Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy
Key Decisions summary

Programme: 'Life to the Full' from TenTen

These decisions have been made in consultation with parents, staff and governors.
March 2021

Key Decision 1: The Use of Scientific Terms for Sexual Organs
Sexual organs will be referred to as "private parts" until Year 5. This is suggested as adequate in terms of safeguarding until the emotional, academic and moral development of our children enables a more mature discussion. The issue of safeguarding has been carefully considered and the argument that familiarity with scientific terms at, for example, the age of 6, prevents abuse is speculative.

Key Decision 2: Puberty
CTK will begin to teach about hormones and their effects on our emotions in Year 4.
The menstrual cycle will be discussed in Year 5 which is co-ordinated with science learning delivered at that time. One parent response suggested an earlier time but we believe that this should be subject to parental discretion and that Year 5 is appropriate for the majority of children.

Key Decision 3: Discussing sexual intercourse
CTK will teach part one (foetal development) in school in the final half term of Year 6, before the children move on to secondary school. Part two (sexual intercourse) will not be taught at school, but will be made available to parents to aid their discussions as first educators of their children. This will be made available through the Online Parent Portal.

Key Decision 4: The Pornography Issue
Children at CTK will not be introduced to the subject of pornography. It is not possible to identify and discuss pornography without the inevitable temptation for children to conduct their own research on the internet. It is also very difficult to discuss pornography without this leading to areas of RSHE far beyond what children are taught in RE and science in primary education. Therefore, it is not possible to discuss this without undermining other areas of the curriculum. Our children and parents already receive regular guidance on the safe use of the internet and it is also part of our Computing curriculum.
Resources for parents wishing to discuss this with their children may be made available on the Online Parent Portal.