WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING BY DEPUTY L.M.C. DOUBLET OF ST. SAVIOUR QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 18th MARCH 2024

Ouestion

"Will the Minister advise what actions, if any, he is undertaking to educate all Islanders, including young people, about the prevention of all types of domestic abuse?"

Answer

The area of domestic abuse is directly addressed for young people through the PSHE area of the Jersey Curriculum, specifically within teaching about healthy relationships, consent and how to recognise forms of abuse. The curriculum detail is as follows:

<u>The current PSHE curriculum is available on the Government of Jersey website</u>. It is set out under the 3 headings of and outlines the broad areas that must be taught at different Key Stages.

- Heath & Wellbeing
- Relationships
- Living in the wider world

The curriculum sets out the sequence of teaching ensuring that all Jersey pupils are taught over time to make informed choices about various aspects of health and wellbeing and learning about healthy relationships.

(By Key Stages 3+4 pupils are required to be taught about how to deal with risky or negative relationships including all forms of bullying and abuse, sexual and other violence and online encounters.)

In addition, schools are being provided with additional PSHE curriculum guidance as soon as this is agreed by Curriculum Council. This is not statutory in the same way the Jersey Curriculum is – schools can tailor their teaching to suit students' age, prior knowledge, and any school-specific context.

Furthermore, the Jersey School Review Framework evaluates how well schools support the personal development of pupils. All GoJ provided schools are scheduled to have a published report by the end of this summer term and each report details feedback on the quality of provision for pupils' personal development.

The review framework is currently being revised and plans are being developed to allow for an even greater emphasis to be placed in this area.

Educating Islanders about this issue is a crucial part of wider efforts to prevent domestic abuse, and violence against women and girls more broadly. I note that the <u>Taskforce on Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) report</u> that was published late last year made a series of recommendations in relation to improving the education of parents, children and young people. I am scheduled to meeting with the relevant officers later this month to discuss my approach to implementing these recommendations.