A Fertile Heart

Receiving & Giving Creative Love

Fertile Heart

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As you know from September 2020 it becomes compulsory for all schools across England to teach Relationships Education at primary level and Relationships and Sex Education at secondary? As I'm sure you'll agree, these are essential topics for our young people to cover, but we must make sure these compulsory lessons are delivered with care in our schools.

Additionally, many teachers will find themselves teaching a sensitive subject in which they are not specialised. And, due to the shortage of Catholic teaching staff, many non-Catholic teachers will find themselves delivering these lessons to our children or grandchildren.

Enabling Catholic Schools

A Fertile Heart is a faith-inspired programme of study that offers all our schools a solution to this situation. It enables schools to deliver the new statutory curriculum, while also adhering to Catholic values.

Covering the fundamentals of the new curriculum, A Fertile Heart has been specially developed to be taught in Catholic schools. The work of teachers and priests from the dioceses of Birmingham, Cardiff, Clifton, and Shrewsbury, the course reinforces the values of growth, love and patience to our young people.

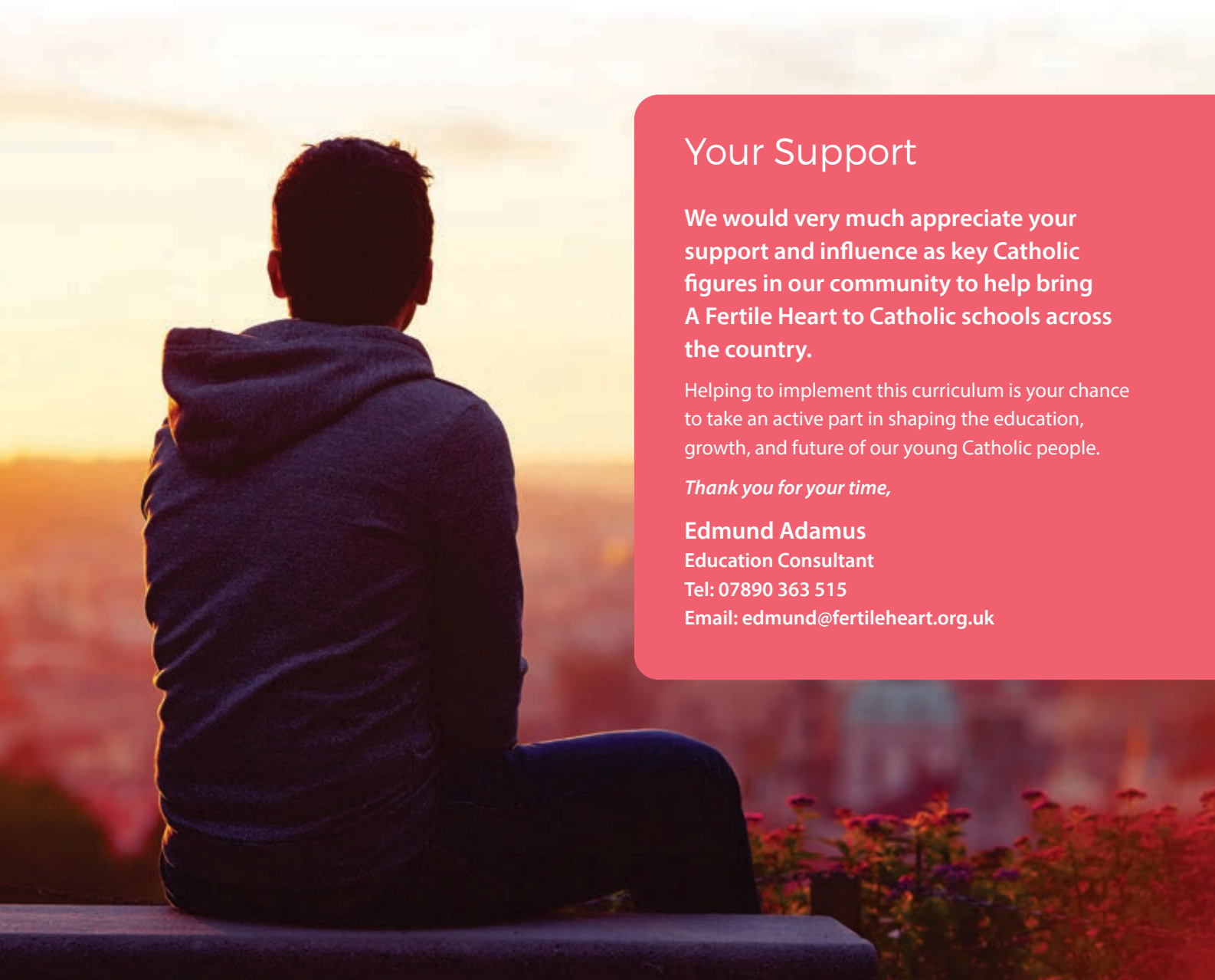
The course provides complete subject modules for teachers to deliver. From lesson plans and PowerPoint presentations to teacher guidance and textbooks, our comprehensive resources cover Relationships Education for years four to six and Relationships and Sex Education for years seven to eleven.

The programme meets diocesan guidelines and the statutory curriculum, covering essential topics, such as beauty and bullying to tolerance and temperance. Tried and tested over the last two years, A Fertile Heart has received extremely positive feedback from both teachers and pupils in the 43 primary and 13 secondary schools who have piloted it.

Empowering Young People

Crucially, the course supports what Catholic education is all about: helping our young people to grow, to understand what it is to be human and to be fully engaged in life. It promotes the triangle of family, parish, and school, encouraging discussion and interaction, focusing on the freedom to seek the truth, the freedom to discover and the freedom to love.

This course has never been more relevant, or needed, than it is today. It offers an antidote to the negative pressures placed on young people, providing them with a better understanding of self and equipping them with the capabilities to grow into well-rounded people with a strong Catholic values.



Your Support

We would very much appreciate your support and influence as key Catholic figures in our community to help bring A Fertile Heart to Catholic schools across the country.

Helping to implement this curriculum is your chance to take an active part in shaping the education, growth, and future of our young Catholic people.

Thank you for your time,

Edmund Adamus
Education Consultant
Tel: 07890 363 515
Email: edmund@fertileheart.org.uk

How can **you** help?

Fertile Heart

Our Objective

Currently, we are looking for:

- **Fertile Heart Advocates**
- **Introductions to Catholic Influencers, Business People and Catholic Schools**
- **Financial support for our online development ready to present to the DfE**
- **Support with planning and organising the launch**
- **Any other help, guidance or proposals**

We already have the active support and official endorsement of the Most Rev. Archbishop George Stack of Cardiff who provided detailed and positive feedback on the whole content of the syllabus. His Grace kindly wrote the foreword and recommended the resource to appropriate Vatican officials and to all the English and Welsh Bishops during their ad limina [five yearly] visit to the Holy See.

The syllabus has also been submitted for approval and global recommendation by the San Callisto Foundation, an international group of experts in affective sexuality formation recruited by the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life within the Vatican. Our newly appointed Education Consultant, Edmund Adamus has been a member of the Foundation since 2016.

Copies have also been sent to His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols and to all the Bishops in England and Wales. We have already had encouraging feedback from 10 of the Bishops and we are now engaging with Diocesan Schools Commissioners and Directors of Education.

Our aim is to provide all our Catholic schools with the best possible resources. We are focussed on playing a significant role now and in the future of shaping the hearts and minds of young people to be more intentional about their personal, moral and spiritual development. In short, to help them look at the world "through the eyes of Jesus"

It is our objective that profits made by "A Fertile Heart" will be invested into continually improving the resources and their availability, with a longer-term commitment to establish a Charitable Trust to benefit good and credible causes connected with the Catholic Church. If you choose to invest in our future at this point in our development, we pledge to donate up to twice the figure invested to those other causes.

Helping to implement this curriculum is your chance to take part in shaping the education, growth and development of the young people in our schools who in turn are the future of the Church and society.

T. 01785 827 995 | **E.** hello@fertileheart.org.uk | **www.fertileheart.org.uk**

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