

Mount St. Joseph

"A community of Learners, Believers and Friends"

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Headteacher: Mrs A Devany



Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Dear parent/carers

'Curriculum for Life'

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing to you regarding your child's Personal Social Health and Economic (PSHE) Education this year. Due to the statutory guidance from the Department for Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education must be taught as part of our curriculum. PSHE/RSHE Education aims to equip young people with the 'toolkit for life', providing them with the knowledge and skills that they need to make informed decisions, which enable them to be healthy, happy, safe, and successful individuals both now and in the future.

Last year, most of the content was delivered during PDT, however this year we are making some changes to allow for more time and improved quality teaching on vital areas of the curriculum. This year it will be a **'Curriculum for Life'** lesson that rolls across the timetable at a different period each week. For example, Week 1 – Monday lesson 1, Week 2 – Monday lesson 2.

However, Year 11 will continue with RSHE during PDT, in addition to the core subject intervention, well-being and revision strategy sessions. These sessions are delivered by Year 11 PDT tutors, each tutor is a maths, English or science specialist, providing vital support throughout the very important year. During 'Curriculum for Life' lessons, Year 11 will attend maths, English or science intervention to support the students further with their learning in these core subjects.

Most of the RSHE programme is delivered using the Ten-Ten Catholic 'Life to the Full' programme. Life to the Full secondary programme fulfils all statutory Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) requirements, within the context of a Christian understanding of human sexuality rooted in the beauty and the wisdom of the Catholic Church.

Through their programme, Ten Ten understand the foundational role that parents and carers have in educating and nurturing their children on these matters. Within the programme, they have built in resources which will not only keep you informed about what is being taught in school but will also give you the opportunity to engage your children in discussion, activity and prayer.

Our Online Parent Portal contains:

- An overview of the programme, "Life to the Full"
- Guidance for parents on the content of lessons
- Activities that can be undertaken at home to support the delivery of the program

You will need the following login credentials for our school:

Username: mount-st-joe

Password: opp-sale-4

When it comes to Sex Education, parents do have a legal right to withdraw their children (except for those aspects required by the National Curriculum for Science). Hopefully such incidences would be few and far between, since we believe that it is much better for children to be educated about these matters in a safe and structured environment, where the content and message accord with our Catholic values, rather than learning about them from randomly accessed sources.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Smith
Assistant Headteacher