

Year 9 Sexuality unit

In this unit students will be expected to draw on prior knowledge of healthy relationships, resiliency and pubertal changes and continue to develop their understanding of wellbeing/hauora and its interconnectedness. On completion of the unit students will be able to demonstrate advanced knowledge of pubertal change, reproductive anatomy, contraceptive methods and basic knowledge of sexually transmitted infections and be able to identify risks involved in unsafe decision making. Students will be able to apply decision making skills to make health enhancing choices in difficult situations, including resisting peer pressure and saying "no".

Students will explore and discuss issues surrounding sexuality and strict classroom boundaries are set prior to the commencement of the unit. Teachers present the material in a factual manner, allowing students to make their own health enhancing conclusions. An emphasis is placed on using the correct terminology and creating a safe learning environment.

Learning activities include:

- Identifying Physical, mental/emotional, spiritual and social changes at puberty,
- Labelling reproductive anatomy and understanding its function,
- Investigating methods of contraception (including abstinence) and presenting this in poster format,
- Investigating the consequences of unsafe decision-making, sexually transmissible infections and how this impacts teenagers and those around them.

A variety of teaching resources are utilised including worksheets with anatomical pictures, pamphlets from the Family Planning Association and other Health Education sources and booklets aimed at youth health from the Ministry of Health.

From these resources the individual classroom teachers tailor the delivery of the unit content to suit their classes learning needs, taking into account values, beliefs, maturity level of the learners and prior knowledge.