

September 2024

Re: Year 8
Made in the Image of God Sexuality and Respectful Relationships (MITIOG)

Dear Families

At Caritas College students from R- 12 participate in the Made in the Image of God Sexuality and Respectful Relationships curriculum, designed for SA Catholic schools. This program is grounded in a Catholic understanding of the human person and is presented in four threads: Relationships, Identity, Human Development, and Reproduction and Reproductive Health.

During the first half of Term 4 your child will be participating in the Human Sexuality component of the curriculum.

The unit will be taught as part of the Religious Education Curriculum and students at **Year 8** have the opportunity to explore and/or develop the following:

- An appreciation of the human body as an expression of the image of God
- An awareness of the implications of adolescent growth and development, specifically an understanding of why people behave in a sexual manner and the possible implications and messages conveyed through sexual behaviour
- An understanding of masculine and feminine traits as elements of all persons
- Knowledge of the role of hormones in growth and development
- An awareness of the ways sexual behaviour reflects self-image and self-understanding
- An appreciation of the unitive and procreative nature of sexual intercourse as expressed in marriage
- Knowledge of the fragility of the human reproductive systems and ways in which they can be damaged e.g. sexually transmitted infections, specifically HIV/Aids

The Made in the Image of God Curriculum has been developed by the Catholic Education Office to provide students in Reception to Year 12 with the information necessary to make informed, healthy lifestyle decisions.

If you have any queries about the program and wish to discuss your child's involvement, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Chloe Shanahan or your child's class teacher on 86489700.

Thanking you for your support.

Yours sincerely



Chloe Shanahan
Assistant Principal Religious
Identity and Mission



Damian Smith
Principal