



GEYLANG METHODIST SCHOOL (PRIMARY)

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2021IP053

25 October 2021

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Re: MOE Sexuality Education in Schools 2021 & 2022 (The Growing Years Programme)

With reference to the letter sent out through Parent Gateway in November 2020, our school will be conducting the MOE Growing Years (GY) Programme for our P5 students helmed by our Sexuality Education-trained teachers and school counsellors. This programme will be conducted as part of the post-exam activities in 2021 as well as the Back to School Programme in Term 1, 2022.

Sexuality Education in schools aims to enable students to understand the physiological, social and emotional changes they experience as they mature, develop healthy and rewarding relationships including those with members of the opposite sex, and make wise, informed and responsible decisions on sexuality matters.

Sexuality Education is premised on the importance of the family as the basic unit of society. This means encouraging healthy, heterosexual marriages and stable nuclear family units with extended family support. The teaching and learning of Sexuality Education based on respect for the values and beliefs of the different ethnic and religious communities in Singapore on sexuality issues.

The goals of Sexuality Education are as follows:

- (i) Guide students to make wise, responsible and informed decisions through the provision of accurate current and age-appropriate knowledge on human sexuality and the consequences of sexual activity.
- (ii) Help students know themselves and build healthy and rewarding relationships through the acquisition of social and emotional skills of self-awareness, manage their thoughts, feelings and behaviours, develop empathy for others, possess effective communication, problem-solving and decision-making skills.

- (iii) Develop moral compass for the students to have respect for themselves and for others as sexual beings, premised on the heterosexual married couple forming a nuclear family as the basic unit of society, through the inculcation of positive mainstream values and attitudes about sexuality.

The key messages of Sexuality Education are as follows:

- (i) Love and respect yourself as you love and respect others;
- (ii) Build positive relationships based on love and respect
(which are the foundation for strong families);
- (iii) Make responsible decisions for yourself, your family and society; and
- (iv) Abstinence before marriage is the best protection against STIs/HIV and unintended pregnancies. Casual sex can harm and hurt you and your loved ones.

More information about the content coverage and delivery of the GY Programme can be found in our school's website: **Curriculum > Sexuality Education**

Should you choose to opt your child/ward out of the GY Programme, please approach the staff at the General Office for an opt-out form or alternatively, you may download it from the school website via the link: **Curriculum > Sexuality Education> Sexuality Education Opt Out Form.**

We look forward to your support to the programme which aims to meet your child/ward's developmental needs, give emphasis to the teaching of skills and values, and focus on helping him or her navigate changes and build healthy relationships

For more information or further clarification, you may contact Mrs Beverly Toh (HOD Character & Citizenship Education) at **Tel: 6748 6746** or email her at low_pei_lin_beverly@moe.edu.sg.

Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Beverly Toh
HOD CCE

Endorsed by

Mrs Jennifer Choy
Principal