

Health and Sexuality Education

19/06/2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of our Personal and Social Capabilities and Health Education, Somerville Rise Primary School will be delivering the programs Catching on Early and Topics 7 and 8 of Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships in Semester 2 this year. Best practice in Sexuality Education is that it teaches young people how to develop respectful relationships and how to minimise or eliminate the risk of potentially adverse consequences of their actions. It tries to ensure that young people make responsible and safe choices and recognises the social world in which young people make decisions about their health.

Specifically students will be covering the following concepts:

Junior School

- How much they have grown and changed since they were babies
- All parts of the body have a name, including the genitals
- Family diversity in our community and who are the people who care for them
- What makes us the same and what makes us different
- Their identity: likes, dislikes, strengths
- Positive and negative gender norms
- Developing an appreciation of difference



Middle School

- Parts of the body, the names of reproductive systems and their functions
- How babies are conceived, develop and are born as part of the human lifecycle
- The concept of identity and how to use simple strategies to maintain and support self-worth
- Gender stereotyping
- Basic safety skills and strategies at home, school and in the community, and describe methods for recognising and avoiding harmful situations
- What respectful, gender inclusive behaviours look like in action informed by human rights

Senior School

- The physical, social and emotional changes associated with puberty
- Understanding that the timing of puberty will vary from individual to individual
- Respecting the feelings of others
- The impact of gender norms on the attitudes and behaviours of those entering adolescence
- Building positive gender relationships and gender equality
- Accepting difference and diversity
- Setting boundaries and standards that promote respectful and non-violent relationships

While comprehensive sexuality education is a compulsory part of a school's health education curriculum, we are aware programs are more effective with increased parent-child communication. It is important to us that we maintain an open dialogue with parents regarding the delivery of these programs.



Further information can be found at the following links:

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/discipline/phised/pages/forparents.aspx>

<http://fuse.education.vic.gov.au/Resource/LandingPage?ObjectId=d722b857-8d78-4afd-8519-2bc7801d5590&SearchScope=All>

If you have any concerns or seek further information, please contact either Nicky Fammartino, Principal or Mark Dewhurst, Assistant Principal at the school.

In addition, if you are interested in attending a parent information evening to find out more about these programs, please indicate below and return it to school before the end of term. If there is enough interest, an information session will be organised early in Term 3.

Nicky Fammartino
PRINCIPAL

SOMERVILLE RISE
Primary School

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Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationship Initiative

I am interested in attending a parent information session to find out more about the Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationship Initiative.

Name: _____

Student: _____ Grade: _____