



Relationships and Sex Education Consultation

25th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you may be aware, Relationships Education became statutory for all primary schools from September 2020. We are delighted to announce that Saint Mary's is participating in a brand new Relationships Education programme for Catholic primary schools, entitled **Life to the Full**, which we have commissioned from a diocesan-approved organisation called Ten:Ten. You may hear your child coming home talking about this and we want to give you a brief overview of this new and ambitious programme.

In addition, as a school, there are a number of key decisions we need to make before implementing the programme. We welcome your views on these areas and we would therefore ask you to participate in our consultation by:

- reviewing the resources on the Ten:Ten link
- considering the key decisions highlighted and
- completing the questionnaire attached to this letter

The **Life to the Full** programme is based on 'A Model Catholic RSE Curriculum' by the Catholic Education Service which was highlighted as a work of good practice by the Department for Education. Therefore, we are very confident that the programme will be fit for purpose in supporting the growth and development of your child.

Life to the Full is much more than a series of lessons. It is an entire platform of creative resources that will engage, inform and inspire our children and, indeed, you as parents. This includes interactive video content, story-based activities, employing a wide range of teaching tools, original worship music and an accompanying programme of classroom prayers.

In addition there will be an online parent platform so that you, as parents and carers, can engage with the teaching and deepen the experience for your child. To access the online parent platform please visit: www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal

School Username: saint-mary-cw12

School Password: weaver-895

Programme Structure

In **Life to the Full**, we will be following a three-stage structure which is repeated across all three Key Stages.

Within each learning stage, there are three modules, which are based on the Model Catholic RSE Curriculum. Each module is then broken down into Units of Work:

Module 1	Created and Loved by God
Units	Religious Understanding Me, My Body, My Health Emotional Well-Being Life Cycles
Module 2	Created to Love Others
Units	Religious Understanding Personal Relationships Keeping Safe
Module 3	Created to Live in Community
Units	Religious Understanding Living in the Wider World

Programme Content

The programme adopts a spiral curriculum approach so that as your child goes through the programme year after year, the learning will develop and grow, with each stage building on the last.

Module One: Created and Loved by God

Created and Loved by God explores the individual. Rooted in the teaching that we are made in the image and likeness of God, it helps children to develop an understanding of the importance of valuing themselves as the basis for personal relationships.

In these sessions, we explore:

Key Stage One – that we are uniquely made by a loving God, that we have differences and similarities (including physical differences between boys and girls), key information about staying physically healthy, understanding feelings and emotions, including strong feelings such as anger, and the cycle of life from birth to old age.

Lower Key Stage Two – understanding differences, respecting our bodies, puberty and changing bodies (recommended for Year 4+), strategies to support emotional well-being including practising thankfulness, and the development of pupils' understanding of life before birth.

Upper Key Stage Two – appreciation of physical and emotional differences, a more complex understanding of physical changes in girls' and boys' bodies, body image, strong emotional feelings, the impact of the internet and social media on emotional well-being, a more nuanced and scientific understanding of life in the womb and how babies are made, and menstruation.

Module Two: Created to Love Others

Created to Love Others explores the individual's relationship with others. Building on the understanding that we have been created out of love and for love, this unit explores how we take this calling into our family, friendships and relationships, and teaches strategies for developing healthy relationships and keeping safe.

This religious understanding is then applied to real-world situations relevant to

Key Stage One – In the Unit 'Personal Relationships', children are taught to identify the special people in their lives who they love and can trust, how to cope with various social situations and dilemmas, and the importance of saying sorry and forgiveness within relationships. In the Unit 'Keeping Safe', we explore the risks of being online by incorporating the 'Smartie the Penguin' resources from Childnet, the difference between good and bad secrets, and teaching on physical boundaries (incorporating the PANTS resource from the NSPCC).

the age and stage of the children:

Lower Key Stage Two – The sessions here help children to develop a more complex appreciation of different family structures and there are activities and strategies to help them develop healthy relationships with family and friends; here, they are also taught simplified Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) techniques for managing thoughts, feelings and actions. Once again, for the ‘Keeping Safe’ unit, there are some excellent NSPCC resources, as well as teaching on bullying and abuse through a series of animated stories.

Upper Key Stage Two – The sessions for UKS2 in the ‘Personal Relationships’ module aim to equip children with strategies for more complex experiences of relationships and conflict; this includes sessions that help children to identify and understand how to respond to spoken and unspoken pressure, the concept of consent and some practical demonstrations of this, and further teaching on how our thoughts and feelings have an impact on how we act.

Module Three: Created to Live in Community

Created to Live in Community explores the individual’s relationship with the wider world. Here we explore how human beings are relational by nature and are called to love others in the wider community through service, through dialogue and through working for the Common Good.

Finally, this unit explores the individual’s relationship with the wider world.

In the first Unit, Religious Understanding, the story sessions help children to develop a concept of the Trinity.

In subsequent sessions, we apply this religious understanding to real-world situations, such as the community we live in, and through exploring the work of charities, which work for the Common Good.

Life to the Full is intended to be a partnership between home, school and church. We know that you already do a fantastic job and we see our new programme, Life to the Full, as a means to further develop, support and enrich the partnership between home, school and church so that your child is fully supported.

Parent Consultation

We are now at the point where we would like to engage the whole school community in order to finalise our Relationships and Sex Education Policy and determine our non-statutory curriculum*.

The Local Governing Body invites all parents, staff and governors to give their feedback on our proposed approach, and particularly on the key decisions that we need to take regarding the teaching of certain topics.

To this end, we have opened a consultation period during which we welcome your feedback. This consultation will end on **Friday 30th October at 3pm.**

Ten:Ten has provided an online Parent Consultation Tool to support parents as part of this consultation.

This is a simple-to-follow, short online briefing which:

- Outlines the statutory changes that will take place
- Articulates a vision for Catholic Relationships and Health Education
- Explains how Life to the Full aims to help us fulfil the statutory curriculum with a Catholic ethos
- Provides some information about key decisions we need to make, in consultation with parents
- Answers some Frequently Asked Questions

As previously stated above, we will continue to use the Online Parent Portal to keep you informed and updated about the work we are doing in school throughout the year.

To take part in this initial consultation, please do the following:

Access [Ten Ten's Parent Consultation Tool](#) where you will be provided with access to different units introducing you to the 'Life to the Full' programme.

** Parents have the right to withdraw their children from RSE except in those elements which are required by the National Curriculum science orders*

You will need the following login credentials for our school in order to explore these resources:

School Username: saint-mary-cw12

School Password: weaver-895

After accessing the units and exploring the 'Life to the Full' programme, please complete the following questionnaire by Friday 30th October in order to give your valued feedback:

[Parent Consultation Survey Relationship, Sex and Health Education New Statutory Curriculum: \(https://forms.gle/8zPuPeiN5LiXemFD7\)](https://forms.gle/8zPuPeiN5LiXemFD7)

Please do not hesitate to be in contact with the school office should you require any assistance with the consultation, or if you require any further information on the Life to The Full curriculum.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Blain
Headteacher