WQ.440/2019

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION BY DEPUTY K.G. PAMPLIN OF ST. SAVIOUR ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2019

Question

What work, if any, is done in the Island's schools (both private and non-private) to educate all students, especially male students, about harassment laws and their implications, including sexual harassment either in person or by phone?

Answer

The Jersey Curriculum 2014 includes Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education as a compulsory element for all students.

https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Education/ID%20Jersey%20Curriculum%20PSHE%20including%20Citizenship%2020160531%20PH.pdf

The Curriculum covers a wide range of topics which fall into four key areas, divided into provision for all key stages. At secondary school (key stage 3 and key stage 4) the areas covered are as follows:

A. Health and wellbeing

(including: mental wellbeing; physical health and fitness; drugs, alcohol and tobacco)

B. Relationships

(including: respectful relationships, including friendships; online and media relationships; being safe (consent); intimate and sexual relationships, including sexual health)

C. Living in the wider world (Economic wellbeing, careers, the world of work and being a responsible citizen)

(including: human rights and children's rights; employability; economic and business environment and personal finances)

D. Citizenship

(including: how the States of Jersey is governed; role of law and justice system; volunteering; how to think critically and debate political questions)

The area of harassment would fall across respectful relationships, living in the wider world and citizenship. In particular, it is covered in discussion of consent, peer to peer and other relationships, and in the teaching of anti-bullying, supported by teachings about human rights and the law.

Specifically: "how to deal with risky or negative relationships including all forms of bullying (including the distinct challenges posed by online bullying) and abuse, sexual and other violence and online encounters" and "about the concept of consent in a variety of contexts (including in sexual relationships)".

All Jersey schools (mixed and single sex) deliver the PSHE curriculum through a combination of lessons, assemblies, access to specialist speakers and through workshops for pupils.

Several key stakeholders support school with their provision including the Police Service and the Youth Service. The charity 'YouMatter' supports island schools across both KS3 and 4 with targeted lessons and 1:1 sessions with pupils. They have a particular focus on consent and sexual decision making. Brook also provide training for pupils around decision making and consent, as do Love Theatre.

In addition, schools regularly invite their school liaison officers in to talk to groups of pupils or individuals about safe use of mobile phones and on line social media platforms as well as about appropriate face-to-face communication.

All schools have access to the PSHE association who also provide good resources and links to support teachers in delivering on this and other topics.