



# Our Lady's Grove

*Our Lady's Grove, Goatstown Road, Dublin 14*

16 February 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE) course will commence after the February mid-term for our Junior Cycle students. The programme will be taught over a six-week period with a minimum of one class per week during the Social, Personal Health Education (SPHE) class. Please see below an explanation of what this programme entails. Should you have any queries or questions please refer to our RSE policy or contact the school at your convenience.

Yours sincerely,  
Sonya Lyons

## **RSE Rationale**

Relationships and Sexuality education is a key element of healthy social and personal development. Nowadays more than ever, young people are exposed to information and influences about sexuality & sexual activity. Accordingly, Our Lady's Grove, in partnership with parents/guardians, has a responsibility to provide appropriate relationships and sexuality education as part of the wider Social, Personal and Health Education. It is a requirement that schools, promote the social and personal development of students and provide health education for them. [Education Act, 1998, Circulars; M4/95, M20/96, 0027/2008. 15/2017].

## **Background**

Relationships and Sexuality education is part of a lifelong process of learning about healthy relationships and sexuality. In school RSE seeks to provide young people with formal opportunities to acquire knowledge and understanding of human sexuality, through processes which will enable them to form values and establish behaviours within a moral, spiritual and social framework.

## **Aims**

RSE aims to build on the primary school programme which strives to help young people learn at home and at school about their own development and about their friendships and relationships with others; promote an understanding of sexuality; promote a positive attitude towards one's own sexuality and one's relationships with others; enable students to develop attitudes and values towards their sexuality in a moral, spiritual and social framework; promote knowledge of and respect for human reproduction; provide young people with information and skills to evaluate critically the wide range of information, opinions, attitudes and values offered today, in order that they will make positive, responsible, moral, caring and responsible decisions about themselves and the way they live their lives, while also respecting the dignity of others.

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