



Geylang Methodist School (Secondary)

2 Geylang East Central Singapore 389705

Tel: 6746 6503, Fax: 6747 7317

e-mail: gmss@moe.edu.sg

11 January 2019

Dear Parents / Guardian

RE: MOE's Sexuality Education in GMS(S) – The Growing Years (GY) Programme

1. Greetings from Geylang Methodist School (Sec).
2. Sexuality Education (SEd) in schools is about enabling 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. SEd 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 SEd is based on respect for the values and beliefs of the different ethnic and religious communities in Singapore on sexuality issues.
3. The school will be conducting the Growing Years (GY) Programme during the Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) periods. The lessons will be held throughout the year.
4. The goals of Sexuality Education are:
 - To help students 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;
 - To help students know themselves and build healthy and rewarding relationships through the acquisition of social and emotional skills of self-awareness, management of their thoughts, feelings and behaviours, development of empathy for others, possession of effective communication, problem-solving and decision-making skills; and
 - To help students develop a moral compass, respect for themselves and for others as sexual beings, premised on the family as the basic unit of society, through the inculcation of positive mainstream values and attitudes about sexuality.
5. The key messages of Sexuality Education are:
 - Love and respect yourself as you love and respect others;
 - Build positive relationships based on love and respect (which are the foundation for strong families);
 - Make responsible decisions for yourself, your family and society; and
 - Abstinence before marriage is the best protection against STIs/HIV and unintended pregnancies. Casual sex can harm and hurt you and your loved ones.
6. Your child/ ward will benefit from the SEd Growing Years programme throughout his/her formative years. However, if you **do not wish** your child/ward to attend this programme, please complete the attached opt-out form (bottom half). Do note that students who have opted out of the programme will be assigned alternative work during that period.
7. Please visit the school's webpage for more information on Geylang Methodist School (Secondary)'s Sexuality Education Programme for 2019.
8. Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by signing on the attached acknowledgement form (top half).
9. Please return the Acknowledgement Form to your child's/ ward's form teacher by **18 Jan 2019**.
10. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Lydia Soh at 67466503 (ext 272).

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Wee Tat Chuen
Principal



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e-mail: gmss@moe.edu.sg

Date: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent of (Child's name): _____

Child's Class: _____

[Parents' Acknowledgement – This is to be signed by parents of all students.]

THE GROWING YEARS PROGRAMME FOR YEAR 2019

I acknowledge receipt of letter from the school regarding the school's sexuality education, *Growing Years* programme that will be taught in 2019. I have read and understood the information provided on the content coverage and delivery of the programme.

Parent's Acknowledgement: Name & Signature

Parent Opt-out Form – Applicable only if parents wish to opt their child out of the Growing Years programme

Name of Principal: Mr Wee Tat Chuen

Name of School: Geylang Methodist School (Sec)

Dear Principal (through Form Teacher)

THE GROWING YEARS PROGRAMME FOR YEAR 2019

1. I would like to withdraw my child, _____, of
(full name of child)
_____ from the *Growing Years* programme for 2019.
(class of child)

2. My reason(s) for my decision to opt my child out of the programme:

- Religious reasons
- My child is too young.
- I would like to personally educate my child on sexuality matters.
- I do not think it is important for my child to attend Sexuality Education lessons.
- I have previously taught my child the topics in the *GY* Programme for this year.
- I am not comfortable with the topics covered in the *GY* Programme for this year.
- Others: _____

3. Thank you.

Parent's Name & Signature

Contact No. (mobile)

Email address (optional)

Religion*: Nil / Buddhism / Islam / Hinduism / Roman Catholicism / Christianity - Others / Sikhism / Judaism / Taoism /
Others (please specify): _____ (* delete where applicable)