

The Manuela Programme

Participant and Parental Information Sheet

We would like to inform you that the Manuela Programme will be delivered over the coming weeks to our Leaving Certificate students in the RE class. The Manuela Programme is an evidenced informed education programme for 15 to 17 year olds that is focused on healthy relationships and sexual violence prevention. The programme was developed as a collaborative project between the Rape Crisis Network Ireland, the 16 Rape Crisis Centres in Ireland and the Manuela Riedo Foundation. This project has received funding through Tusla: Child and Family Agency, the Manuela Riedo Foundation and the European Justice Commission to be delivered in schools around Ireland.

The sessions will include topics such as consent, identifying healthy and unhealthy relationships, social media, sexual violence prevention, resources in the community, and exploring what influences and pressures exist for young people today that could impact their mental, emotional and sexual health.

The aims of the Manuela Programme are to engage young people in a dialogue that looks at attitudes, knowledge and skills in relation to consent, healthy relationships and sexual violence prevention.

The development of this programme was initiated by the Manuela Riedo Foundation which was founded in Galway in 2009 in memory of Manuela Riedo, a 17 year old Swiss student who was sadly raped and murdered in Galway in 2007. Manuela was an only child and after her death her parents raised money to provide sexual violence prevention education to young people in the hopes that all young people in Ireland can grow up to have happy and healthy relationships. This programme is their daughter's legacy.