



Archdiocese of Birmingham
St. Mary's Catholic Academy
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Thursday 18th September

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Relationships and Health Education Policy

As a Catholic school, our mission is to support the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all of our pupils, rooted in the wisdom and teaching of the Church. The education of children in human sexuality is an important, precious and privileged responsibility. The Church teaches us that this is very much a partnership with parents, in which parents are the 'first educators' of their children on these matters; ultimately, you confer on us the right to co-educate your children with you.

The school adopts the programme 'Life to the Full' by Ten:Ten Resources. Ten:Ten is an award-winning Catholic educational organisation that is well-respected and very experienced in this field of work. Life to the Full has been approved by our diocese. Furthermore, Ten:Ten have entered into a partnership with the Catholic Education Service and the Department for Education to provide training for teachers in Catholic schools.

Through their programme, Ten:Ten understand the foundational role that parents 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.

The RSE policy can be found on the school's website. In the policy you will find the section about the four key decisions and what has been decided for each one and why.

Relationships and Health Education (including the biological aspect of Science) is statutory in a primary school and must be taught. However parents do have a right to withdraw their child from the specific sex education lessons. These can be seen on the online parent portal (see the log in below). If you want to withdraw your child from any sex education lesson please see the request for withdrawal from at the end of the policy.



Teaching of RSE using the Ten:Ten scheme happens throughout the school year. The Ten:Ten **Online Parent Portal** is a tool you can use throughout the year to keep you informed and updated about the work we are doing in school. It provides parents with:

- Information about the programme children will be following;
- Access to resources;
- Suggestions for further activity at home.

You will need the following login credentials for our school:

Username: our-lady-st8

Password: mother24-st8

I have attached the information booklet for parents from Ten:Ten with this letter. If you have questions or would like any further information about any of the programme please make contact with me via the school office email or telephone.

Further to this we will be holding an information evening on **Monday 29th September** at 2pm or 5pm. Please come along if you would like to find out more and ask any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs D Statham
Head of School

