

WALKING HAND IN HAND

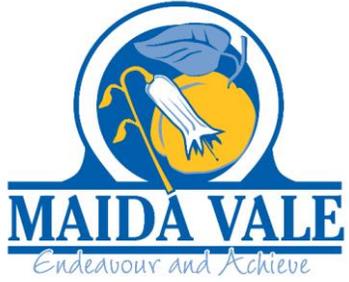
A SHARED PERSPECTIVE ON SEXUAL EDUCATION



Craig Stein

Health and PE Learning Area Coordinator

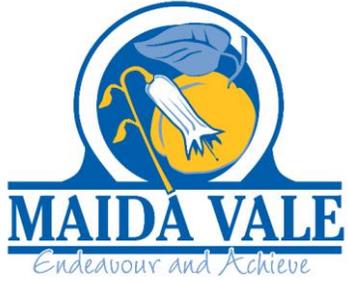
Maida Vale Primary School



PROJECT BEGINNINGS



- Anecdotal evidence that past students were encountering a range of tricky issues upon their entry to secondary school. Some students were not adequately equipped to handle them.
- The MVPS School Board asked us to identify ways to improve the knowledge and understanding of sexuality specific topics with our graduating Year 6 cohort.
- Educating and empowering our students and their caregivers was an important consideration.
- Annual presentation to our Year 5 and 6 students by the School Nurse was good, but it was felt we needed more.



WORKSHOP PLANNING

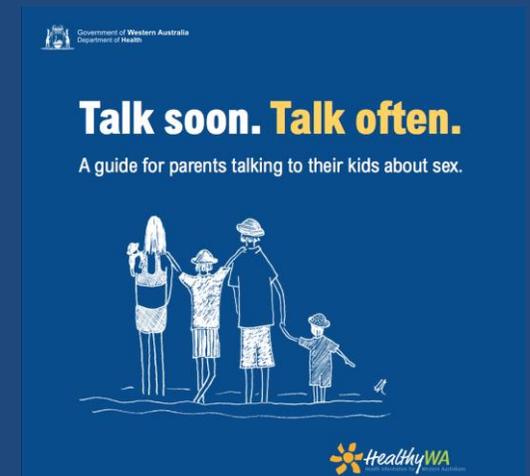


- Precursor was the past participation by our Associate Principal in a joint Sex Ed session at her children's school and the positive memories of this.
- We wanted to source an external provider to deliver the workshops.
- The market for presenters/organisations willing to present to both children and adults appeared small.
- We were given contact details for Christina Self from Red Ginger Services. Things immediately progressed after speaking with Christina.

WORKSHOP CONTENT



- Sought out our two local secondary schools (Kalamunda SHS and Darling Range Sports College) on current issues faced by their Year 7 and 8 students
 - Online safety
 - Social changes
 - Respectful relationships
- Input from Christina on current sexuality trends among teens
- Informed by existing Community Health resources



WORKSHOP DELIVERY



Two Sexual Education Workshops

- Out of school hours
- In Year 6 classrooms
→ familiar environment
- Story telling and shared discovery
- Topics covered included:
 - Life story – breaking the ice
 - Sexting
 - Resilience and support



WORKSHOP EVALUATION



- 25 students (52% of our Year 6 cohort) attended the workshops. All attended with a significant adult in their life (parent, aunt, grandparent)

- **23 caregivers completed a post workshop evaluation**

- 74% reported an increase in their knowledge and awareness of youth sexual health after the workshop (26% remained the same)



- 78% said they had developed increased confidence in tackling issues surrounding youth sexual health within their own family (22% same)

- **16 students completed a post workshop evaluation**

- 81% agreed or strongly agreed that they enjoyed the workshop (19% neutral)
- 88% agreed or strongly agreed that they learned something important about themselves (12% neutral)



WORKSHOP EVALUATION



I enjoyed connecting with my Mum and talking about issues



It covered a lot of areas, interaction with our child and situations we may have faced

I enjoyed learning new things about my safety and what sexting is



Very open and honest. Good stuff about respect and consent. Good to see so many attendees.



PROJECT EVALUATION



- Deemed a success and is likely to be repeated in 2018
- Resistance from some students and parents. Do we need to overcome this or is this simply reflective of the subject area?
- Considerations to starting even younger – Year 5 or even Year 4
- We only just touched on part of the discussion that needs to be had. It builds on Health Education lessons on puberty and presentations by the School Nurse, as well as discussions that should be taking place in the home