

Communicable Diseases Agency eTeens for Secondary Schools

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Communicable Diseases Agency (CDA), in collaboration with the Ministry of Education (MOE), conducts a programme titled Empowered Teens (eTeens) to educate Secondary 3 students about preventing STI (Sexually Transmitted Infections)/ HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). The programme which was previously managed by the Health Promotion Board (HPB) provides information on the transmission and prevention of STIs/HIV and helps guide students to make good life choices to avoid risky sexual behaviours.

2. The following topics are taught:

- a) Sexually transmitted infectious diseases (STIs and HIV): what it is, how it spreads, how to prevent infection mainly through ABC (abstinence, being faithful, correct, and consistent condom use), consequences and impact
- b) Skills for respecting boundaries (e.g. decision-making, assertiveness, negotiation to say 'no' to peer pressure)
- c) Managing relationships and risky situations in a healthy way, including avenues for help-seeking.

3. The programme includes a mass talk and a classroom-based lesson:

- a) The mass talk includes a presentation on different scenarios involving teenagers and responsible decision-making to respect the boundaries of self and others.
- b) The classroom-based lesson by an MOE Sexuality Education trained (SEd) teacher reinforces skills of responsible decision-making, negotiation and assertiveness, based on the values which students have been brought up with, in the family and the community. The training for teachers who conduct the classroom-based lesson is provided by MOE.

4. Additional information is available on the MOE website <https://go.gov.sg/moe-sexuality-education>.

5. If you do not wish your child/ward to attend this programme, please complete the opt-out form on page 2 of this document and return it to the school. For further clarifications about this programme, please email us at Eileen_Chee@cda.gov.sg.

Yours Sincerely,



Robin Lee (Mr)
Deputy Director
Training and Education Division, CDA

eTeens Opt-out Form

Please complete this section if you DO NOT wish your child/ward to attend the eTeens Programme and return it to the school.

I, (name) _____, do not wish my son/daughter/ward*, (name) _____ of class _____, to attend the *eTeens* STIs/HIV Prevention Programme conducted by the Communicable Diseases Agency.

My reason(s) for opting out:

- ☐ My child is too young
- ☐ I would like to personally educate my child
- ☐ I am not comfortable with the topics/content to be covered
- ☐ Religious reasons
- ☐ I have previously taught my child the topics/content to be covered
- ☐ I do not think it is necessary for my child to attend
- ☐ Others (please state): _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date