



Holy Family School for the Deaf
Primary School, Ratoath Road, Cabra, Dublin DO7 RF99

Whole School Plan (Primary Section)for
SPHE

Summary

- What is SPHE? Social, Personal and Health Education.
Holy Family has always had elements of each of these 3 areas being taught in different activities and linked to different subjects. But this plan brings together the various aspects of Social, Personal and Health Education into one central plan.
- Overall, through SPHE, pupils will
 - ❖ develop self-confidence, self-worth, self-esteem
 - ❖ develop positive well-being, know the importance of healthy living, and know how to make good choices in their lives
 - ❖ develop a sense of care and respect for themselves and others, and understand the dignity of every person
 - ❖ understand social responsibility and how to be a good citizen
 - ❖ learn that society is diverse and and that we all need to respect each other and share society together
- To achieve all this, the SPHE curriculum focusses on 3 major areas of the pupils' life:
 - ❖ **Myself**, my identity, caring for myself, growing and changing
 - ❖ **Myself and Others**, my family, relating to friends and other people
 - ❖ **Myself and the wider world**, how to become a good citizen, this includes media education

- It's important SPHE is taught in a positive school atmosphere/environment and Holy Family achieves this through.....
 - ❖ building good communication skills in our pupils, both signed and spoken, and looking after the needs of each pupil
 - ❖ creating a healthy and safe physical environment in the school
 - ❖ creating an environment in the school which values diversity, is democratic, respectful and inclusive.

- SPHE topics will be integrated into other curriculum subjects and linked to school themes like Friendship Week, Healthy Eating Week etc
- How will we teach SPHE? The best way is through 'active learning' and Holy Family will use many different methods, such as drama, co-operative games, visual materials etc....you can see the full list on p 4 of the policy.
- Pupils will have a SPHE Scrapbook where they can keep a record of their progress all the way up to 6th class.
- Teachers will be sensitive to the different learning needs of each pupil and will try to make sure activities suit that child's abilities and learning style.
- SPHE is taught here at Holy Family in the context of Deaf Education which includes an emphasis on things like for example..
 - developing linguistic skills linked to feelings and emotions,
 - developing awareness of Deaf culture and issues,
 - developing Deaf identity.

You can see the full list on p 5 of the policy

The full SPHE plan is available on the school website and has more detail, If you'd like more clarification or have any questions please contact us at the school