristics of friendships
- That healthy friendships do not make others feel lonely or excluded
- That most friendships have ups and downs that can often be worked through
- How to recognise who to trust and who not to trust; how to seek help or advice from others

Respectful Relationships

Pupils should know:

- The importance of respecting others, even when they are very different from them
- Practical steps they can take to support respectful relationships
- The conventions of courtesy and manners
- The importance of self-respect
- That they can expect to be treated with respect by others
- About different types of bullying, including cyberbullying
- The importance of asking permission and giving in relationships with friends

Online Relationships

Pupils should know:

- That people sometimes behave differently online, including by pretending to be someone they are not
- The importance of respect for others online

- The rules for keeping safe online; when and how to ask for help

Being Safe

Pupils should know:

- What sort of boundaries are appropriate in friendships
- About the concept of privacy; including that it is not always right to keep secrets if they relate to being safe
- That each person's body belongs to them, and the differences between appropriate and inappropriate contact
- How to respond safely and appropriately to adults in all contexts, including online
- How to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe or feeling bad about any adult

We also encourage and develop coping strategies and build resilience through the use of an Emotional and Personal Management programme called TRICKBOX. This also provides a simplified cognitive behaviour approach helping children to understand their feelings, do things that make them feel better, look at things differently and build confidence in forming positive relationships.

At Catherington, the Relationships Education curriculum is supported by our Behaviour policy which encourages everyone to show love and kindness to one another, respect by valuing everyone and everything while celebrating difference and courage to do the right thing. We ask the children to follow a set of simple rules which we call the Golden Rules.

The Golden Rules are:

- We are respectful to others and property
- We are courageous
- We are loving
- We are kind and helpful
- We are honest
- We always try our best

Whilst we deliver relationships education as part of a timetabled PSHE programme, our teaching is flexible and responsive to meet the needs of individuals and cohorts as and when issues arise. Relationships Education is accessible for all pupils, with teaching that is differentiated and personalised to meet the needs of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). We also use the Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSA) programme to provide individual support for pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs.

Our curriculum has been created in consultation with staff, parents and pupils to reflect the DfE Statutory Guidance, July 2019 in preparation for the compulsory teaching of Relationships Education in September 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education/relationships-education-primary>

The Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019, made under sections 34 and 35 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017, make Relationships Education compulsory for all pupils receiving primary education.

As such, all pupils at Catherington receive Relationships Education as part of our broad and balanced curriculum and parents do not have the option to withdraw their children from lessons. Biological aspects of Relationships Education are taught within the science curriculum, and other aspects are included in Religious Education (RE) and the computing curriculum. Children are taught the correct anatomical names for body parts in an age and developmentally appropriate way. This is part of our Child Safeguarding responsibility and gives children the vocabulary to protect themselves and seek help.

Our Relationships Education curriculum also complies with the relevant requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents

Assessment and Monitoring

The designated Senior Lead for Relationships Education and Head teacher:

Regularly reflect and re-examine the curriculum and ethos throughout the school ensuring it remains to be fit for purpose. This is achieved through pupil conferencing, discussions with staff, governors and parents, considering current legislation and adapting planning to meet the needs of individual pupils and cohorts.

Training

All staff receive regular training from the Lead on new updates and resources for Relationships Education, especially in regards to the new legislation for Compulsory Relationship Education teaching in September 2020.

Signposting

We ensure that staff, pupils and parents are aware of sources of support within school and the local community.

These are detailed here and on the website:

Safeguarding: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/underwear-rule/>

Keeping safe: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/>

Online Safety: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/jessie-and-friends/>

Childline: <http://www.childline.org.uk>

Mind: <http://www.minded.org.uk/>

In order to support parents we will:

- Highlight sources of information and support about online relationships and being safe on our school website.
- Ensure that all parents are aware of who to talk to if they have concerns.
- Make our Relationships Education policy easily accessible to parents.
- Share ideas about how parents can support positive relationships in their children on the website.
- Keep parents informed about the relationships education topics their children are learning about in the curriculum and share ideas for extending and exploring this learning at home.