

# Regina Coeli's RSE Parent Consultation March 2021

## Frequently Asked Questions

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### 1. Does the programme contain LGBT content?

Many parents are keen to know if the programme contains LGBT content and what it is. Here is a brief summary of the TenTen approach:

- Life to the Full is inclusive of all children, families and teaching staff.
- From the very start, the programme acknowledges that families are made up differently (including single-parent families, blended families, step-parents, carers, etc) and it celebrates the family unit in whatever form it takes.
- Individual schools can build on this teaching to ensure that every child is assured and their family background affirmed.
- In Upper Key Stage Two, the presenters on film say that some children have “two mums and two dads,” as part of a list of different family set ups. This is the only explicit reference to same-sex relationships in the programme.
- The program does not refer to transgenderism.
- The programme emphasises strongly the dignity of every person as being created and loved by God. It examines difference and bullying, but does not explicitly highlight LGBT people within this context.
- The only reference to sexual intimacy is in the optional Upper Key Stage Two session ‘making babies: Part 2’. In this session, sexual intimacy is discussed within the context of a heterosexual, Christian marriage.

The teaching is in line with the statutory guidance for the Department for Education.

### 2. Will I have the opportunity to choose which elements are taught to my child?

In primary schools, the new statutory curriculum is called Relationships and Health Education. Parents do not have the right to remove their children from Relationships Education or Health Education lessons.

However, some primary schools may also choose to teach aspects of ‘Sex Education’, which means teaching about sexual intimacy. Parents retain the right to withdraw children from ‘Sex Education’ lessons in primary schools, but not that taught as part of the Science curriculum.

### 3. Will parents be informed prior to lessons being taught?

Parents will receive the Year Group Mapping Document which indicates which lesson their child is taught each week. They then have access to the Parent Portal to find out about these sessions in more detail and access the activities to do at home and support their child's learning.

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#### **4. I am worried that the education around sexual intimacy at Year 6 is maybe too early.**

Parents do have the right to withdraw their children from specific lessons that teach sexual intimacy. It is important to keep in mind that children who do not attend these lessons become curious to what other children have been learning in their absence. Children explaining to other children in the playground or on the way home cannot be monitored.

#### **5. Will my child learn about sex in Year 1?**

No. Sexual intimacy is only taught in one lesson in Year 6. This lesson is optional and parents have the right to withdraw their child from these sessions.

#### **6. Is Year 4 too early to be teaching about puberty and changes in the human body?**

Children start puberty at different times and it would be reassuring for them to have learned about those changes before they start to happen to them. The curriculum is taught in the summer term and therefore towards the end of Year 4.

#### **7. What is being done to support my child with SEND accessing the programme?**

The Life to the Full scheme of work has differentiated activities for children who may need to learn about certain aspects in a different way to their peers. Teachers will work alongside the parents of particular children to ensure the programme meets the needs of all pupils.

#### **8. Will boys and girls be taught in the same sessions?**

In any taught sessions that fall under the category of 'sex education', children will be split into boy and girl groups. These sessions will also be led by teachers of the same sex as the children. This approach has been used in Year 6 for many years and is very effective. Children feel less worried talking about the content when in single-sex groups.