

Relationships and Sex Education

Dear Parents/Carers

As a school we recognise that parents have the prime responsibility in teaching your children how to build healthy, loving relationships, but our catholic school also plays a vital part in supporting you as the first educators of your children. The Governors at St William of York Catholic Primary School have adopted the '**Journey in Love**' programme to support the non-statutory relationships and sex education throughout the school (Nursery to Year 6). The programme of study is authentic to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Below, there is a brief outline of the content of the programme which is also available on our school website.

A Journey in Love

A Journey in Love has as its foundational premise the belief that we are made in the image and likeness of God and, as a consequence, gender and sexuality are God's gift, reflect God's beauty and share in the divine creativity.

In order that children may grow and develop healthily and holistically towards an understanding of their gender and its implications for successful relationships, they must be at ease with themselves and grow in self- knowledge.

An aspect of the mystery of love is treated in an age appropriate way for each year group; children and young people are encouraged to marvel at the wonder and beauty of God's creative love. This is reflected in each stage of a person's growth in the Primary years through a series of progressive and developmental tasks, activities and reflections which focus on physical, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual development. At St William of York Catholic Primary School, this will be the focus in class in the **week commencing 9th July 2018**.

You have the right to withdraw your child from this aspect of the curriculum however, this is not to be confused with curriculum science which is statutory.

Nursery: Wonder of God's love

Reception: God loves each of us in our uniqueness

Y1: We meet God's love in our family

Y2: We meet God's love in the community

Y3: How we live in love

Y4: God loves us in our differences

Y5: God loves me in my changing and development

Y6: The wonder of God's love in creating new life- This has been taught this year using the old scheme

'Love is the light – and in the end, the only light – that can always illuminate a world grown dim and give us the courage needed to keep living and working. Love is possible, and we are able to practise it because we are created in the image of God.'

Deus Caritas Est 39

If you require any further clarification regarding this aspect of the curriculum please contact:
Mr Murphy (Headteacher) or Miss Hunt (RE Coordinator)

Thank you for your continued support

Mr Murphy