



26th February 2024

Dear Families,

As part of Year 3's upcoming RSE module 'Keeping Safe', an upcoming lesson will touch on the topic of abuse. This will include, in an age-appropriate way, discussion of different types of abuse including 'abuse of private parts' (Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)). This is a requirement by the Diocese of Westminster, delivered through our agreed programme in line with the teachings of the Church. The session encourages children to consider who they can report it any concerns to should they, or someone they know, share that something such as this has happened.

We are legally required to teach those aspects of RSE which are statutory parts of the National Curriculum, some of which are closely aligned with pupils' learning in Science.

We recognise that parents (and other carers who stand in their place) are the primary educators of their children. As a Catholic school, we provide the principal means by which the Church assists parents and carers in educating their children. We will support parents and carers by providing material, to be shared with their children at home. Parents are encouraged to view the resources used by the school in the RSE programme (see links and log in below).

Parents continue to have the right to withdraw their children from Sex Education except in those elements which are required by the National Curriculum. Should parents wish to withdraw their children they are asked to notify the school. We will provide support by providing material for parents to help the children with their learning. We believe that the controlled environment of the classroom is the safest place for this curriculum to be followed.

Please see below for information about the topic and lessons. Further information and the resources which will be used to teach this lesson can be accessed via the **Parent Portal**:

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/>

Username: STM23

Password: STM

Life to the Full → Years 3 and 4 → Module 2 → Unit 4 - Session 1: Safe in my body

What happens in this session?

This session follows on from the previous two internet safety sessions, by moving into the real world and considering what physical contact is appropriate and inappropriate.

Children are introduced to the term 'abuse' and discuss different kinds of abuse, including sexual abuse, here referred to as 'abuse of private parts'. Children will be asked to think of trusted adults that they can talk to about any issues they may face.

What do children learn?

- To judge well what kind of physical contact is acceptable or unacceptable and how to respond
- About different kinds of abuse, including 'abuse of private parts'
- That there are different people we can trust for help, especially those who care for us, including our teachers and parish priest



Suggested Home Activity

It would be good to talk to your child about which people, both inside and outside the family, they feel comfortable having conversations with about anything that is worrying them or if they need help.

If they generally find it hard to raise issues, perhaps you could agree on a way of making this easier. For example, signalling that they'd like to talk by drawing an emoji on a pad left in the kitchen for that purpose or having a check in time at the end of the day when you share about how your respective days have been.

FGM

Discuss how your child felt after hearing about 'abuse of private parts' (FGM), and validate any feelings that arise. You may wish to look at [this map](#) from the National FGM Centre together, which highlights how different countries do/don't have laws against FGM. You could spend some time praying for people across the world to be protected from this harm and for change in laws in other countries. This [guidance from the NSPCC](#) may help you with any further questions your child has about FGM.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to get in touch via the class teacher and/or the school office.

Kind regards,

Mrs Little
Executive Headteacher

Miss Lally
Assistant Headteacher