

To: All LoSECs
From: Office of Safe Environment
RE: Guidance on SE Lessons for Schools and RE Programs
Date: March 16, 2020

Given the impact that the health emergency is having on school and RE program attendance it seems prudent to provide guidance regarding the required annual SE awareness education for these K-12 programs. We appreciate that many locations had their lessons planned for end of year.

As a reminder the Charter audit year runs July 1 to June 30 each year. So there may still be an opportunity to reschedule the lessons if the situation improves and programs are allowed to finish out. But we appreciate that even if programs restart there will be conflicting priorities for limited class time, especially for those RE grades that may have sacramental prep remaining.

If there is an opportunity to reschedule the SE lesson plans at your school or RE Program please do so. If that option becomes unlikely as these next few weeks play out please make arrangements to send the materials home as we have done in the past whenever a child was absent on the day(s) the lessons were presented.

If materials are sent home there will be an implication for the 2019-2020 Charter Audit. As per usual instruction anytime we send SE materials home we count those children as "untrained" because we have no way to verify whether the parents covered the lessons or not. If that turns out to be what happens at your location, please just note the explanation. Since this is a global situation I would expect that many dioceses will need to send SE materials home and the untrained counts will likely be significantly higher this year. We can only do what we can reasonably do.

Please share this communication with others at your location so they know how to approach the SE lessons this year. Thank you for your help. Please contact me via email with any questions.

Deacon Dan Wagnitz
Safe Environment Coordinator