The Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM) and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) are proud to present this HFLE Regional Curriculum Framework developed as a resource for CARICOM countries to develop their national school-based health education curricula for ages 5-12 in the primary school and 11-16 in the secondary school. This document is an example of how shared commitment and dedication to the development of children and adolescents in the Caribbean can result in a positive output.

During the April 2003 CARICOM’s Council on Human and Social Development (COHSOD), CARICOM member country representatives decided that a Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) Regional Curriculum Framework needed to be produced to provide guidance to CARICOM countries in developing national curricula that place lifeskills at the core of the school-based health education programmes. Due to limited initial funding, CARICOM experts commenced the production of the HFLE regional curriculum framework initially only for the critical age period of 9 to 14 years old children. This initial framework was completed in 2004. Since then CARICOM countries have successfully used this framework to realign their national curricula.

It became evident however, that the lack of a Framework to provide guidance for national curriculum on HFLE for the early childhood and late adolescent period has left a major gap. Building on the experience of the collaborative process with the Education Development Centre for the development of the existing Framework, Caribbean experts worked to develop the basic standards and outcomes for the additional age cohorts until this Regional HFLE Curriculum Framework which covered ages 5-12 in the primary school and 11-16 in the secondary school was completed.

Current child development theories stress that acquiring social competencies is an important dimension of the positive social, physical, intellectual, cultural, emotional and spiritual development of children and adolescent. It is therefore important that Caribbean children and adolescents not only acquire accurate knowledge but also develop social, interpersonal, emotional coping and cognitive skills and explore positive values and attitudes.

This Framework combines health promotion and problem prevention in an attempt to not only reduce risky behaviours but equally promote healthy decision making, development and lifestyles. In recognising that the development of social competencies is facilitated by strong social support, the Framework explicitly seeks to promote and encourage strong partnerships between the home, school and community environment of children and adolescents.

It is our firm belief that the exposure of our young people to quality HFLE programmes throughout their school life is critical in developing the core skills, attitudes and competencies to productive Caribbean Citizens as defined by Caribbean Heads of Government in 1997. We encourage you, educators, to use this Framework as a tool in this regard.

Edward Greene
Assistant Secretary General
CARICOM Secretariat

Tom Olsen
Representative
UNICEF Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean
acknowledgements.

The UNICEF Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean (UNICEF/BECO) and the Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM) wish to express their appreciation for the input of various persons from across the Caribbean region to the update and expansion of the HFLE Curriculum Framework to cover the full primary and secondary levels of education. The ready positive response and general enthusiasm shown by educators at all levels in the teaching system including primary and secondary school teachers and subject specialists ensured that those who would be using the Framework were an integral part of the development process.

Particular thanks goes to Ms. Arthusa Semei and Dr. Jennifer Crichlow the Consultants who led various Teams of teachers and health educators as they worked to expand the original HFLE Regional Curriculum Framework for Ages 9-14 (originally prepared under the technical guidance of the Education Development Centre, Boston) to specify standards and learning outcomes for students throughout primary and secondary schools.

Other Contributors
Lauriston Charles and Denise Mills, Ministry of Education, Antigua
Patricia Warner, Margaret Grant and Mary Chase, Ministry of Education, Barbados
Justina Niles-Noel, Ministry of Education, Grenada; Devon Rachae, Ministry of Youth, Grenada
Krysti Alexander, Veda George, Ministry of Education, Dominica
Salomie Evering, Ministry of Education, Jamaica
Muriel Gilds, Suriname
Zita Wright, Trinidad and Tobago
Melinda Andrew, Rita Dyer, Ministry of Education, St. Lucia; Patricia Joseph, St. Lucia

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This Curriculum Framework for Primary Schools is based on the initial Health and Family Life Education Regional Curriculum Framework for Ages 9-14. This document provided the basic guidance required to develop the relevant Standards and Core Outcomes for the various age groups. Consequently the background information and the guidance for the use of the Framework is derived from this document.
In 1994, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Standing Committee of Ministers of Education passed a resolution supporting the development of a comprehensive approach to Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) by CARICOM and the University of the West Indies (UWI). Support was sought from United Nations agencies working in the Region to streamline and enhance the delivery of HFLE in CARICOM countries. Strategic objectives were:

- To develop policy, including advocacy and funding, for the overall strengthening of HFLE in and out of schools;
- To strengthen the capacity of teachers to deliver HFLE programmes;
- To develop comprehensive life-skills based teaching materials; and
- To improve coordination among all the agencies at the regional and national levels in the area of HFLE.

In 1996, the CARICOM Standing Committees of Ministers of Health and Education endorsed the document “A Strategy for Strengthening Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) in CARICOM Member States”. The Ministers also reaffirmed their
commitment to HFLE as a priority for achieving national development goals, as well as to putting into place measures to ensure its sustainability. They agreed to make every effort to ensure the formulation and review of national policies on HFLE. In April 2003 the Sixth Special Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) further endorsed the need for urgent strengthening the delivery of HFLE as a core area of instruction at the primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. Additionally, COHSOD recommended that the focus of HFLE programmes should shift from an information-based model to a skills-development model, and that a Regional Curriculum Framework should be developed which could be adapted by Member States to meet their specific needs.

UWI and UN agencies have continued to work closely with CARICOM to support implementation and are members of the CARICOM Regional HFLE Working Group.

HFLE Curriculum Sub-Regional Pilot 2005 - 2008
The efficacy of the Regional HFLE Curriculum Framework was monitored in a three-year study which looked at the effect of two Themes on a cohort of children. Common HFLE lessons were developed and delivered in selected schools in four countries - Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, and St Lucia. The life skills practice approach was utilized as the treatment in three of six selected schools in each country, whilst the other three were monitored for comparison purposes. Findings from this study can provide valuable information to curriculum designers utilizing this framework.

Rationale for Curriculum Framework
Given the challenges being faced by countries it was felt important that the life skills aspect of HFLE be enhanced. Whilst some CARICOM countries had developed curricula for the delivery of HFLE in schools many of these were information-based. Countries required support in moving their curricula away from traditional topic centred learning approaches to more thematic approaches. In addition countries needed guidance in the application of interactive teaching methods and alternative assessment methods.

Why Health and Family Life Education (HFLE)?
There is the perception that traditional curricula do not ensure that children and youth achieve their full potential as citizens. In addition, increasing social pressures are impacting on young persons in ways that make teaching a challenge. Teachers are finding that young people are more disruptive, are more likely to question authority, and see little relevance of schooling that fails to adequately prepare them for their various life roles. The paradox is that schools are now seen as key agencies to redress some of these very issues. HFLE, then, is a curriculum initiative that not only reinforces the connection between health and education, but also uses a holistic approach within a planned and coordinated framework. It “is perceived as the viable way to bridge existing gaps to enable young persons to attain the high levels of educational achievement and productivity required for the 21st century.” (UNICEF/CARICOM, 1999, p 15.)

The Health and Social Profile of Caribbean Children and Youth
The World Bank Country Study reveals that young persons, 10 to 24 years, make up about 30% of the population in the Caribbean (World Bank, 2003). The data for available countries indicate that the proportion of youth 10 to 24 years varies from as high as 34% in St. Lucia, to 24% in St. Kitts and Nevis. This group has historically always been “at risk.” In the past, it was infectious diseases that ravaged this group. Today, however, emotional and behavioural disabilities rank high among the health conditions that affect young persons in the Region. Increasingly, Caribbean youth are being adversely affected by a number of social, psychological, and physical problems.

Evidence of this is substantiated by the findings of Dicks, (2001); Halcon, Beuhring & Blum, (2000); Heath, (1997); PAHO (1998); UWI-Cave Hill (1998);
The Ideal Caribbean Person

The Ideal Caribbean Person should be someone who among other things:

- is imbued with a respect for human life since it is the foundation on which all the other desired values must rest;
- is emotionally secure with a high level of self confidence and self esteem;
- sees ethnic, religious and other diversity as a source of potential strength and richness;
- is aware of the importance of living in harmony with the environment;
- has a strong appreciation of family and kinship values, community cohesion, and moral issues including responsibility for and accountability to self and community;
- has an informed respect for the cultural heritage;
- demonstrates multiple literacies, independent and critical thinking;
- questions the beliefs and practices of past and present and brings this to bear on the innovative application of science and technology to problems solving;
- demonstrates a positive work ethic;
- values and displays the creative imagination in its various manifestations and nurture its development in the economic and entrepreneurial spheres in all other areas of life;
- has developed the capacity to create and take advantage of opportunities to control, improve, maintain and promote physical, mental, social and spiritual well being and to contribute to the health and welfare of the community and country;
- nourishes in him/herself and in others, the fullest development of each person’s potential without gender stereotyping and embraces differences and similarities between females and males as a source of mutual strength.

and The World Bank (2003). The findings identify certain key social and environmental concerns: poverty, unemployment, high academic failure rates, family instability, fragmented communities, child abuse and neglect, violence, stress and alienation, negative influence of the media, questionable sub-cultures, and unavailability of physical education and recreational facilities. Health threats include such lifestyle-related conditions as diabetes, hypertension, obesity; HIV/AIDS/STDs, sexual abuse, substance abuse, suicide and teenage pregnancy.

In moving ahead the Caribbean Health and Social agenda for youth, there has been a vision of the ‘Caribbean in the future’ and the ‘Ideal Caribbean Person’ enunciated by CARICOM.

Life Skills Based Health and Family Life Education (HFLE)

Skills-based Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) is an approach to creating or maintaining positive attitudes toward health and well-being in children and young people. It seeks to promote the development of health knowledge, social and emotional competencies and behaviours needed for life.

Health Education has been defined by Green et al., (1980) as “any combination of learning experiences designed to facilitate voluntary adaptations of behaviour conducive to health.” Current approaches conceptualize HFLE as a ‘planned, sequential curriculum’ using a variety of learning experiences,
with an emphasis on participatory health-related skills learning methods.

Health skills development and social and emotional competence are the key to helping children seek out positive opportunities and resist destructive behavior (CASEL). Health and Family Life Education covers a broad range of content areas such as emotional and mental health; nutrition; alcohol, and other drug use; reproductive and sexual health (WHO); managing self, communicating effectively and building positive relationships. Within the Caribbean HFLE life skills-based curricula are being adopted as a means to empower children and youth to deal with challenging situations.

Values in Health and Family Life Education
Another justification for the life skills based HFLE approach is that it is a natural vehicle for the acquisition of the educational, democratic and ethical values reflected in National and Regional policy documents. In the delivery of HFLE, the fostering of laudable attitudes and values is set alongside the knowledge and skill components. Some of the commonly held values are respect for self and others; empathy and tolerance; honesty; kindness; responsibility; integrity; and social justice.

The teaching of values in HFLE is to encourage young people to strive towards accepted ideals of a democratic, pluralistic society such as self-reliance, capacity for hard work, cooperation, respect for legitimately constituted authority, and ecologically sustainable development. This is done in the context of existing family, spiritual, cultural and societal values, and through critical analysis and values clarification, in order to foster the intrinsic development of values and attitudes.

The Concept of Life Skills
The World Health Organization defines life skills as "abilities for adaptive and positive behaviour that enable children to deal effectively with the demands and challenges of everyday life." “The attention to knowledge, attitudes, and skills together (with an emphasis on skills) is an important feature that distinguishes skills-based education from other ways of educating about health issues.”

As health and family life education programmes evolved over the past decade, there was a growing recognition that providing information and developing cognitive skills was not sufficient motivation to change behaviour. Evidence shows that there is a role for a participative life skills approach. Life skills are a group of psychosocial competencies and interpersonal skills that help people make informed decisions, solve problems, think critically and creatively, communicate effectively, build healthy relationships, empathize with others, and cope with and manage their lives in a hygienic, healthy, and productive manner.

There is evidence for the role of psychosocial and interpersonal skills in the development of young people, from their earliest years through childhood, adolescence, and into young adulthood. These skills have an effect on the ability of young people to protect themselves from health threats, build competencies to adopt positive behaviours, and foster healthy relationships (WHO, Skills for Health).

Theoretical Foundations of the Life Skills Approach
Theories about the way human beings, and specially, children and adolescents grow, learn and behave provide the foundation for the life skills approach. These include child and adolescent development, social learning, problem behaviour, social influence, cognitive problem solving, multiple intelligences, and risk and resiliency theories (Mangrulkar, Whitman & Posner, 2001).

There is a dearth of documented research evidence on the evaluation of health-related school intervention programmes in the Caribbean. However, results of programme
evaluation studies in other countries reveal that competence in the use of life skills can:

- Delay the onset of drug abuse
- Prevent high-risk sexual behaviours
- Facilitate anger management and conflict resolution
- Improve academic performance, and
- Promote positive social adjustment.

Children and adolescents who fail to acquire the skills for interacting with others in a socially acceptable manner early in life can be rejected by their peers and often engage in unhealthy behaviours, such as violence or abuse of alcohol and drugs, to compensate for their rejection (Patterson, 1986). Research has also found that children with social deficits or aggressive behaviour are at a higher risk of poor academic performance (Parker and Ashe, 1987). On the other hand the development social and emotional competence - the ability to understand, manage and express the social and emotional aspects of one’s life, would enable the successful management of life tasks such as learning, forming relationships, and adapting to complex demands of growth and development. (ELIAS et al., 1997)

**Which Skills for the HFLE?**

There is no specified list of life skills to be applied in specific situations. The choice of, and emphasis on different skills, will vary according to the topic and local cultural conditions. A number of life skill categories were selected for this Regional HFLE approach, whilst the placing of life skills in categories suggests that these categories are distinct from each other; it is important to recognize that many skills are interrelated and are used simultaneously in practice.

**Communication and Interpersonal Skills**

*Interpersonal Communication Skills*
- Verbal/Nonverbal communication
- Active listening
- Expressing feelings; giving feedback (without blaming) and receiving feedback

**Negotiation and Refusal Skills**
- Negotiation and conflict management
- Assertiveness skills
- Refusal skills

**Empathy**
- Ability to listen and understand another's needs and circumstances and express that understanding

**Cooperation and Teamwork**
- Expressing respect for others' contributions and different styles
- Assessing one's own abilities and contributing to the group

**Advocacy Skills**
- Influencing skills & persuasion
- Networking and motivation skills

**Decision-Making and Critical Thinking Skills**

*Decision making / problem solving skills*
- Information gathering skills
- Evaluating future consequences of present actions for self and others
- Determining alternative solutions to problems
- Analysis skills regarding the influence of values and attitudes of self and others on motivation

**Critical thinking skills**
- Analyzing peer and media influences
- Analyzing attitudes, values, social norms and beliefs and factors affecting these
- Identifying relevant information and information sources

**Creative thinking**
- Generating novel and innovative ideas
- Respond adaptively to life situations
- Think outside traditional ways

**Coping and Self-Management Skills**

(Skills for increasing internal locus of control; Personal Confidence

*Abilities to Assume Control, Take Responsibility, Make a Difference, or Bring About Change*)
- Self esteem/Self confidence building skills
- Self awareness skills including awareness of rights,
influences, values, attitudes, rights, strengths and weaknesses
- Goal setting skills
- Self evaluation / Self assessment / Self-monitoring skills

**Skills for Managing Feelings**
- Anger management
- Dealing with grief and anxiety
- Coping skills for dealing with loss, abuse, trauma

**Skills for Managing Stress**
- Time management
- Positive thinking
- Relaxation techniques
- Understanding different norms, beliefs, cultures

**Values Analysis and Clarification Skills**
- Understanding different norms, beliefs, cultures
- Self assessment skills
- Identifying influences on values and attitudes
- Aligning values, attitudes and behaviours

**Social and Emotional Competencies**
- Self-awareness
- Self-management
- Social awareness
- Relationship skills
- Responsible decision-making

---

**Definitions and Significance of Life Skills**

*The Core of life skills that facilitate the practice of healthy behaviours is divided into the following groups:*

**SOCIAL SKILLS**
- Interpersonal skills
- Communication skills
- Refusal skills
- Negotiation skills
- Empathy skills
- Advocacy skills

**COGNITIVE SKILLS**
- Decision – Making skills
- Problem-solving skills
- Critical-thinking skills
- Creative-thinking skills

**EMOTIONAL / COPING SKILLS**
- Healthy Self-management skills
- Self-monitoring skills
- Self-awareness skills
- Coping with emotions (anger, self-esteem, grief, loss)
**Operational definitions outline the outcome behaviors and their intended effects:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIFE SKILLS</th>
<th>DEFINITIONS</th>
<th>SIGNIFICANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decision Making</strong></td>
<td>The ability to a course of action from a number of options which may result in a specific outcome or involve only the resolve to behave in a certain way in the future.</td>
<td>Helps us deal constructively with health and other decisions about our lives by enabling us to assess the different options and what effect different decisions may have.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Problem Solving</strong></td>
<td>The process through which a situation/problem is resolved (i.e., diagnosing the problem, taking action to close the gap between present situation and desired outcome to other situations)</td>
<td>Allows us to deal constructively with problems in our lives, that if left unattended could cause new problems, including mental and physical stress.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Creative Thinking</strong></td>
<td>The ability to depart from traditional ways of thinking, resulting in the generation of original and innovative ideas that enable us to respond adaptively to life situations.</td>
<td>Contributes to both decision making and problem solving by enabling us to explore the available alternatives and various consequences of our actions or non-actions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Effective Communication</strong></td>
<td>The ability to express ourselves, both verbally and non-verbally, in ways that are appropriate to our cultures and situations.</td>
<td>Allows the transfer of information and emotion from one person to another to make one's intent clear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interpersonal Relationship Skills</strong></td>
<td>The ability to relate positively with people, creating an environment in which people feel secure and free to interact and express their opinions.</td>
<td>Allows us to keep friendly relationships, which can be of great importance to our mental and social well-being, and impacts the way communicate with, motivate and influence each other.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Self-Awareness</strong></td>
<td>Having a sense of identity and an understanding of our own feelings, beliefs, attitudes, values, goals, motivations, and behaviours.</td>
<td>Helps us to recognize our feeling and values and is a prerequisite for effective communication, interpersonal relationship, and developing empathy for others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Empathy</strong></td>
<td>The ability to imagine what life is like for another person, even in a situation that we are unfamiliar with.</td>
<td>Can help us to accept others who may be very different from ourselves, respond to people in need, and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empathy</td>
<td>Promote other positive social interactions.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Empathy</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Coping With Emotions</strong></td>
<td>Enables us to respond appropriately to our emotions and avoid the negative effects that prolonged, pent up emotions may have on our physical and mental health.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The ability to recognize a range of feelings in ourselves and others, the awareness of how emotions influence behaviour, and the ability to respond to emotions appropriately.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Coping With Stress</strong></td>
<td>Enables us to adjust our levels of stress and avoid the negative consequences of stress, including boredom, burnout, susceptibility to diseases, and behavioural changes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The ability to recognize the sources of stress in our lives and the effects that stress produces; the ability to act in ways that help us cope with or reduce our stress levels.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Negotiation Skills</strong></td>
<td>Helps us to meet and address individual needs and concerns in ways that are mutually beneficial.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The ability to communicate with others for the purpose of settling a matter, coming to terms or reaching an agreement. This may involve the ability to compromise or to give and take.</td>
<td>This is a key factor in working and playing cooperatively with others.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Refusal Skills</strong></td>
<td>Enables us to carry out health-enhancing behaviours that are consistent with our values and decisions.</td>
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<td>The ability to communicate the decision to say &quot;no&quot; effectively (so that it is understood).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Assertiveness Skills</strong></td>
<td>Assertiveness skills enable people to take actions that are in their own best interests. Such actions include the ability to stand up for oneself or someone else without feeling intimidated or anxious and to express feelings and point of view honestly and openly.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The ability to state one's point of view or personal rights clearly and confidently, without denying the personal rights of others.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Healthy Self-Management Monitoring Skills</strong></td>
<td>Enables us to maintain health-enhancing decisions from day to day as well as to reach long-term health goals and wellness goals.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source 1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Social and Emotional Learning Skills</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Self-Awareness</strong></td>
<td>Accurately assessing one’s feelings, interests, values, and strengths; maintaining a well-grounded sense of self-confidence</td>
<td>Enables us to understand how we function and what affects our feelings. Enables us to make informed choices based on our strengths and values</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Self-Management</strong></td>
<td>Regulating one’s emotions to handle stress, control impulses, and persevere in overcoming obstacles; setting and monitoring progress toward personal and academic goals; expressing emotions appropriately</td>
<td>Helps us to regulate and express emotions appropriately, controlling impulsive behaviour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Awareness</strong></td>
<td>Being able to take the perspective of and empathize with others; recognizing and appreciating individual and group similarities and differences; recognizing and using family, school, and community resources</td>
<td>Increases our social perception of our environment; recognizing individual and group differences and similarities;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Relationship Skills</strong></td>
<td>Establishing and maintaining healthy and rewarding relationships based on cooperation; resisting inappropriate social pressure; preventing, managing, and resolving interpersonal conflict; seeking help when needed</td>
<td>Helps us in establishing and managing relationships, and how to end relationships if necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Responsible Decision-Making</strong></td>
<td>Making decisions based on consideration of ethical standards, safety concerns, appropriate social norms, respect for others, and likely consequences of various actions; applying decision-making skills to academic and social situations; contributing to the well-being of one’s school and community</td>
<td>Enables us to incorporate a sense of responsibility in our decision making.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 CARICOM Multi-Agency HFLE Programme manual for Facilitators of Life Skills Based HFLE Programmes in the Formal and non-Formal Sectors and Teenage Health Teaching Secessions.

2 CASEL
Ethical Guidelines for the Delivery of HFLE

Responsibility to Students
Teachers and other resource persons involved in the delivery of HFLE should:

❂ Have primary responsibility to the student, who is to be treated with respect, dignity, and with concern for confidentiality.
❂ Make appropriate referrals to service providers based on the needs of the student, and monitor progress.
❂ Maintain the confidentiality of student records and exchange personal information only according to prescribed responsibility.
❂ Provide only accurate, objective, and observable information regarding student behaviours.
❂ Familiarise themselves with policies relevant to issues and concerns related to disclosure. Responses to such issues should be guided by national and school policies, codes of professional organizations/unions, and the existing laws.

Responsibility to Families
❂ Respect the inherent rights of parents/guardians for their children and endeavour to establish co-operative relationships.
❂ Treat information received from families in a
confidential and ethical manner.

- Share information about a student only with persons authorized to receive such information.
- Offer ongoing support and collaboration with families for support of the child.

**Responsibility to Colleagues**

- Establish and maintain a cooperative relationship with other members of staff and the administration.
- Promote awareness and adherence to appropriate guidelines regarding confidentiality and the distinction between private and public information.
- Encourage awareness of and appropriate use of related professions and organizations to which the student may be referred.

**Responsibilities to Self**

- Monitor one's own physical, mental and emotional health, as well as professional effectiveness.
- Refrain from any destructive activity leading to harm to self or to the student.
- Take personal initiative to maintain professional competence.
- Understand and act upon a commitment to HFLE.

**Content**

The content for HFLE is organized around four themes. These themes have been adopted from the core curriculum guide developed for teachers' colleges as part of a PAHO initiative (see PAHO/Carnegie, 1994). Standards and core outcomes have been developed for each of these themes.

This thematic approach marks a departure from the traditional topic centered organization of curricula. For example, the use of alcohol and drugs, as well as premature sexual activity, represent maladaptive responses to coping with poor self-worth, boredom, failure, isolation, hopelessness, and fragmented relationships.

The thematic approach, therefore, addresses the complexity and connectedness between the various concepts and ideas, goals, components and standards, which are associated with attitude and behaviour change.

**Curriculum Framework Themes**

*The four thematic areas are as follows:*

- Self and Interpersonal Relationships
- Sexuality and Sexual Health
- Appropriate Eating and Fitness
- Managing the Environment

**Self and Interpersonal Relationships**

*Key Ideas:*

- Human beings are essentially social, and human nature finds its fullest expression in the quality of relationships established with others.
- Self-concept is learned, and is a critical factor in relationship building.
- Effective or healthy relationships are dependent on the acquisition and practice of identifiable social skills.
- Supportive social environments are critical to the development of social skills in order to reduce feelings of alienation, and many of the self-destructive and risk-taking tendencies, such as violence and drug-use among children and youth in the region.
- Teachers have a critical role to play in creating supportive school and classroom environments that preserve and enhance self-esteem- a critical factor in the teaching/learning process.

**Sexuality and Sexual Health**

*Key Ideas:*

- Sexuality is an integral part of personality, and cannot be separated from other aspects of self.
- The expression of sexuality encompasses
physical, emotional, and psychological components, including issues related to gender.

❖ Sexual role behaviours and values of teachers and children are conditioned by family values and practices, religious beliefs, and social and cultural norms, as well as personal experiences.

❖ Educational interventions must augment the socialization role of the family and other social and religious institutions in order to assist in preventing/minimizing those expressions of sexuality that are detrimental to emotional and physical health and well-being.

Appropriate Eating and Fitness

Key Ideas:

❖ Dietary and fitness practices are influenced by familial, socio-cultural and economic factors, as well as personal preferences.

❖ Sound dietary practices and adequate levels of physical activity are important for physical survival.

❖ The quality of nutritional intake and level of physical activity are directly related to the ability to learn, and has implications for social and emotional development.

❖ The eating and fitness habits in childhood are persistent, conditioning those preferences and practices, which will influence quality of health in later life.

❖ Teachers are well poised to assist students in critically assessing the dietary choices over which they have control, using the leverage provided by classroom instruction and the provision of nutritionally-sound meals in the school environment.

Managing the Environment

Key Ideas:

❖ All human activity has environmental consequences.

❖ Access to, and current use of technologies have had an unprecedented negative impact on the environment.

❖ Human beings are capable of making the greatest range of responses to the environment, in terms of changing, adapting, preserving, enhancing, or destroying it.

❖ There is a dynamic balance between health, the quality of life, and the quality of environment.
Regional Standards & Descriptions
Regional Standards for Self & Interpersonal Relationships

**Regional Standards**

**RS1**
Examine the nature of self, family, school, and community in order to build strong, healthy relationships.

**Descriptor**
*Acceptance of self,* the need to belong, and the need to be loved and some of the universal needs and rights that contribute to the shaping of our individual selves. Students need to develop a healthy self-concept in order to foster healthy relationships within the family, school, and community. They also need to be assisted in developing resiliency— the capacity to assess, cope, manage, and benefit from the various influences that impact on relationships.

**RS2**
Acquisition of coping skills to deter behaviors and lifestyles associated with crime, drugs, violence, motor vehicle accidents and other injuries.

**Students need** to practice skills that reduce their involvement in risky behaviors. Crime, violence, bullying, alcohol and other drugs, and motor vehicle accidents and other injuries threaten the very fabric of Caribbean society and the lives of Caribbean Youth. The acquisition of these skills will increase students' ability to assume a responsible role in aspects of personal, family, and community living.

**RS3**
Respect the rich diversity that exists among Caribbean peoples as a valuable resource for sustainable development of the region within the framework of democratic and ethical values.

**Students must be committed** to valuing and respecting the rich diversity (cultural, ethnic, and religious) of the people of the Caribbean and demonstrate awareness that survival in a global economy demands that we pool our individual and collective resources in order to be productive as a people. They must maximise their potential as contributors to sustainable development while embracing core values and democratic ideals.
Regional Standards for Sexuality & Sexual Health

**Regional Standards**

**RS1**
Demonstrate an understanding that the concept of human sexuality as expressed throughout the life-cycle, is an integral part of every individual.

**RS2**
Analyze the influence of socio-cultural and economic factors, as well as personal beliefs on the expression of sexuality and sexual choices.

**RS3**
Develop action competence to build capacity to recognize the basic criteria and conditions for optimal reproductive health and reduce vulnerability to acquired problems such as the spread of HIV/AIDS, Cervical Cancer STIs and teenage pregnancy.

**Descriptor**

**A differentiation** needs to be made between the terms sex and sexuality. Sexuality has a variety of dimensions which include biological sex, gender, and gender identity. One’s sexuality also encompasses the many social, emotional, and psychological factors that shape the expression of values, attitudes, social roles, and beliefs about self and others as being male or female.

**Young people** daily display their attitudes values in their sexuality. Family, religion, culture, technology—including media - and peers, influence these behaviour. Students will acquire knowledge and skills that will assist them in understanding their own sexuality and making decisions about their sexual engagement which will allow them to realize their potential as responsible and caring human beings.

**Many young** people through their lifestyle and social interaction expose themselves to risk that compromise their sexual and reproductive health, students should demonstrate knowledge of the transmission of HIV/AIDS and other STIs and the psychosocial and emotional issues related to AIDS. They must demonstrate behaviour which will render them less vulnerable to threats to reproductive health by critically analyzing options such as abstinence, drug free lifestyle, use of contraception and assertive behaviour.

**Beyond knowledge of HIV/AIDS**, cervical cancer, and STIs as a disease, efforts have to be intensified to) Display knowledge and behaviour which will render students less vulnerable to contracting and spreading HIV/AIDS, cervical cancer, and STIs. Addressing issues related to the physical and emotional aspects of HIV/AIDS, stigma of living with HIV/AIDS, and discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS is critical. Importantly, students are encouraged to examine a range of options for reducing vulnerability to these problems such as abstinence, a drug-free lifestyle and so on.
Appropriate Eating & Fitness

Regional Standards

RS1
Build individual capacity to make healthy eating choices throughout the life cycle and reduce the risk factors associated with the development of lifestyle diseases.

RS2
Demonstrate an understanding of fitness and its relationship to good health and quality of living.

RS3
Analyze the influence of socio-cultural and economic factors, as well as personal beliefs and choices related to appropriate eating and fitness.

RS4
Develop knowledge and skills to access age-appropriate sources of information, products, and services related to eating and fitness.

Descriptor

Students, therefore, need to understand that healthy eating and the right balance of safe, nutritious, and wholesome foods (including locally-grown foods) are critical to optimum health throughout the life-cycle, and they should acquire skills to make healthy food choices and reduce the incidents of diet-related/lifestyle diseases (diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, stroke, and some forms of cancer) that affect productivity and national development.

Students to develop skills that will help them with make choices in favour of sound fitness habits to achieve optimum levels of age-appropriate physical activity which promotes good health. Students need to assess barriers relating to fitness, develop the skills to conduct physical fitness self-assessments.

Students need to critically examine how their eating and exercise behaviours are influenced by family culture as well as social, economic and religious factors and media. They need to learn how to make healthy choices and display habits which lead to a healthy active lifestyle.

Students should be capable of identifying and accessing age-appropriate information, products, and services relating to eating and fitness within their community. Students should be encouraged to critically assess information, products, and services relating to eating and fitness for the attainment and maintenance of good health throughout the life-cycle.
## Managing the Environment

### Regional Standards

| RS1 | Demonstrate an understanding of the inter-relationships of a sustainable natural environment. |
| RS2 | Analyse the relationship between a sustainable and healthy environment, and the social and economic well-being of students, schools, and communities. |
| RS3 | Analyse the relationship between a sustainable and healthy environment, and the social and economic well-being of students, schools, and communities. |
| RS4 | Demonstrate scientifically sound and affordable responses to the creation of healthy and sustainable environments and the reduction of environmental health threats in the home, school, community, and region. |
| RS5 | Develop knowledge and skills to access age-appropriate sources of information, products, and services as they relate to managing the environment. |

### Descriptor

| RS1 | *It is important* for students to develop a basic understanding of the features and operations of natural environmental systems and the threats to their sustainability. |
| RS2 | Students need to be aware of the environmental health threats and the main factors in their causation and understand the impact on their lives. |
| RS3 | Students need to understand and appreciate the impact and benefits of a healthy, sustainable environment on their health and well-being. |
| RS4 | Students need to develop the knowledge and skills to effectively utilise scientifically sound and affordable responses to address both the issues of protecting the environment and protection from the environment. |
| RS5 | Students should be capable of identifying, accessing, and critically assessing age-appropriate information, products, and services relating to managing the environment. |
Teaching/Learning Strategies

The objective of any teaching/learning approach in the HFLE classroom is the creation of an environment conducive to active, participatory or experiential learning. The learner is the active agent in creating knowledge in that he/she constructs and reconstructs his/her system of knowledge, skills, and values. In this way, ‘meaning’ is attached to his/her real life experiences.

A model of the Active Learning Process would include the following learning stages:
- Understanding the issue and the life skills required (e.g., risks of drugs)
- Relating to personal experiences
- Practising the situation in a safe, supportive environment (e.g., role play)
- Applying knowledge and skills to real life situations
- Reflecting on the experience gained
- Strengthening life skills for further use

This approach to learning:
- Utilizes the experience, opinions, and knowledge of the students.
- Provides a creative context for the exploration and development of options.
- Provides a source of mutual comfort and security, which is important for the learning and decision-making process.
- Promotes the development of action competence for use in the real world.

Methodological Approaches to Curriculum Design

The approach adopted in the delivery of life skills-based HFLE should take into account context, needs, and availability of resources.

There are two major approaches to delivery:
- Discipline-based - HFLE is taught as a separate subject.
- Integration - HFLE is integrated with other subjects in the school curriculum.
- The ideal situation is a combination of these approaches.

The Spiral Curriculum

‘Spiral’ refers to the way in which a curriculum is organized to allow students to continually build upon what they have already learned. The spiral curriculum is based on the principle that we start in one specific area and build on it, but continue to repeat or reinforce the previous information.

The goal is for later teaching to build on earlier learning, to seeking more curiosity, and advancement for further learning opportunities. According to Bruner, (1960, p. 13). “A curriculum as it develops should revisit the basic ideas repeatedly, building upon them until the student has grasped the full formal apparatus that goes with them.”

A spiral curriculum arranges that the same topic, the same idea, the same theme, is encountered many times, each time slightly differently, or probing more deeply. ‘As the student grasps one concept then it is time to build and move on to another but to come back to the underlying concept that was taught first. This building process is how we formulate the spiral curriculum,’ Bruner, (1960).

A spiral curriculum begins with the assumption that children are not always ready to learn something. Readiness to learn is at the core of a spiral curriculum and instead of focusing for relatively long periods of time on some narrow topic whose time has come, a spiral curriculum tries to expose students to a wide varies of ideas over and over ago.

The Learning Spiral is a curriculum design framework to help you construct lessons, activities, or projects that target the development of students’ thinking skills and habits of mind. Up front, the Learning Spiral will help you clearly identify the thinking skills and dispositions you want to cultivate in your students, however the Learning Spiral takes you past identification and into implementation. The power behind the Learning Spiral lies in its scaffolding of the design and planning process so that your lessons
not only elicit the thinking performances you want from your students, but also sets standards for those performances.

These approaches have advantages, as well as disadvantages, and have implications for teacher training.

**Instructional Resources**

*Instructional resources should:*
- Encourage active learning
- Provide all students with opportunities for participation, recognition, and successful achievement in order to foster confidence and self-acceptance
- Provide opportunities for all students to practise the life skills
- Allow for varied patterns of interaction among students, and between students and teacher
- Direct students to the use of available technology
- Recognize diversity among students
- Provide teachers with general and lesson-specific advice to support learning, based on current research on learning styles and effective instruction
- Bring the student’s environment and daily experiences into the classroom
- Promote teacher sensitivity

**Assessment/Evaluation**

**Student Assessment**
The primary aim of assessment is to foster learning for all students. In HFLE, meaningful assessment should focus on the four areas: attitudes, behaviours, knowledge and skills. The school should use assessment results in a formative way to determine how well they are meeting instructional goals, and how to alter curriculum and instruction so that goals can be better met.

All efforts should be made to ensure that there is a valid match between what is being assessed, how it is being assessed, what is taught, and how it is taught. A wide range of assessment strategies is available, and should be built into the curriculum design from the beginning. A critical factor is that it must be ongoing and varied.

A major challenge to teachers is to minimize the focus on the solely traditional and cognitive methods of assessment to which they have become accustomed.

HFLE encompasses all the domains of learning, especially the affective domain. Profound challenges in our societies relate to our social unity, ethical standards and moral values, to our courage and compassion. Feeling is as real and as an important part of human nature, as is cognition or knowing.

Alternative Assessment strategies are suggested, which test across the domains. Examples include performance-based assessment, portfolios, journal writing, and student-designed assessments, among others.

**Teacher Competencies**

To be effective teachers should possess some key competencies and model appropriate behaviours, including:
- In-depth Knowledge of the subject area
- In-depth knowledge of and capacity to model key life skills
- Knowledge of and ability to use interactive teaching methodologies
- Capacity to facilitate students to express different viewpoints and generally promote good teacher/student and student/student interactions;
- Good knowledge of and ability to effectively use alternative assessment methods
- Capacity to ensure connections between what is taught and real life situations
- Establishment of home/school/community linkages

**Programme Evaluation**

It is important that mechanisms be put in place to
monitor and evaluate different components of the HFLE programme, and to use the feedback provided to improve programme quality and implementation, as well as support systems. These might include:
❖ Surveys to determine how much HFLE is actually taught across the school
❖ Evaluation of the effectiveness of new teaching techniques and materials
❖ Evaluation of the effectiveness of programme delivery
❖ Evaluation of the quality of reporting of results
❖ Evaluation of programme impact within the school environment
❖ Evaluation of the degree of fidelity in programme delivery.

Home, School and Community Linkages
Schools today play important and varied roles in children’s lives. In addition to fostering the development of academic skills, schools also equip students with the skills needed to lead safe and healthy lives. Yet, schools cannot and should not be the sole source of solutions to the varied social and health-related problems of students, nor can they work in isolation. Schools require the investment, support, and commitment of family and community to achieve their multifaceted goals. The success of HFLE, therefore, depends on building strong home, school, and community collaboration.

This collaboration will help to:
❖ Educate and empower parents so that they are better positioned to make informed decisions, with respect to the health and well-being of their families.
❖ Acknowledge and respect differences among communities.
❖ Make appropriate use of available community resources and expertise.
❖ Provide a vehicle for communication.
❖ Contribute to the development of local HFLE curricula.

The Health Promoting School
The school has a mandate that goes beyond the provision of providing life skills-based HFLE curricula. The school must adopt a holistic approach to promoting the health and well-being of all its members. One such approach is the Health Promoting School concept.

WHO defines the Health Promoting School (HPS) as one that is constantly strengthening its capacity as a healthy setting for living, learning, and working. An HPS fosters health and learning at all times through school policy; curriculum, teaching and learning; school organisation, ethos and environment (both physical and psychosocial); and partnerships and support services. HPS, therefore, provides a supportive learning environment, and links its efforts with families and communities.

HFLE provides guidance on health curricula and some teaching and learning strategies. However, to be truly effective, this must move beyond the classrooms and be more integral in the wider school health promoting environment.

The Child Friendly School
Child centred learning requires child friendly systems with relevant policies, regulations and practices which support quality education for all children. Child-Friendly Schools are driven by three primary principles – child-centreness, democratic participation and inclusiveness. These in essence seek to transform location and design of physical facilities and services, address teaching and learning methods as well as the learning environment and ensure a strong link of school with the community. These CFS principles should guide the establishment of feasible standards for the design and implementation of CFS in any given country. They are so interrelated that the implementation of any one set of these principles invariably means that the other related principles come into play. With in this context, Child-Friendly School approaches require that schools move HFLE beyond the classroom and put systems in place to facilitate the application of its tenets in the school and wider society.
Child-centreness requires that best interest of the child is central to all decisions pertaining to the school from the physical surroundings to the psychosocial environment. Democratic participation reaffirms the principles of good curriculum design by requiring that children, as well as other stakeholders, have a say in the form and substance of their education. Inclusiveness recognises education, not as a privilege for children but rather a societal responsibility which requires the removal of all barriers that may prevent children from accessing education.

CONCLUSION
Society expects schools to assist in the education of children and youth in such ways as to prepare them to assume and practise responsible and positive roles in all aspects of personal, family, and community living. This is also a prerequisite for national and regional development. Because many of the problems affecting students impact negatively on learning, it is incumbent upon schools to go beyond their traditional boundaries to meet the challenge. The time has come for vigorous, coordinated and sustained effort to support the implementation and strengthening of HFLE in the Region.
Introduction

A Curriculum Framework is a
- summary of the educational issues and needs represented in standards
- discussion of how national goals are achieved through the standards
- structure which shows standards translated into core outcomes
- guide to recommended instructional content and methodologies
- description of effective instruction and assessment strategies with an analysis of how they address the standards;
- structure to help curriculum development committees address their own student needs
- collection of reference materials to assist curriculum development committees and other educators
- guide for planning training and development

A curriculum framework is a guide. It neither determines the detailed scope and sequence of curriculum objectives, nor provides the required detailed lesson plans.

Standards describe the knowledge and skills essential
to the development of skills in the designated area. These standards enunciate what students should know, be able to do, and be committed to, and they are an important first step in raising the expectations of our education system.

**THE LIFE SKILLS-BASED HFLE REGIONAL CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK**

Each of the four thematic areas has been organized around content standards and core outcomes to clarify what, and how, students should learn. Standards generally, express broad expectations about the knowledge and skills essential to the development of skills in the designated area. Standards have embedded a rationale that describes the context and reasoning used in developing them.

*The HFLE Regional Standards* specify the **essential knowledge, skills and attitudes** that students should learn and display.

The **essential knowledge** refers to the most important concepts, principles, and issues relevant to HFLE.

The **skills** include the range of life skills, which enable students to translate knowledge, attitudes, and values into action competence.

**Attitudes** are those dispositions and habits of the heart and mind, which are shaped by social and structural contexts, and which influence behaviours.

The **CORE OUTCOMES** specify what students should be able to do, what they should know and what they should be committed to in order to attain the minimum HFLE standards.

*National curriculum guides* or documents should reflect the standards and core outcomes found in the Regional Framework. Teaching/learning experiences should be created, based on their usefulness in helping students attain the knowledge, skills and attitudes articulated in the standards. Assessment is closely linked to the teaching/learning experiences and serves to provide feedback about student performances, relative to the standards. While summative assessment is important and necessary, greater emphasis should be placed on formative assessment, which should provide immediate feedback about students’ progress in order to guide future action.

*The Framework may be used to do one or more of the following:*

- Strengthen or revise an existing curriculum guide/document
- Develop a curriculum guide/document
- Develop modules, units and lessons

The flowchart in Figure 1 demonstrates how Regional HFLE standards and core outcomes can translate into curriculum guides/documents, and/or modules to inform classroom practice.

The steps in the Decision Making Process are detailed below.

**Does your country have an existing curriculum guide or document?**

If the answer is yes, go to Section A. If the answer is no, then go to Section B.

**Section A**

**Revising/Reviewing the Curriculum Guide/Document**

**Step 1**

The HFLE curriculum is organized around FOUR thematic areas, which are Self and Interpersonal Relationships, Sexuality and Sexual Health, Eating and Fitness, and Management of the Environment. Your curriculum team should address the following question. Has your curriculum been organized around the four thematic areas? Once you have the answer to this question, a determination must be made as to how your team will proceed.

**Step 2**

Does your curriculum contain the essential knowledge, skills, and attitudes articulated in the HFLE standards, descriptors and core outcomes? If
gaps are identified, you will need to make a decision on how to bridge these gaps.

Step 3
The Core Outcomes represent minimum outcomes. Are there specific or contextual in-country issues that you may wish to include in your curriculum? Determine how these may be represented as additional outcomes.

Step 4
Examine the student learning outcomes as reflected in the objectives of your curriculum guide/document.

Do they reflect the concepts, key skills, and attitudes as identified in the Framework? You may need to make a determination on how your team will proceed to address any gaps.

Step 5
Does your curriculum emphasize the use of participatory methodologies and alternative assessment strategies? You may need to address this aspect in your curriculum.

Step 6
Does your curriculum identify or suggest approaches
other than the discipline-specific approach for delivery of HFLE? If infusion or other integrated approaches are suggested, have you provided detailed guidelines to assist teachers in the planning and use of these approaches? You may need to address this aspect in your curriculum.

When you are satisfied that your curriculum meets all the criteria as set out in the Framework, you may wish to consider how to translate your guide/document into modules for classroom practice. Go to Section C for guidelines for this part of the process.

Do you wish to begin the Curriculum Development process?
If the answer is yes, then go to Section B. If the answer is no, you may go directly to Section C to begin module development.

SECTION B
Curriculum development is a complex process. The composition of HFLE Curriculum Development teams should reflect a range of stakeholders from different sectors, and should include a curriculum specialist in the field. The following steps, while not intended to be prescriptive, or to stifle creativity, should provide some guidelines to in-country teams.

Developing the Curriculum Guide/Document
You may need to first revisit/review the principles of curriculum development, since these principles underpin the steps that follow.

❖ Brainstorm and come to some consensus about
the goals for your life skills-based HFLE curriculum. You may draw on existing CARICOM/Multi-Agency HFLE documents, as well as your own country’s policy documents.

A preamble/rationale that includes the philosophy and vision for HFLE, aims and goals, the participatory methodologies and assessment strategies that support active learning and the approach for delivery should be included in the introductory part of the curriculum document.

❖ Revisit the HFLE standards, descriptors, key skills, and core outcomes for each theme, and at each level, as set out in the Framework.

❖ Identify the main concepts/principles/issues from the core outcomes, and keeping in mind the key skills suggested begin to brainstorm what might be developmentally-appropriate objectives for your curriculum guide.

❖ Determine what specific national concerns you may wish to address, and then develop these into additional outcomes.

Once this is done, decide how to organize the content so that it is properly sequenced at each level. If you wish to include an evaluation component, this should be added. A systematic approach to curriculum evaluation, in addition to determining strengths and weaknesses in the curriculum, should provide valuable data about the extent to which students achieve the HFLE standards.

❖ Engage in reviews, rewrite, and review process, until you have a satisfactory product.

❖ Revisit steps 1-6 in Section A to address any gaps that may still be present.

The draft document should be peer-reviewed and revised if necessary.

Are you ready to begin the Module Development process?
If you are, then go to Section C.

Section C

A module in this context refers to a stand-alone and manageable subset of learning outcomes (knowledge, skills, and attitudes, etc.) related to one or more HFLE standards. HFLE standards are theme-specific, but since themes are inter-related, modules can be developed that draw on standards and outcomes across themes. Modules are made up of units of instruction, which link related concepts. The focus should be on unit development, since a number of related units can form a module.

Developing Modules/Units/Lessons
Some guidelines are as follows:
❖ You will need to identify the key concepts/principles/issues from the HFLE standards and core outcomes for the theme/s, and the particular level to begin the process of module development. Additional outcomes that relate to country-specific contextual issues may be included.

❖ Identify manageable and related parts that can be organized into units of instruction.

❖ Determine the general objectives for the units. Even at this broad level, these objectives should capture essential knowledge, skills, and attitudes. At this stage, lesson topics should be identified. These objectives should be classified according to domain.

❖ Each of the general objectives may be further broken down into specific objectives for the lessons that make up the units. Remember that specific objectives describe learning outcomes (knowledge, skills, and attitudes) and should be written in student-centred terms.

❖ There are organizing threads that connect these three levels – modules, units and lessons. Revisit your document to ensure there is congruence among the three levels. (Refer to the sample modules, units and lessons provided in the framework.)
❖ Determine what experiences/activities would help learners achieve the specific objectives. These should be feasible and take into account available resources.

❖ Select activities/experiences that are motivating; that support experiential and active learning; that incorporate skill development; that have an affective component that addresses attitudes and behaviour; and that support the attainment of the relevant standard/s. These activities should accommodate a range of multiple intelligences and learning styles.

❖ If necessary, develop information sheets to support your unit.

❖ Assessment tasks/strategies should be developed while planning units and lessons.

❖ Performance descriptors and scoring guides/rubrics should also be developed at this stage.

**Use the following questions to guide the process.**

❖ What products and performances provide evidence of learning objectives?

❖ Do they accommodate a range of multiple intelligences and learning styles?

❖ What criteria are necessary and sufficient to determine whether unit or lesson outcomes have been attained?

❖ Review and revise. Remember that your modules, units and lesson plans, along with the supporting resource materials and assessment tasks contribute to the development of a valuable resource bank which could be further expanded through networking.

The following are some strategies that should be considered when planning teaching/learning experiences:

❂ Role play
❂ Story telling
❂ Games/Simulations
❂ Case studies/Scenarios
❂ Resource persons/Experts
❂ Panel discussions/Debates
❂ Surveys/Interviews
❂ Field visits/Observations
❂ Journals/Logs/Portfolios
❂ Community/School projects
❂ Group work/Discussions
❂ Media/ Dance/Drama/Art/Music.

A useful tool to help you to understand the process of translating standards into classroom practice is provided in Figure 3 on the left.

**How to use the Tool**
The tool can be used, initially, for developing instructional units from one or more standards.
within a given theme. Once the basic process has been mastered, it can be used for developing units across themes. Developing units across themes has the advantage of economy, in terms of teaching time, and demonstrates the integrity of the framework in terms of the linkages among the themes. Make a large drawing of Figure 3 on a sheet of newsprint or on a chalkboard and fill in the required information. (This should be a collaborative effort)

Use the following steps to guide you through the process of using the tool.

The pie represents a set of standards for a given theme, and each slice is the equivalent of a single standard.

For example, Theme 2 – Sexuality and Sexual Health - has four (4) standards. Slices 1–4 will each represent one of these standards. Slice 1, therefore, will be the standard - “Demonstrate an understanding that the concept of human sexuality, which finds expression throughout the life cycle, is an integral part of the total person”. Select a theme and a standard/s to begin the process. Write down the standard/s in the space as indicated.

Each standard gives rise to a number of core outcomes, which are detailed for the various levels (i.e., age groups 9–10, 11–12, and 13–14). These core outcomes represent the scope of learning in which the students will engage to achieve the standard. For example, a core outcome for Standard 1 for the theme Sexuality and Sexual Health for the age group 9–10 is explore personal experiences, attitudes, and feelings about the roles that boys and girls are expected to play.

Now select one or more core outcomes from your chosen theme at the level you wish to work, and write them in the space indicated. Note that these outcomes may be selected from one or more standards. If outcomes are selected from more than one standard, they should be related in a way that justifies linking them together. (You may refer to the sample modules and units at the back of this booklet for examples of how this may be done.)

Concepts are derived from the core outcomes. These refer to the key understandings that students must gain. For example, an important concept related to the core outcome described in 2, is that boys and girls grow and develop in different ways. Brainstorm the concepts that are indicated for your chosen outcomes, and write them down in the space indicated.

Examine the key skills identified for the standard/s you are working with. Select those skills (or sub-skills) that relate to the concepts you have brainstormed, and write them down.

Review the descriptor/s for the standard/s you have selected and determine the attitudes that are implicit in the statements. Write down the attitudes that are to be addressed or shaped.

Identify the basic information (current and age-appropriate) needed as inputs to concept elaboration. Key ideas may be written down in the information space. You may need to get additional information from texts or the Internet. This could be detailed later on, as an information sheet.

Circle the concepts that are closely related to each other. Each set is a potential unit. You should now have sufficient information to build one or more instructional units.

Developing a Unit

Follow the steps you would normally engage in for developing a unit:

- Name the unit.
- Write down the general objectives.
- Identify the lesson topics and specific objectives.
- Plan the learning experiences that would allow for development of knowledge, skill acquisition, as well as the internalization of supportive affective systems for attitudinal changes.
- Design assessment tasks.
- Organize resource materials.
**Theme: Self and Interpersonal Relationships - Regional Standards**

**Regional Standards**

**RS SI1:** Examine the nature of self, family, school, and community and their influences in order to build strong healthy relationships.

**RS SI2:** Acquire coping skills which will enable them to shun behaviours and life styles associated with crime, drugs, violence motor vehicle accidents and violence.

**RS SI 3:** Respect the rich differences that exist among Caribbean peoples as a valuable resource for sustainable development of the region within the framework of democratic and ethical values.
Regional Standards, Descriptors, and Key Skills

REGIONAL STANDARD SI 1
Examine the nature of self, family, school, and community and their influences in order to build strong healthy relationships.

Descriptor:
Acceptance of self, the need to belong, and the need to be loved are some of the universal needs and rights that contribute to the shaping of our individual selves. Students need to develop a healthy self-concept in order to foster healthy relationships within the family, school, and community. They also need to be assisted in developing resiliency—the capacity to assess, cope, manage, and benefit from the various influences that impact on relationships.

Key Skills:
- Coping Skills (healthy self-management, self-awareness)
- Social Skills (communication, interpersonal relations)
- Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making)

UNDERSTANDING SELF
Core Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Level 5–6</th>
<th>Age Level 7–8</th>
<th>Age Level 9–10</th>
<th>Age Level 11–12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Demonstrate an awareness of self, their individual attributes, strengths, uniqueness when relating to own family and in the classroom.</td>
<td>1. Demonstrate increased awareness of self (through types of interaction with family, peers and other social clubs, cubs, brownies and Sunday school.</td>
<td>1. Assess their self concept.</td>
<td>1. Analyse the influences that impact on personal, social and development (media, peers, family, significant others, community, etc.).</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2. Recognize how self concept is fashioned in relationships with family and friends.</td>
<td>2. Identify factors within self which lead to healthy relationships.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>3. Recognize ways of building a positive self-concept.</td>
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REGIONAL STANDARD SI 2
Acquire coping skills which will enable them to shun behaviours and lifestyles associated with crime, drugs, violence, motor vehicle accidents, and other injuries.

Descriptor:
Students need to practise skills that reduce their involvement in risky behaviours. Crime, violence, bullying, alcohol and other drugs, and motor vehicle accidents and other injuries threaten the very fabric of Caribbean society and the lives of Caribbean youth. The acquisition of these skills will increase students’ ability to assume a responsible role in all aspects of personal, family, and community living.

Key Skills:
- Coping Skills (healthy self-management, self-awareness)
- Social Skills (communication, interpersonal relations, assertiveness, conflict resolution, mediation, anger management)
- Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making)
# COPING WITH RISK AND ADVERSITY

## Core Outcomes

### Age Level 5–6
1. Recognize signs of risky or unfavourable situations.
2. Develop skills in assessing their vulnerability in adverse situations.
3. Demonstrate age-appropriate response in risky or unfavourable situations.

### Age Level 7–8
1. Demonstrate awareness of behaviours and situations that can place them at risk of injury to themselves and others.
2. Develop and display risk response strategy to unfavourable or threatening situations.
   - Risk Response: *
     * Whom to tell
     * Where to go
     * What to do
     * What to say in an unfavourable situation.

### Age Level 9–10
1. Identify ways of coping with feelings and emotions when under pressure in adverse situations.
2. Develop refusal and negotiation skills for dealing with risky or adverse situations.

### Age Level 11–12
1. Develop resilience for coping with adverse situations (death, grief, rejection, and separation).
2. Analyse the impact of alcohol, and other illicit drugs on behaviour and lifestyle.
3. Demonstrate skills to cope with violence at home, school, and in the community.

## REGIONAL STANDARD SI 3
Respect the rich diversity that exists among Caribbean peoples as a valuable resource for sustainable development of the region within the framework of democratic and ethical values.

**Descriptor:**
Students must be committed to valuing and respecting the rich diversity (cultural, ethnic, and religious) of the people of the Caribbean and demonstrate awareness that survival in a global economy demands that we pool our individual and collective resources in order to be productive as a people. They must maximise their potential as contributors to sustainable development while embracing core values and democratic ideals.

**Key Skills:**
- Coping Skills (healthy self-management)
- Social Skills (communication, interpersonal relations, assertiveness, refusal, negotiation)
- Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making)

## RESPECT & TOLERANCE FOR SELF & OTHERS

## Core Outcomes

### Age Level 5–6
1. Display respect and tolerance in social interactions with peers and others who may be different.

### Age Level 7–8
1. Demonstrate skills and behaviours for building harmonious relationships with family and friends.

### Age Level 9–10
1. Affirmation of persons who are different from oneself (ethnic and cultural).
2. Appreciate that resources among diverse people are essential to developing positive relationships.
3. Appreciate that ethnic and cultural differences can add variety and richness to relationships and to available resources.

### Age Level 11–12
1. Assess ways in which personal and group efforts can be enhanced by the interactions and contributions of persons of diverse cultural and ethnic groupings.
2. Recognise the value of personal commitment and hard work to the improvement of self, others, and the wider community.
3. Assess how the characters and ethnic groups can enhance development in Caribbean groups and individuals. Caribbean personal and groups e.g. sports and games.
**Theme: Sexuality and Sexual Health**

**Regional Standards**

**Sexuality and Sexual Health**

RS SSH1: Demonstrate an understanding that the concept of human sexuality as expressed throughout the life cycle, is an integral part of every individual.

RS SSH2: Analyse the influence of socio-cultural and economic factors, as well as personal beliefs on the expression of sexuality and sexual choices.

RS SSH3: Develop action competence and build capacity to recognise the basic criteria and conditions for optimal reproductive health, and reduce vulnerability to priority problems, including HIV/AIDS, cervical cancer, and STIs.

RS SSH 4: Utilise knowledge and skill to access age appropriate sources of health information, products and services related to sexuality and sexual health.

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**DIFFERENTIATING BETWEEN SEX & SEXUALITY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age Level 5–6</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Demonstrate an awareness of private parts of the body. Recognise that boys and girls are different.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Respond appropriately to uncomfortable /risky situations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Provide support to peers and siblings in uncomfortable and risky situations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REGIONAL STANDARD TWO (2) SSH2
Analyse the influence of socio-cultural and economic factors, as well as personal beliefs on the expression of sexuality and sexual choices.

Descriptor:
Young people daily display their attitudes values in their sexuality. Family, religion, culture, technology—including media - and peers, influence these behaviour. Students will acquire knowledge and skills that will assist them in understanding their own sexuality and making decisions about their sexual engagement which will allow them to realize their potential as responsible and caring human beings.

Key Skills:
- Coping Skills (healthy self-management, self-awareness)
- Social Skills (communication, interpersonal relations, assertiveness, refusal, negotiation)
- Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, critical viewing)

SOCIOCULTURAL INFLUENCES ON SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR
Core Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Level 5–6</th>
<th>Age Level 7–8</th>
<th>Age Level 9–10</th>
<th>Age Level 11–12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Develop the capacity to cope and empathize in real life situations</td>
<td>1. Demonstrate awareness of the capacity for both boys and girls to perform similar task</td>
<td>1. Demonstrate an understanding of the ways in which sexuality is learned.</td>
<td>1. Critically analyse the key factors influencing sexual choices and experiences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Demonstrate ways to respond appropriately to various factors influencing sexual choices and experiences.</td>
<td>2. Demonstrate ways to respond appropriately to the key factors influencing sexual choices and experiences.</td>
<td>2. Demonstrate skills in communicating about sexual issues with parents, peers, and/or significant others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3. Demonstrate knowledge of the various types of sexual abuse and exploitation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REGIONAL STANDARD THREE (3) SSH3
Develop action competence and build capacity to recognize the basic criteria and conditions for optimal reproductive health and reduce vulnerability to acquired problems such as the spread of HIV/AIDS, Cervical Cancer STI’s and teenage pregnancy.

Descriptor:
Many young people through their lifestyle and social interaction expose themselves to risk that compromise their sexual and reproductive health, students should demonstrate knowledge of the transmission of HIV/AIDS and other STI's and the psychosocial and emotional issues related to AIDS. They must demonstrate behaviour which will render them less venerable to threats to reproductive health by critically analyzing options such as abstinence, drug free life style, use of contraception and assertive behaviour.

Key Skills:
- Coping Skills (healthy self-management)
- Social Skills (communication, interpersonal relations, assertiveness, refusal, negotiation)
- Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making)
### MANAGING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

#### Core Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Level 5–6</th>
<th>Age Level 7–8</th>
<th>Age Level 9–10</th>
<th>Age Level 11–12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Display an awareness of healthy hygiene habits and proper care of the body.</td>
<td>1. Maintain appropriate care of genitals</td>
<td>1. Demonstrate knowledge of the development of an embryo and of the basic needs of a newborn baby.</td>
<td>1. Critically analyse the risks that impact on reproductive health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Display knowledge of habits/behaviours which can protect from the spread of germs.</td>
<td>2. Demonstrate an awareness of actions that can lead to damage of the reproductive organs.</td>
<td>2. Demonstrate skills to interact appropriately and respond compassionately to persons affected by HIV.</td>
<td>2. Demonstrate an awareness of actions that can prevent injury the reproductive organs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Display tolerance towards others who or are perceived to be different e.g. living with PLWHA</td>
<td>3. Demonstrate appropriate health habits to protect themselves and others against the spread of disease.</td>
<td>3. Display knowledge of transmission of diseases especially HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>3. Demonstrate knowledge of the potential challenges which face adolescent parents and their families in raising a child.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Demonstrate appropriate health habits to protect themselves and others against the spread of disease.</td>
<td>4. Demonstrate skills to assist and respond compassionately to peers and siblings requiring health care.</td>
<td>4. Demonstrate skills to assist and respond compassionately to peers and siblings requiring health care.</td>
<td>4. Under risk associated with contracting HIV and STIs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Demonstrate the ability to locate and utilise community resources that support the health, social, and emotional needs of families.</td>
<td>5. Set personal goals to minimise the risk of contracting HIV, cervical cancer, and STIs.</td>
<td>5. Demonstrate knowledge of risk to reproductive health associated with contracting HIV and other STIs.</td>
<td>6. Demonstrate knowledge of risk to reproductive health associated with contracting HIV and other STIs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REGIONAL STANDARD FIVE (4) SSH4**

Develop knowledge and skills to access age-appropriate sources of health information, products, and services related to sexuality and sexual health.

**Descriptor:**
Students should be capable of identifying a range of age-appropriate health services in their communities. Through an informed use of these services, they should acquire the necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed for a lifelong commitment to the promotion of personal, family, and community health, including advocacy. Age-appropriate health services in the community may address the following: sexuality, child abuse, sexual assault/harassment, and domestic violence.

**Key Skills:**
- Coping Skills (healthy self-management)
- Social Skills (communication)
- Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making)

### ACCESS SOURCES OF HEALTH INFORMATION & SERVICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age Level 5–6</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Demonstrate awareness of family and school as sources of information on health.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Theme: Appropriate Eating and Fitness - Regional Standards

Regional Standards

RS EF1: Demonstrate the capacity to make healthy food and eating choices throughout the life cycle to reduce the risk factors associated with the development of chronic diseases.

RS EF2: Demonstrate an understanding of fitness and its relationship to good health and quality of living.

RS EF3: Analyse the influence of socio-cultural and economic factors, as well as personal beliefs on lifestyle choices related to eating and fitness.

RS EF4: Develop knowledge and skills to access age-appropriate sources of information, products, and services related to eating and fitness.

MAKING HEALTHY CHOICES

Core Outcomes

Age Level 5–6

1. Demonstrate the ability to choose and eat healthy foods.
2. Demonstrate basic hygiene and food handling practices.
3. Explain why our bodies need food.
4. Demonstrate beginning knowledge of healthy foods and 'empty calorie' foods.

Age Level 7–8

1. Promote selection of healthy foods among family and peers.
2. Maintain safe hygiene and food handling practices.
3. Initially analyse the location of food on the nutrients pyramid.
4. Place food in categories according to (animal or plant) source or manufactured.

Age Level 9–10

1. Recognise healthy eating as a critical component of healthy living throughout the life cycle.
2. Demonstrate ways to select a balanced meal, using a variety of foods.
3. Apply safe food-handling principles.

Age Level 11–12

1. Assess personal eating habits.
2. Appreciate the importance of selecting nutritious foods for a healthy lifestyle.
3. Make appropriate food choices to avoid risk factors associated with lifestyle diseases (e.g., excess salts, sugars, and fats).
4. Apply safe food-handling principles.

Descriptor:

Students need to understand that healthy eating and the right balance of safe, nutritious, and wholesome foods are critical to optimum health throughout the life-cycle, and they should acquire skills to make healthy food choices and reduce the incidents of diet-related/lifestyle diseases.

Key Skills:

- Coping Skills (healthy self-management, self-awareness)
- Social Skills (communication)
- Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making)
REGIONAL STANDARD EF RS 2
Demonstrate an understanding of fitness and its relationship to good health and quality of living.

Descriptor:
Students to develop skills that will help them with make choices in favour of sound fitness habits to achieve optimum levels of age-appropriate physical activity which promotes good health. Students need to assess barriers relating to fitness, and develop the skills to conduct physical fitness self-assessments.

Key Skills:
❂ Coping Skills (healthy self-management, self-awareness, self-monitoring)
❂ Social Skills (communication, interpersonal relations, assertiveness)
❂ Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, decision-making)

GOOD HEALTH & QUALITY LIVING
Core Outcomes

<table>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Engage in various activities for health, fun and development of motor skills.</td>
<td>1. Perform gross locomotor and fine locomotor movements to improve health and fitness.</td>
<td>1. Recognise and value fitness as another critical component of healthy lifestyle.</td>
<td>1. Differentiate between exercise (aerobic capacity, flexibility, muscular strength, and endurance), sport fitness, and physical activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Demonstrate an awareness of safe behaviours during physical activity.</td>
<td>2. Display safe behaviours and others during physical activity.</td>
<td>2. Incorporate safety principles when engaged in fitness activities.</td>
<td>2. Make appropriate choices with respect to physical activity, and exercise to attain and maintain a healthy lifestyle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3. Design and implement an age-appropriate physical fitness plan.</td>
<td>3. Incorporate safety principles when engaged in physical fitness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4. Appreciate the role of fitness in achieving good health.</td>
<td>4. Design and implement an age-appropriate physical fitness plan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REGIONAL STANDARD EF RS 3
Analyse the influence of socio-cultural and economic factors, as well as personal beliefs and choices related to appropriate eating and fitness.

Descriptor:
Students need to critically examine how their eating and exercise behaviours are influenced by family culture as well as social, economic and religious factors and media. They need to learn how to make healthy choices and display habits which lead to a healthy active lifestyle.

Key Skills:
❂ Coping Skills (healthy self-management, self-awareness)
❂ Social Skills (communication, interpersonal relations, assertiveness, negotiation)
❂ Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making)
### FACTORS INFLUENCING EATING & FITNESS

#### Core Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Recognise that there is a relationship between the foods eaten and physical activity.</td>
<td>1. Apply basic eating and fitness rules (safety, space awareness) to maintain optimum health.</td>
<td>1. Demonstrate an understanding of factors that influence eating and fitness behaviours.</td>
<td>1. Recognise the impact of socio-cultural and economic factors, as well as personal beliefs and choices related to eating and fitness behaviours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Make appropriate choices for eating and physical activity.</td>
<td>2. Demonstrate an awareness of cultural/social factors that influence eating and physical activity in individual families.</td>
<td>2. Make varied choices to broaden experiences related to eating and fitness.</td>
<td>2. Assess the nutritional value of culturally-diverse foods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Demonstrate and awareness for cultural and religious factors that influence eating and physical activity.</td>
<td></td>
<td>3. Make varied choices to broaden experiences related to eating and fitness.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>REGIONAL STANDARD EF RS 4</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Develop knowledge and skills to access age-appropriate sources of information, products, and services related to appropriate eating and fitness.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Descriptor:**
Students should be capable of identifying and accessing age-appropriate information, products, and services relating to eating and fitness from reliable legitimate sources. Students should be encouraged to critically assess information, products, and services relating to eating and fitness for the attainment and maintenance of good health throughout the life-cycle.

**Key Skills:**
- Coping Skills (healthy self-management)
- Social Skills (communication, interpersonal relations)
- Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making)

### SOURCING INFORMATION

#### Core Outcomes

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Age Level 11–12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Source information on eating and physical activity from family and school.</td>
<td>1. Access relevant information on eating and physical activity.</td>
<td>1. Identify sources of accurate, age-appropriate information relating to eating and fitness.</td>
<td>1. Demonstrate the ability to locate and utilise accurate, age-appropriate resources within the community, in regard to eating and fitness.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Theme: Managing the Environment

Regional Standards

RS ME1: Demonstrate an understanding of the inter-relationships of a sustainable natural environment.

RS ME2: Demonstrate an understanding of the environmental threats to the health and well-being of students, families, schools, and communities.

RS ME3: Analyse the relationship between a sustainable and healthy environment and the social and economic well-being of students, schools, families, and communities.

RS ME4: Demonstrate scientifically sound and affordable responses to the creation of healthy and sustainable environments and the reduction of environmental health threats in the home, school, community, and region.

RS ME5: Develop knowledge and skills to access age-appropriate sources of information, products, and services related to managing the environment.

REGIONAL STANDARD RS ME 1
Demonstrate an understanding of the inter-relationships of a sustainable natural environment.

Descriptor:
It is important for students to develop a basic understanding of the features and operations of natural environmental systems and the threats to their sustainability.

Key Skills:
- Coping Skills (self-monitoring, healthy self-management)
- Social Skills (communication, collective action)
- Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative problem-solving)

MAINTAINING MY ENVIRONMENT

Core Outcomes

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Age Level 11–12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Appreciate the beauty of the natural environment.</td>
<td>1. Recognize the interdependence of the various elements in the environment.</td>
<td>1. Identify elements of a sustainable environment (air, sunlight, water, land, plants, and germs).</td>
<td>1. Describe basic functions and characteristics of a sustainable environment (e.g., water cycle, food chain, and carbon cycle).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Recognize the effect/impact of individual actions on the environment.</td>
<td>2. Appreciate the beauty of the natural environment.</td>
<td>2. Identify threats to a sustainable environment.</td>
<td>2. Recognise ways human behaviour affects a sustainable environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Recognize the effect/impact of individual actions on the environment.</td>
<td>3. Appreciate the need for a sustainable environment.</td>
<td>3. Appreciate the value of a sustainable environment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REGIONAL STANDARD RS ME 2
Demonstrate an understanding of the environmental threats to the health and well-being of students, families, schools, and communities.

Descriptor:
Students need to be aware of the environmental health threats and the main factors in their causation and understand the impact on their lives.

Key Skills:
❂ Coping Skills (self-monitoring and healthy self-management)
❂ Social Skills (communication, assertiveness)
❂ Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, problem-solving, advocacy, decision-making)

ENVIRONMENTAL THREATS

Core Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Level 5–6</th>
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<th>Age Level 11–12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Demonstrates the ability to keep the environment healthy for self, family and school.</td>
<td>1. Display initiative to maintain a healthy environment.</td>
<td>1. Identify environmental health threats with emphasis on priorities in their country.</td>
<td>1. Explore how the main factors contribute to the priority environmental health threats (e.g., agents, vectors, and host).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age Level 9–10</td>
<td>Age Level 11–12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Identify the main factors and sources that contribute to these environmental health threats.</td>
<td>2. Appreciate the personal and collective role of students, their families, and communities in either increasing or reducing exposure to environmental health risks.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REGIONAL STANDARD RS ME 3
Analyse the relationship between a sustainable and healthy environment, and the social and economic well-being of students, schools, and communities.

Descriptor:
Students need to understand and appreciate the impact and benefits of a healthy, sustainable environment on their health and well-being.

Key Skills:
❂ Coping Skills (self-monitoring and healthy self-management)
❂ Social Skills (communication)
❂ Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, decision-making, problem-solving)

REGIONAL STANDARD RS ME 4
Demonstrate scientifically sound and affordable responses to the creation of healthy and sustainable environments and the reduction of environmental health threats in the home, school, community, and region.

Descriptor:
Students need to develop the knowledge and skills to effectively utilise scientifically sound and affordable responses to address both the issues of protecting the environment and protection from the environment.

Key Skills:
❂ Coping Skills (healthy self-management, self-monitoring)
❂ Social Skills (communication, interpersonal relations, assertiveness, negotiation, advocacy)
❂ Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making)
HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Core Outcomes

**Age Level 5–6**
1. Develop awareness of the various types of waste generated within the home and community.
2. Engage in appropriate actions to sustain a healthy environment.

**Age Level 7–8**
1. Explore the proper disposal of waste within home and community.
2. Engage in action to recycle waste within the home and school.

**Age Level 9–10**
1. Identify ways in which the quality of the natural environment can affect personal health and the well-being of the school and community.
2. Appreciate how a healthy, sustainable environment contributes to their well-being and their peers’.

**Age Level 11–12**
1. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between a healthy, sustainable environment and the quality of life in the school and community.
2. Describe the benefits of a healthy, sustainable environment as it relates to the socio-economic well-being of students, family, school, and community.

SUSTAINING THE ENVIRONMENT

Core Outcomes

**Age Level 5–6**
1. Develop awareness of key disease vectors in home and school as health risk mosquitoes, rodents etc.

**Age Level 7–8**
1. Practice health skills to reduce vector population at home and school.

**Age Level 9–10**
1. Identify practical opportunities for maintaining a sustainable environment and reducing health threats.
2. Make appropriate choices to reduce exposure to environmental health risks for self and family.
3. Appreciate that each individual has a responsibility to contribute to a healthy, sustainable environment.

**Age Level 11–12**
1. Demonstrate skills to select appropriate responses for reducing threats to the environment and priority environmental threats.
2. Describe benefits of adopting sound practices for reducing environmental health threats in the home, school, and community.
3. Develop an age-appropriate plan to reduce environmental threats in the home and school.
4. Appreciate the need for students, families, and schools to work together to contribute to a healthy environment.
REGIONAL STANDARD RS ME 5
Develop knowledge and skills to access age-appropriate sources of information, products, and services as it relates to managing the environment.

Descriptor:
Students should be capable of identifying, accessing, and critically assessing age-appropriate information, products, and services relating to managing the environment.

Key Skills:
- Coping Skills (healthy self-management)
- Social Skills (communication, interpersonal relations)
- Cognitive Skills (critical thinking, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Core Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Age Level 9–10</th>
<th>Age Level 11–12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Source information on managing the environment from family and school</td>
<td>1. Source information on managing the environment from family, school, community and the media.</td>
<td>1. Identify sources of accurate, age-appropriate information relating to managing the environment.</td>
<td>1. Demonstrate the ability to locate and utilise accurate, age-appropriate resources within the community, in regard to managing the environment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REGIONAL STANDARD SS1</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrate an understanding that the concept of human sexuality as expressed throughout the life cycle is an integral part of every individual.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CORE OUTCOME 2</strong></td>
<td>Responding appropriately to</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TITLE</strong></td>
<td>“Boys and Girls learning to be Safe”</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AGE LEVEL</strong></td>
<td>5 to 6 years old</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TIME</strong></td>
<td>35-40 min.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PURPOSE</strong></td>
<td>To help students to recognize signs of unsafe situations and activities which could place them in danger; and to develop skills and strategies to respond appropriately to potential threats to health and life.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OVERVIEW</strong></td>
<td>In this lesson, students will show Self-Awareness and ‘Others awareness’ by giving examples of times when they felt uncomfortable or fearful. They will try to identify what brought on the feelings. Teacher will expand on this and provide examples of signs of potential abuse and molestation. They will help students to develop coping skills and strategies which can move them to a ‘safe side’. Children’s expression about sexuality at this stage is curiosity about male and female body differences. Moral codes of what is acceptable behavior are beginning to be concretized. They can become ‘sexualized’ by exposure to sexual acts of parents, or of external models –TV, movies etc. The moral codes and emotions help them to determine what is acceptable and appropriate.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**   | At the end of this lesson, students will be able to do the following:  
Identify situations of potential danger and abuse  
Acknowledge feelings of fear and discomfort when in potentially unsafe situations.  
Develop coping skills to deal with situations which are threats to their physical and emotional health |
| **RESOURCES & MATERIALS** | Worksheets, Picture Story; videos “staying Safe”; ‘staying on the safe side”; video play-back equipment. Children’s drawings. |
| **METHODS AND STRATEGIES**| Brainstorming, Class discussion; scenarios; Role-Play; this lesson can be part of the curriculum web under HFLE or thematic web – under themes such as Safety, Family, My body, My health. |
PROCEDURE

Step I
INTRODUCTION
(5 min.) Display pictures of an ‘uncomfortable’ situation and a ‘fearful’ situation and elicit students understanding of the emotion. Ask students to describe a time when they felt uncomfortable or fearful and identify the stimulus. You could say “tell me about a time when you felt uncomfortable/fearful”. “What about the situation made you uncomfortable?” “What did you do?” Take a few answers, and clarify the feelings, from the stimulus. Suggest to students that most often these feelings are warnings that they may be in danger. Teacher adds a few examples of potentially unsafe situations which can evoke these feelings. Teacher tells students that they will learn ways of responding in similar situations. They will practice ‘what to say and what to do’.

Step II
SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND REINFORCEMENT
(25 min.) (Show Video if available). Highlight the four strategies – What to do, what to say, where to go, whom to tell. Students imitate skills from video. Teacher coaches to ensure that the skill is accurately displayed. If video is not available use scenarios, role-play and modeling. (attention – retention – reproduction skills).

**What to say; What to do**: Place children in groups and give each group a scenario and a one-liner response on a flash card. (For non-readers, teacher reads the activity for the group).

**Responding assertively – Refusing**: Teacher models a behavior, and ensures that students are attending and retaining the steps. The groups will discuss how they would respond and what they would do based on their scenarios. Two members of the group will act out their lines with coaching from the teacher and support from the group. All groups will participate.

Step III
CONCLUSION
(5 min.) Summarize the lesson by debriefing the students. Give positive messages about their worth, and how well they acted out the parts. Tell them of the two other strategies where to go, Whom to tell, which will be done as homework.

Step V
ASSESSMENT
(5 min) Display the skills in the ‘Wrong’ way. Ask students to point out what was wrong and suggest a better way.

HOMEWORK
**Safety cards: Instructions to parents.**
Parents are to discuss with children what to do /where to go (safe place) and whom to tell (immediately or after they reach safety). Parents should fill out the information cards, and discuss the information on a regular basis.
**Safety Information Card**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Student</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of Parent or guardian</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address and Tel.#</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workplace and Tel.#</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell phone#</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Persons if parents /guardian cannot be contacted</th>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Tel #</th>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Safe house</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Persons you can tell</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Tips for Teacher on Using Role-Playing:**

- Role-playing is a useful teaching method for practicing interpersonal skills.
- Let students know before the activity if they may be asked to role-play in front of the class afterwards.
- Remind students of the importance of body language during role-playing and paying attention to non-verbal cues.
- If students start to get rowdy during role-playing activities, remind them to stay on the topic and walk around the class to help them focus.

**G Tips for Teachers on Teaching Sensitive Topics**

Students may feel anxious, uncomfortable or stressed hearing about child abuse, particularly if they have been victimized themselves. Don’t feel the need to push a student to participate if they seem uncomfortable about the topic. Preparation is needed where teachers make themselves knowledgeable about the dynamics of child abuse and their own personal attitudes towards the topic. Some skills in recognizing signs of and responding to children’s emotional distress, would be helpful. When talking about any kind of sexual assault, violence or harassment, it is a good idea to stress the importance of help-seeking – that is, seeking the help of a trusted adult like a parent, teacher or clergyman.

**Useful information may be found at:**

http://www.unicef.org/teachers/protection/prevention.htm#abuse

Also see Signs of Physical and Emotional Child Abuse from the American Academy of Pediatrics:

Other sources: http://www.aap.org/advocacy/childhealthmonth/abuse2.htm

UNICEF HFLE common lessons – Year 2; Sexuality and Sexual Health.

**MODELING - DEMONSTRATING**

**How to refuse/say NO or deliver a refusal ‘line’**

Model shows skill step 1, calls attention to it; goes on to next step and calls attention again. Model calls on students to repeat the process and reinforces correct answers - testing retention.

Model may say –
Look at the person directly’ – like this (call attention).
Maintain eye contact (that means don’t look away) – like this (call attention).
Speak clearly, like this (do not mumble) say (call attention). **No! my mum says not to go with anyone, unless she tells me to.**
If you are afraid, try to look calm – like this (call attention).
Move away from the situation as soon as possible – like this (call attention).

**TESTING RETENTION:**
Ask students to repeat the steps, one at a time (reinforce correct answers).

**Some suggested scenarios:**
These are suggested scenarios. Teachers can generate scenarios to match the students and their culture. ‘**What to say**’, and ‘**What to do**’ lines can be constructed from students language patterns.

1. You and a few children are playing while waiting at school to be picked up. As you go near the gate to get the ball, you see two people standing by a car, and the lady says “Come, your mother told me to drop you home; she works with me but had to finish off some work.”

**What to say:** NO! I am going to my teacher, and ask her to call My Mother (mummy).  
**What to do:** Move away from the gate towards the other children and go to the teacher.

2. You went to town with Daddy or Mummy and got lost in a store. Someone comes up to you and asks what’s wrong, and tells you to come with them and holds your hand.

**What to do.** Look around for a guard, a cashier, or an office  
**What to say.** My mummy and daddy tell me not to go any place with anyone; I am going to the guard.

The stranger keeps holding your hand and tries to take you from the store.

3. Someone who is always at your home tries to touch your private parts; you feel very uncomfortable but he says that you should not tell anyone. You are afraid.
What to do
What to say

4. Your mummy often goes to visit her friend. It is fun, because you get to watch fun DVD’s in the play room with the cousin, while Mummy and her friend are hanging out. The friend is nice and buys snacks for you; Last time the cousin showed a different picture and wanted you to do the things in the picture. You did not do any of the things, but you got a game for a DS.

SAYING NO

Your nonverbal communication should match your verbal communication

look at the person directly

maintain eye contact

do not fidget

avoid making nervous moments with your hands

speak clearly and slowly

do not mumble

If you are afraid, try to look calm

Adopt a stance that says you mean what you say

Communicate

Know where you stand on the matter, and look serious about it.

leave the situation as soon as it is possible

Sample Lesson Plan

Theme: Self & Interpersonal Relationships

REGIONAL STANDARD SIP 1
Examine the nature of self, family, school, and community in order to build strong, healthy relationships.

CORE OUTCOME 1:
Demonstrate an awareness of self (individual attributes, strengths, uniqueness) in relationships with own family and in the classroom
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>“GETTING ALONG”</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AGE LEVEL</td>
<td>5 to 6 years old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIME</td>
<td>35-40 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PURPOSE</td>
<td>To help students to manage relationships with peers or classmates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVERVIEW</td>
<td>In this lesson, students will describe situations of conflict (disagreements, fallings out) which arise on the playground, and develop skills and strategies to help them to manage conflict. At this age children’s social development occurs mainly during play. During play children satisfy needs to belong, and interact with others. They learn about sharing, teamwork, and taking turns amongst other self-management skills. Teachers often resolve conflicts that arise. They will learn to solve some problems among themselves.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES | **At the end of this lesson, students will be able to do the following:**  
1. Describe situations of conflict on the playground  
2. Describe their feelings when involved in a conflict.  
3. Develop **Conflict Resolution skills** to deal with these situations which affect their relationships with friends. |
| RESOURCES & MATERIALS | Pictures or stickers of different feelings; Material for drawing. Display board; children’s drawings. |
| METHODS & STRATEGIES | Brainstorming, Class discussion; Role-Play; this lesson can be part of the curriculum web under HFLE or thematic web; It can be used as a teachable moment if the class has been having playground problems among themselves. |

**PROCEDURE**

**Step I**

**INTRODUCTION**

(15 ) min. Introduce the lesson on a positive note by asking children about the things they do on the playground. After 3 or 4 answers, instruct students to sit in their groups and draw pictures of themselves engaged in fun activities on the playground. Let children stick pictures on the display board as they complete them.

Ask children to state some of the problems (disagreements) they have on the playground. Teacher might prod by asking questions like ‘has anybody got into an argument about who will get the first turn in a game;’

Take about 3 or 4 problems and write them on the board or flip chart. Tell students that in this lesson will help them to handle some of the problems which come up on the playground.
Step II
SKILL DEVELOPMENT & REINFORCEMENT

(20) min. Select one of the problems from the board and ask students to suggest solutions, and say how the persons may feel. Develop students’ solution or suggest alternative solutions. Let children practice problem solving using conflict resolution steps.

Conflict Resolution Steps *(Read and explain)*

- **Step 1:** Cool off, calm down, and agree to discuss the problem.
- **Step 2:** Tell what’s bothering you using “I messages.”
- **Step 3:** Each person restates what they heard the other person say.
- **Step 4:** Take responsibility for your part of the problem.
- **Step 5:** Brainstorm solutions and come up with one that satisfies both people.
- **Step 6:** Affirm, forgive, or thank.

Ask for 2 volunteers to act out the conflict resolution steps in a role play. Coach the players through the process.

Assign ‘problems/solutions’ to groups

Instruct groups to create ‘scripts’ using the ‘conflict resolution steps’

Groups select 2 persons to act out their scripts.

Step III
CONCLUSION

(5 min.) Summarize the process of resolving conflict.

Step V
ASSESSMENT

(5 min.) Test the children’s recall of the steps, using prompting.

HOMEWORK

Tell children’s to show parents what they did and tell the outcome next lesson.

Teacher Resources Section

**G Tips for Teachers**

Resolving conflict using negotiation is not common in most of our cultures. This skill and this culture must become part of the children’s repertoire of skills and part of the school wide culture. Teachers may need to employ Vygotsky’s principle of learning through the ZPD in order to help students develop the skills.
The following charts represent a sample progression from standards to modules, units, and lessons. Modules are made up of units of instruction which link related concepts.
THEME 2: SEXUALITY & SEXUAL HEALTH
Standards to Modules

REGIONAL STANDARD 1
SSH1: Demonstrate an understanding that the concept of human sexuality as expressed throughout the life cycle, is an integral part of every individual.

REGIONAL STANDARD 2
SSH 2 Students will analyse the influence of socio-cultural and economic factors as well as personal beliefs on the expression of sexuality and sexual choices.

REGIONAL STANDARD 3
SSH 3 Students will develop action competence and build capacity to recognise the basic criteria and conditions for optimal reproductive health and reduce vulnerability to priority problems including HIV/AIDS, cervical cancer, and STIs.

REGIONAL STANDARD 4
SSH 4 Students will utilise knowledge and skills to access age-appropriate sources of health information, products, and services related to sexuality and sexual health.

SAMPLE MODULE 1 Exploring the Concept of Human Sexuality

SAMPLE UNIT 1 What Is “Sexuality”?
SAMPLE UNIT 2 Factors That Influence the Expression of Human Sexuality
SAMPLE UNIT 3 Exploring Gender Issues

SAMPLE MODULE 2 Optimising Reproductive Health

SAMPLE UNIT 1 Factors and Risks Affecting Reproductive Health

SAMPLE MODULE 3 Cervical Cancer, STIs, and HIV/AIDS: Empowerment to Protect Health

SAMPLE UNIT 1 Cervical Cancer, STIs, and HIV/AIDS Can Be Prevented and Controlled

SAMPLE MODULE 4 Accessing Accurate Age-Appropriate Health Resources

SAMPLE UNIT 2 The Human Side of HIV And AIDS
SAMPLE UNIT 1 Health Resources Related to Sexuality and Sexual Health
### Modules to Units

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modules</th>
<th>Core Outcomes</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Concepts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Sample Module 1  
Exploring the  
Concept of Human  
Sexuality  
(From Regional  
Standards 1 & 2) | Explore personal experiences, attitudes, and feelings about the roles that boys and girls are expected to play.  
Demonstrate awareness of the physical, emotional, and cognitive changes that occur during puberty.  
Demonstrate an understanding of the ways in which sexuality is learnt.  
Demonstrate ways to respond appropriately to the key factors influencing sexual choices and experiences.  
Demonstrate knowledge of the various types of sexual abuse and exploitation. | Sample Unit 1  
What Is “Sexuality”?  
Sample Unit 2  
Factors That Influence the Expression of Human Sexuality  
Sample Unit 3  
Exploring Gender Issues | Male and female bodies grow in different ways.  
Emotional changes occur during puberty.  
Sexuality encompasses all the different ways in which individuals express themselves in addition to being male and female.  
The expression of one’s sexuality is influenced by various factors: personal beliefs, religion, culture, and media.  
Society determines the gender roles of males and females.  
It is important to assess/evaluate the roles that males and females are expected to play. |
| Sample Module 2  
Optimising Reproductive Health  
(From Regional Standard 3) | | Sample Unit 1  
Factors and Risks Affecting Reproductive Health  
Sample Unit 2  
Child Rearing | Several factors influence reproductive health.  
Reproductive health involves healthy sexual development, responsible and safe relationships, and freedom of choice.  
There are basic health and social requirements for raising a child. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODULES</th>
<th>CORE OUTCOMES</th>
<th>UNITS</th>
<th>CONCEPTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Sample Module 3  
**Cervical Cancer, STIs, and HIV/AIDS:**  
**Empowerment to Protect**  
(From Regional Standard 3) | Identify the risk behaviours/agents that are associated with contracting HIV, cervical cancer, and STIs. | Sample Unit 1  
Cervical Cancer, STIs, and HIV/AIDS Can Be Prevented and Controlled | HIV is spread by coming into contact with infected blood, semen, vaginal fluids, and breast milk.  
Contracting HIV is associated with unprotected sex; milk and child transmission; and sharing needles.  
STIs are contracted through unprotected sex.  
The major risk factors for cervical cancer in women include multiple partners and being sexually active from an early age.  
The use of alcohol and drugs causes risky behaviours that contribute to the spread of HIV and STIs.  
Everyone must assume personal responsibility for reducing his/her vulnerability to HIV, STIs, and cervical cancer.  
Persons affected by HIV and AIDS need care and support. |
| Sample Module 4  
**Accessing Accurate Age-Appropriate Health Resources**  
(From Regional Standard 4) | Demonstrate skills to assist and respond compassionately to persons affected by HIV and AIDS. | Sample Unit 2  
The Human Side of HIV and AIDS | Health is a state of physical, emotional, social, and mental well-being.  
There are resources that can help with health, social, and emotional problems: family, school, and community. |
| | Identify sources of accurate information. | Sample Unit 1  
Health Resources Related to Sexuality and Sexual Health | |
| | Identify family, school, and community resources that deal with health, social, and emotional issues. | | |
SAMPLE MODULE 1
Theme: Sexuality & Sexual Health

Exploring the Concept of Human Sexuality

Regional Standard SSH 1: Demonstrate an understanding that the concept of human sexuality as expressed throughout the life cycle, is an integral part of every individual.

Regional Standard SSH2: Analyse the influence of socio-cultural and economic factors, as well as personal beliefs on the expression of sexuality and sexual choices.

Overview
A differentiation needs to be made between the terms sex and sexuality. Sexuality is presented as including biological sex, gender, and gender identity. One's sexuality also encompasses the many social, emotional, and psychological factors that shape the expression of values, attitudes, social roles, and beliefs about self and others as being male or female. It is important to have students develop positive attitudes about self and their evolving sexuality.

Young people make daily decisions about their sexual behaviour, values, and attitudes. Family, religion, culture, technology including media, and peers influence these decisions. It is critical to provide students with knowledge and skills that will assist them in understanding their own sexuality and realising their potential as effective and caring human beings.

General Objectives
At the end of this module students will:
- Demonstrate an understanding of human sexuality.
- Demonstrate positive attitudes toward self and their evolving sexuality.
- Apply appropriate skills related to managing the expression of their sexuality.

SAMPLE TOPICS/LESSONS
- I Like Being a Boy/Girl
- Big Boys Don’t Cry and Girls Don’t Sweat
- Different but Equal
- Growing Through Changes
- Coping with Emotions
- Sexuality Is Not Just About Sex
- My Developing Sexuality
- What the Media Says About Sexuality

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES
- Brainstorming
- Sorting
- Creative thinking
- Role play
- Small-group discussion
- Creative expression/writing
- Lecture/documentary
- Games
- Songs
- Music
- Movement exercise
- Video presentation

ASSESSMENT
- Create a collage
- Creative design (postcard)
- Essay writing
- Personal hygiene diary
- Make a video
- Create a comic strip

SAMPLE UNIT 1
Age Level 9–10

WHAT IS “SEXUALITY”?  

General Objectives
At the end of this unit students will:
- Demonstrate an understanding of the components of sexuality. (Knowledge)
- Demonstrate acceptance of responsibility for managing their sexuality. (Attitudes)
- Apply coping, social, and cognitive skills in managing their sexuality. (Skills)
CONCEPTS | LESSON TITLES/ SAMPLE LESSONS | STRATEGIES | ASSESSMENT
--- | --- | --- | ---
Male and female bodies grow in different ways. | Growing Through Changes | | |
Emotional changes occur during puberty. | Coping with Emotions | | |

This matrix explains how unit concepts are translated into topics and sample lessons. Could you suggest appropriate teaching strategies and forms of assessment for ALL lessons?

SAMPLE UNIT 2
Age Level 9–10
WHAT IS “SEXUALITY”?
General Objectives
At the end of this unit students will:
❂ Demonstrate an understanding of the factors that influence the expression of human sexuality. (Knowledge)
❂ Assume personal responsibility for managing the expression of their sexuality. (Attitudes)
❂ Apply coping, social, and cognitive skills to promote healthy, responsible sexual behaviours. (Skills)

Sexuality encompasses all the different ways in which individuals express themselves in addition to being male and female.

The expression of one's sexuality is influenced by various factors: personal beliefs, religion, culture, and media.

Specific Objectives:
At the end of this lesson students will be able to:
❂ Identify media messages that encourage irresponsible sexual behaviour. (Knowledge)
❂ Demonstrate a discriminating attitude toward media messages about sexuality. (Attitudes)
❂ Use cognitive skills to identify negative messages about sexuality. (Skills)

Music
Movement exercise
Video presentation
Brainstorming

Make a video
Create a comic strip
TEACHER RESOURCES
Tips for Teacher on
Using Role-Playing

❂ Role-playing is a useful teaching method for practicing interpersonal skills

❂ Let students know before the activity if they may be asked to role-play in front of the class afterwards

❂ Remind students of the importance of body language during role-playing and paying attention to non-verbal cues.

❂ If students start to get rowdy during role-playing activities, remind them to stay on the topic and walk around the class to help them focus.

G Tips for Teachers on
Teaching Sensitive Topics

Students may feel anxious, uncomfortable or stressed hearing about child abuse, particularly if they have been victimized themselves. Don’t feel the need to push a student to participate if they seem uncomfortable about the topic. Preparation is needed where teacher’s make themselves knowledgeable about the dynamics of child abuse and their own personal attitudes towards the topic. Some skills in recognizing signs of and responding to children’s emotional distress, would be helpful. When talking about any kind of sexual assault, violence or harassment, it is a good idea to stress the importance of help-seeking – that is, seeking the help of a trusted adult like a parent, teacher or clergyman.

Useful information may be found at:
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Also see Signs of Physical and Emotional Child Abuse from the American Academy of Pediatrics:
Other sources: http://www.aap.org/advocacy/childhealthmonth/abuse2.htm

UNICEF HFLE common lessons – Year 2; Sexuality and Sexual Health.

MODELING - DEMONSTRATING

STEPS FOR MODELING - Demonstration

How to refuse/say NO or deliver a refusal ‘line’.

Model shows skill step 1, calls attention to it; goes on to next step and calls attention again. Model calls on students to repeat the process and reinforces correct answers - testing retention. Observers are called upon to reproduce what was learnt.

Sample: How to refuse/say NO or deliver a refusal ‘line’.

Attending:
Model/Demonstrator may say –
❂ Look at the person directly’ – like this (call attention).
❂ Maintain eye contact (that means don’t look away) – like this (call attention).
❂ Speak clearly, like this (do not mumble) say (call attention). No! My mum says not to go with anyone, unless she tells me to.
❂ If you are afraid, try to look calm – like this (call attention).

❂ Move away from the situation as soon as possible – like this (call attention).

TESTING RETENTION:
Ask students to repeat the steps, one at a time (reinforce correct answers).

G Tips for Teachers

Resolving conflict using negotiation is not common in most of our cultures. This skills and this culture must become part of the children’s, repertoire of skills and part of the school wide culture. Teachers may need to employ Vygotsky’s principle of learning through the ZPD in order to help students develop the skills.
Notes for Developing a Portfolio

**Purpose**
This assignment is to give each of you, the students, the opportunity to reflect on all the lessons done on sexuality and sexual health. Through this portfolio, you should be able to assess your own growth and also have a collection of work that you have done during this unit. The task involved in developing the portfolio will include pieces of work you did as part of lesson assignments as well as work that you will do specifically for this portfolio.

**CONTENTS OF A PORTFOLIO**

**Task: 1**
Title: Include a title of your choice on the cover of your portfolio.

**Task 2:**
A clearly stated purpose. What is the purpose of the portfolio? What do you want someone who is looking at your portfolio to know about it?

**Task 3:**
A table of contents

**Task 4:**
Four pieces of work that you completed for Sexuality and Sexual Health Unit. For each piece of work include a short paragraph that describes what you learned about sexuality, sexual health and life skills in that particular lesson.

**Task 5:**
One Reflective Summary. Write a one-page summary reflecting on what you've learned about sexuality, sexual health and life skills. For example, the physical and emotional changes that happen during puberty; gender role stereotyping; how to avoid risky behaviours; how HIV is spread. Include at least three reasons why you think understanding sexuality and sexual health and related life skills is important.

**Task 6:**
Poster. Make 2 drawings, each one depicting a life skill that can help you maintain sexual health. For example, understanding the different concepts related to sexuality; how to avoid risky behaviours; how to cope with emotional and physical changes;
understanding how HIV is spread.

**Task 7:**
Use drawing, pictures, photographs, art or colour to enhance any and all selections of your portfolio.

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*Rubric for Assessing Portfolio: Sexuality and Sexual Health*

This rubric offers one way to score student’s portfolios. Teachers may adjust the weight and criteria as they see fit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK</th>
<th>CRITERIA &amp; SCORING</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Shows little effort at creativity: unclear</td>
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<td>Each piece received fair high scores; Paragraph thoroughly explains what the</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>student learned</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Less than four pieces and paragraphs include; Most piece received fair low</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>scores; Paragraph does not explain what the student learned</td>
<td>X 3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Less than one page; includes less than 3 reasons why understanding</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>understanding of the lessons</td>
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<td>understanding of the lessons</td>
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HFLE Life Skills Definitions

**Decision-making**
The ability to choose a course of action from a number of options, which may result in a specific outcome or involve the resolve to behave in a certain way in the future.

**Problem-solving**
The process through which a situation or problem is resolved (i.e., diagnosing the problem, taking action to close the gap between the present situation and desired outcome, and generalizing the principles to other situations).

**Creative thinking**
The ability to analyze the information and experience, formulate ideas, derive conclusions, ask pertinent questions, and present logical arguments.

**Effective communication**
The ability to express oneself, both verbally and nonverbally, in ways that are appropriate to our cultures and situations.

**Interpersonal skills**
The ability to relate positively with people, creating an environment in which people feel secure and free to interact and express their opinions.

**Self-awareness**
Having a sense of identity and an understanding of one’s own feelings, beliefs, attitudes, values, goals, motivations, and behaviors.

**Empathy**
The ability to imagine what life is like for another person, even in a situation that one is unfamiliar with.

**Negotiation skills**
The ability to communicate with other people for the purpose of settling a matter, coming to terms, reaching an agreement or resolving conflict. This may involve the ability to compromise or to give and take.

**Refusal skills**
The ability to communicate the decision to say “no” effectively (so that it is understood).

**Assertiveness skills**
The ability to state one’s point of view or personal rights clearly and confidently, without denying the personal rights of others.
Summary Tips for Teachers
- If your class time is 80 minutes, the expectation would be to cover two lessons, not to drag out one lesson to fill up the time.
- Leave time to reinforce conclusions and skills at the end of each lesson.
- Reminder to make lessons age/language appropriate. If necessary, teacher must interpret lessons so students can understand.

TIPS ON HOW TO FACILITATE GROUP DISCUSSIONS
- Give students examples of possible answers if no one is willing to start the discussion. You might say, “what about...?”
- Keep the discussion to a limited amount of time.
- Allow as many students as possible to participate.
- For a student dominating the conversation, say “[Name of Student] has provided some great ideas. Does anyone else have an answer?”
- If there is not enough time for all the students to answer, say, “We’ve had a really good discussion. There will be time in a later activity or lesson for others to participate.”

TIPS ON USING SMALL-GROUP WORK
- Small groups are useful for encouraging student participation.
- Divide students into equal groups (e.g., five students in each group).
- For topics that may be gender-sensitive, separate girls and boys.

Note that one person may need to report back to the class, and ask students to select one person to be that reporter.
- Encourage students to take notes if necessary.
- Walk around during the group activity to hear what students are saying.
- Keep small-group work to the limited time frame. Tell students that it’s okay if they didn’t get everything done before time was up. There will be time to discuss further as a class.
TIPS ON USING ROLE-PLAYING
❂ Role-playing is a useful teaching method for practicing interpersonal skill.
❂ Let students know before the activity if they may be asked to role-play in front of the class.
❂ Remind students of the importance of body language during role-playing and paying attention to non-verbal cues.
❂ If students start to get rowdy during role-playing activities, remind them to stay on the topic, and walk around the class to help them focus.

TIPS FOR BRAINSTORMING INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:
❂ Brainstorming is useful for gathering many answers in a short amount of time.
❂ Although a number of students may want to provide answers to your question, this exercise should last only five minutes. You may not be able to get answers from all the students.
❂ Tell students after five minutes that they will have many other opportunities to provide answers.
❂ Give students positive feedback on their answers.

EARLY CHILDHOOD HEALTH
Theme: Sexuality & Sexual Health
Age Group: 5-6/Mapping Concepts