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# STATES OF JERSEY



## **JERSEY YOUTH PARLIAMENT CLOSING REPORT - EDUCATION REFORM (R.142/2022): RESPONSE OF THE MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND EDUCATION**

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**Presented to the States on 1st December 2022  
by the Minister for Children and Education**

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**STATES GREFFE**

**JERSEY YOUTH PARLIAMENT CLOSING REPORT - EDUCATION  
REFORM (R.142/2022): RESPONSE OF THE MINISTER FOR CHILDREN  
AND EDUCATION**

<b>Ministerial Response to:</b>	R.142/2022
<b>Ministerial Response required by:</b>	30th November 2022
<b>Review title:</b>	Jersey Youth Parliament closing report - Education Reform

### INTRODUCTION

I am pleased to be able to respond to this well researched report from the Education Reform Campaign Group of Jersey's first Youth Parliament. I congratulate the group and all those who supported them in this campaign. My responses to the recommendations are below and I hope the comments alongside each one provides sufficient information and detail.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

	<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>1</b>	Standardise the PSHE curriculum and delivery across all schools	MC ED	Agree to consult with schools	<p>Headteachers and teachers have a responsibility to provide a curriculum that meets the needs of their pupils. These needs can be very different for every school.</p> <p>A very standardised PSHE curriculum would make it difficult for staff to respond to any current issues affecting their pupils. Examples of this might include issues raised by the Jersey Children and Young People's Survey.</p> <p>However, we do agree that there are some topics and issues that every child has a right to receive information and education about. We intend to listen to children and schools to work out what these core topics should be and to what level of detail.</p> <p>We also agree that it is necessary to secure a more consistent quality and delivery of the curriculum across all schools.</p>

	Recommendations	To	Response	Comments
				<p>We will consult with schools to seek ways to do this through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• developing teachers' understanding of the curriculum</li> <li>• providing high quality guidance and resources</li> </ul> <p>using the Jersey School's Review Framework to check for quality and consistency of delivery.</p>
2	Ensure that the PSHE curriculum is concise, meaningful and engaging	MC ED	Agree	<p>The Jersey Schools Review Framework offers high levels of challenge to schools. It requires headteachers and teachers to ensure that the curriculum is relevant, meaningful, and engaging. During the pandemic CYPES had to pause the school review process. This has now re-started. All of the reviews are published on gov.je</p> <p>We will start this work over the next few months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CYPES will use the Jersey Youth Parliament (JYP) report to develop guidance for schools. It offers the chance to focus on the importance of pupil voice. It highlights many wider providers in the Island who have resources that schools can use.</li> <li>• CYPES will develop a version of the curriculum for young people that is easy to understand and meaningful.</li> <li>• CYPES will commit to include the PSHE content in the report framework suggested by the JYP</li> <li>• Set up a working party of teachers to develop resources and to share the best ways of teaching PSHE.</li> </ul> <p>Ensure school reviews include the quality and accountability of the PSHE curriculum in schools.</p>
3	Update the curriculum so that it meets the need of young people living in the island today so that	MC ED	Agree to consult with JYP	<p><i>See Recommendation 2 above</i></p> <p>CYPES officers will commit to regular consultation with JYP members to discuss</p>

	<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	they can grow up to be informed global citizens			<p>their perceptions of what young people need from the PSHE curriculum.</p> <p>In addition, the Jersey School Review process requires reviewers to consult with children and young people to hear their views.</p> <p>It is further agreed to make better use of the Children and Young People's Survey data to highlight current issues both for each school and across the Island. CYPES will then support schools by providing resources for teachers to help them to address these issues.</p>
<b>4</b>	Embed Life Skills into the curriculum such as self-defence, first aid, budgeting, cooking, stress management	MC ED	Agree	We accept this recommendation. These aspects are already included within the Jersey Curriculum (either in PSHE or in subject areas such as DT and mathematics). Therefore, we will investigate whether the teaching of these areas are meeting the needs of children, and seek to make improvements based on what is in their best interests. Self-defence will be added to the guidance document for teachers as a recommendation to support young people regarding how to keep themselves safe.
<b>5</b>	Ring fence the PSHE lessons so that they are not used for other purposes	MC ED	Agree	<p>The Jersey Curriculum for PSHE including Citizenship and Careers are a statutory entitlement for all pupils and we agree that time should be ring-fenced for certain aspects of delivery. Other areas are continuously developed through the culture and ethos of the school.</p> <p>The Jersey School Review Framework will indicate how well schools put their PSHE curriculum into practice.</p> <p>Jersey Curriculum Council has recently agreed in their meeting 09.11.22 to recommend that PSHE lessons should be safeguarded across the key stages.</p>
<b>6</b>	Broad representation of the different types of	MC ED	Agree	CYPES will engage with Liberate to offer teachers support and updated training to better

	<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	human relationships as well as up to date LGBTQ+ education to represent all members of our community			equip them in this area curriculum provision. It is hoped that this can commence in 2023. A budget will need to be secured.
<b>7</b>	Anti-discriminatory education to include learning about different global cultures and religions	MC ED	Agree	<p>CYPES agrees that this is an important area of the PSHE curriculum and acknowledges that this could be further developed.</p> <p>This area is already included within the statutory Religious Education and PSHE curriculums.</p> <p>Currently CYPES are purchasing a new scheme of work for all schools to support the delivery of Religious Education across the island. This will include different cultures.</p>
<b>8</b>	Improve political education and expand resources to deliver the topic	MC ED	Agree	<p>Political education is already detailed within the Citizenship curriculum. However, we agree that new resources are required.</p> <p>The Greffe now has a new Education Officer and CYPES are liaising with them to support the development of new teaching resources to be shared with schools.</p>
<b>9</b>	Critical thinking skills, fact checking and reliability of sources to be taught	MC ED	Agree	<p>Critical thinking skills, fact-checking and the reliability of sources are already a key component of the Jersey curriculum, so we agree with this recommendation.</p> <p>Within this JYP report these skills are related to the concept of fake news and issues around internet safety. These specific aspects are addressed by the computing curriculum.</p> <p>From a wider perspective, the development of these skills also underpins areas of the Jersey Curriculum for other subjects such as mathematics, science and history.</p>
<b>10</b>	Educate young people what to do when things do go wrong rather than	MC ED	Agree to consult with JYP	We agree that this is an important recommendation.

	<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Comments</b>
	focusing only on prevention. What options do young people have?			CYPES commits to exploring this recommendation further with JYP to determine how this may be achieved to meet the needs of young people.
<b>11</b>	Ensure that the intended curriculum is actually received by young people	MC ED	Agree	We agree this is vitally important to help young people to be prepared for their future lives. Quality assurance through the Jersey School Review Framework will support this.

### **CONCLUSION**

The report from this campaign group will be the foundation of my department's work to enhance the PSHE curriculum going forward. I am grateful for the group and all its work to provide this invaluable feedback on the curriculum from those it matters to most. I am also grateful to my officers in CYPES who have worked closely with the campaign group throughout this term of the Youth Parliament.