

St Mary's Catholic High School, Leyland

Royal Avenue, Leyland, PR25 1BS

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Dear Parent / Carer,

YEAR 9 RELATIONSHIPS DAY – Thursday, 3rd March 2022

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very Happy New Year! I pray that 2022 brings you all much joy, happiness and good health.

As a Catholic school community we have an active concern for the social, physical and moral well-being of our pupils as well as for their spiritual and intellectual growth. With this in mind we have dedicated a special day for the PSHCEE curriculum and the Catholic Ethos to come together for year 9 pupils to think about important issues with regard to relationships.

The day will be run by school staff and a number of visitors who specialise in dealing with issues to do with sex and relationships. Pupils will spend the day in different workshops, led by staff and visitors, enabling them to consider these issues in a safe, secure, and supportive way. The following topics will be discussed and explored as follows:

1. TenTen

Ten Ten's programme, **Life to the Full**, teaches Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) within the context of a Christian understanding of human sexuality rooted in the wisdom and teaching of the Catholic Church.

2. Marriage

Pupils will be welcomed in a very informal way to chat with a Christian / Catholic married person about what marriage is like, the highs and lows including issues around raising a family in today's world.

3. Gender issues and relationships

Modern life requires us to make many moral choices. Pupils will be looking at what it means to be male or female, in order to understand the opposite sex in relationships. Throughout the sessions, pupils will look at choices they have to make and explore the possible consequences of these choices.

4. Relationship with God

A Catholic Religious Sister will join us to reflect upon the ways in which our relationships with one another can grow, and to consider how we can deepen our relationship with God.

5. Relationship with the World

CAFOD will lead a workshop based on Pope Francis encyclical 'Laudato Si', 'the care for the common home'. This will invite students to reflect on pollution and how they can contribute to make the world a fairer, cleaner place for all to live.

6. Gender Space

We welcome Christian Owens, a Catholic man to talk about his experience of being a transgender and his faith.

We will be working within the framework of the Sex Education Policy of our school and giving our pupils the opportunity to reflect on the possible consequences of the choices they may make, now or in the future, with regard to relationships. The focus will be more on the moral questions of 'why?' 'when?' and 'who with?' than the mechanics of 'how?'

We request a donation of £3.00 to contribute towards the cost of the day. Please ensure that the payment and the attached slip is returned to school by **Friday, 11th February 2022** in an envelope marked with your child's and form. This is a **non-uniform day**. However, we still require pupils to be dressed in an appropriate manner for a day of practical and physical activity. Please also ensure that the clothing is suitable for the current weather conditions. Normal school's rules about make-up and jewellery will apply.

Please make sure that your child brings a packed lunch with them, along with snacks and drinks.

Relationships day will take place in our parish church therefore can you please ensure that your child goes directly to Leyland St Mary's Catholic Church (Broadfield Walk, Leyland PR25 1PD) arriving no later than 8:50 a.m. for a 9.00 a.m. start. If your child gets the special bus to school, please can these pupils report to St Mary's School reception by 8:50 a.m. from where they will be taken by mini bus to Church.

Activities will finish at St. Mary's Church by 3.00 p.m. Pupils may be collected from church at this time or make their own way home if they live in the vicinity. If your child gets a special bus home from school, a minibus will take them back to school in time for the bus at 3:10 p.m.

It is vital that you inform the school office as soon as possible if there are any changes to any medical condition your child may have and to ensure the school office is informed of any changes to the emergency contact details they hold.

Many thanks for your support. We hope this day will be both fulfilling and educational for your child.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony Cave

Mrs Drew

School Chaplain

Year 9 Pastoral Leader

Year 9 Relationship Day

Please return this slip to the school office

(Reply slip FAO: Anthony)

I give permission for my son / daughter _____ form _____

to attend **Relationships Day** at St Mary's Catholic Church on Thursday 3rd March 2022.

I enclose £3.00 to contribute to the costs of the day.

My son / daughter will be collected / make their own way home after the event (* please delete)

Signed _____ (Parent / Carer) Date: _____