

How to Use the Personal Safety Education Program

This curriculum is to be inserted into the existing curriculum of our school programs. It is an integral part of training our young persons and should be implemented within the course of the year.

Lessons are designed with more materials than can actually be used in any one class period to allow for some personal choice of activities and to allow the teacher or counselor to use the lessons during the year at intervals to reinforce the message and to be able to address situations as they arise.

It is also strongly encouraged that this program be integrated with the general curriculum as the teaching lends itself throughout the year. We encourage teachers and counselors to take advantage of each and every “teachable moment” to discuss personal safety with our children and youth.

Suggested Materials

Any materials used in the lesson are identified in this section. Handouts and attachments are included with many of the lessons. Other items will be every day school materials or materials to be borrowed from the Office of Catechesis and Formation. (859-392-1500) A summary of those resources is available at the site entitled “Policy and Resources”.

Processing the Experience

This section is divided into two parts, content and personalization. The content questions assist students to verbalize and clarify what they have learned in regards to the objective. The personalization questions help students apply the lesson to their personal lives. These latter questions can be used in a variety of ways: quiet reflection, class discussion, journaling, stress relieving activity. It is important that the individual teacher decide which method is best for his/her class at this time. Counselors and teachers should assess the students’ level of trust in this section. The counselor needs to be prepared with responses for students’ comments and questions. In some instances they may disclose a reportable event. The teacher and counselor should use his/her discretion to determine if this information should be solicited at a later point in time. The counselor should be prepared to receive a child’s report, to make a report to the Cabinet, to inform the principal and Safe Environment Office.

Closure

This section helps students bring together the learning and application for that experience. At times it ends with the end of the class; at other times it may carry over into another class period. Prayer is an essential element of these lessons. It allows students to deepen their relationship with God and to reinforce their own goodness as beings created and loved by God. It is essential that children know of their own goodness before being exposed to the evils of the world. Knowing that one is deeply loved is a powerful tool in dealing with the effects of abuse.