To: Principals and Boards of Governors of
   all grant-aided Primary Schools and
   Post-Primary Schools; the Education Authority;
   and Council for Catholic Maintained Schools

17 June 2019

Dear Principal

NEW CCEA RELATIONSHIPS AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION (RSE) HUB

I am writing to draw your attention to the launch of a new online of
Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) Hub, with a range of resources
to support the delivery of RSE.

As you know, RSE is a compulsory element of the curriculum within the
Personal Development and Mutual Understanding (PDMU) area of learning at
primary and the Learning for Life and Work (LLW) area of learning at post-
primary. In our current rapidly changing and increasingly complex society,
high-quality RSE education is crucial to providing young people with the
knowledge and information they need to stay safe and develop healthy
relationships. It also helps schools fulfil their duties to protect, safeguard and
promote the wellbeing of their pupils. Teaching RSE is vital - done well, it is
enriching and enjoyable for teachers and pupils alike.

We want teachers, schools and other practitioners to have access to the most
up-to-date references and information when looking for support and advice.
Consequently, in 2018, the Department of Education commissioned CCEA to
review existing RSE materials. As a result, CCEA has created a new online RSE Hub to facilitate easy access to a range of existing and new teaching resources. These include additional support materials in the following key areas:

- consent, what it means and its importance;
- developments in contraception;
- healthy, positive sexual expression and relationships;
- safe use of the internet;
- social media and its effects on relationships and self-esteem;
- LGBTQ+ matters; and
- domestic and sexual violence and abuse.

The new RSE Hub can be accessed on CCEA's website at [http://cc ea.org.uk/curriculum/rse](http://cc ea.org.uk/curriculum/rse). At present, the Hub contains links to existing support materials which will provide a repository of useful information for schools. New teaching resources and materials will be piloted with schools throughout the autumn and will progressively go live during the 2019/20 academic year. Schools, pupils, teachers and a range of groups with valuable experience in these areas will have important views and insights to share to help shape the next stage of this work and I would encourage to engage with CCEA over the coming months.

RSE represents a huge opportunity to help our children and young people develop. The knowledge and attributes gained will support their wellbeing and attainment and help young people to become successful and happy adults who make a meaningful contribution to society. The launch of the Hub is a very positive development. I am confident it will provide an excellent source of information and support for schools, as they work to ensure young people know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way.

Any queries about the Hub should be directed in the first instance to:

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Yours faithfully,

Suzanne Kingon

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