

# **Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Educational Resources**

## **Guidance for creating a safe learning environment**

These resources have been developed to educate children and young people about matters surrounding organ and tissue donation and transplantation, **not to promote the subject or pressure them into agreeing to donation.**

Young people are faced with choices about a whole range of issues and these resources are designed to raise awareness of their choices and help them to make an informed, educated decision around donation.

### **Primary School Pupils**

The resources for primary school pupils is focused around organ and tissue transplantation, how our bodies work and what organs can be transplanted.

#### **Teachers should note:**

**The resources contain a video of an organ recipient talking about her experiences and also a 10 year old on kidney dialysis which shows blood lines.**

### **Secondary School Pupils**

The resources for secondary school pupils contains information about organ and tissue donation and transplantation, with a key focus around the choices young people have around making a decision about donation as they reach their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, in line with the [opt out system of organ and tissue donation](#).

#### **Teachers should note:**

**The resources also contain a range of videos of organ recipients talking about their experiences and also a member of a donor family talking about the loss of a loved one who went onto donate organs.**

## **Areas for consideration before teaching this resources**

Organ and tissue donation and transplantation may be sensitive issue for some pupils as they may have personal experience of donation and transplantation.

For example a pupil:

- may have received an organ transplant
  - a family member or friend may have or have had serious health issues
  - may have experienced a bereavement
- 
- Some people do not support donation on religious grounds, or believe their religions do not permit it, although the major religions in the UK support the idea of blood, stem cell and organ donation.
  - Teachers should identify any pupils for whom this learning could be deemed sensitive and give them the opportunity to express any concerns they have with you confidentially (including the possibility of not attending).

Teachers should be familiar with their school's relevant policies and procedures around safeguarding pupils and equal opportunities and should discourage pupils from disclosing sensitive information in the classroom.