

2. POLICY FOR RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION.

Gneeveguilla N.S. is a co-educational Catholic Primary School under the patronage of the Bishop of Kerry, which strives to provide a well ordered, caring, happy and secure learning environment where the intellectual, spiritual, physical, moral and cultural needs of the pupils are identified and addressed.

RSE is part of Social, Personal and Health Education which also promotes the health and well being of the child in areas such as drugs, nutrition, hygiene, etc. RSE seeks to provide children with opportunities to learn about relationships and sexuality in ways that help them think and act in a moral, caring and responsible way.

RSE aims to help children learn, at home and in primary/secondary school, about their own development and about their friendships and relationships with others.

RSE is taught in a spiral manner i.e. that the same topics are approached in junior infants as in sixth class. At each stage more content and information is added to suit the children's particular level.

In the infant classes the external parts of the male and female body will be identified and named. In first and second class their associated functions will be mentioned. The school will engage a professional to assist in this area of RSE. The boys and girls will remain together in their respective classes and receive the relevant information in school every two years. Parents/Guardians may wish to exercise their option to withdraw a child so the school will notify them well in advance of the event and arrange supervision should the need arise.

The children in the middle and senior classes will be given information, at separate meetings, on changes in their bodies as they mature and develop into adulthood by a professional every two years. The boys and girls will remain together and must be accompanied by parents/guardians. These meetings will be held at night and parents/guardians may wish to exercise their option not to attend. Parents/guardians/children from Tureencahill N.S. will also attend these meetings.

This policy was formulated by an RSE committee consisting of two parents, Margaret Dillane and Margaret Brosnan, two members of the BOM, Carmel O' Connor and Mary Sexton, and two teachers, Maura Gleeson and Hugh Ryan.

We recognise the parents as the primary educators of their children.

E. Lavinia
30.01.12