Relationships and Sexual **Education - Malta**

Rights 4U Live-in

- An annual Children's Rights Live-in which ensures that "children are being given the opportunity to express their opinions, and that these are in fact considered". [Commissioner for Children Act 2003, Art. 9(b)]
- The young participants in attendance make **new friends** whilst actively **learning about their rights** due to them under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Rights 4U Programme

- The interactive programme includes various activities in which children not only learn about their rights, but also actively explore and engage in discussions on their rights.
- Children are given the tools to stand up for their rights and to participate in matters of social concern, in such a way that they are empowered as active and independent members of society.
- The Live-in also focuses on personal development as the young people develop critical thinking skills and build social ties.

Rights 4U Programme

- This year's Rights 4U Live-in was dedicated to promoting healthy relationships particularly online relationships.
- The Programme consisted of various games and activities which enables the young people to get to know each other as well as empower them to engage in healthy relationships
- Issues discussed: cyber-bullying, sexting, grooming, digital footprint, recognising signs of unhealthy relationships..... A session was also held on **peer pressure** and finding the courage to say no.

Participants

- This year 25 participants between the ages of 13 and 15 participated in the Rights 4U Live-in.
- The live-in was promoted in **different schools** in Malta and through social media. Most of the participants did not know each other beforehand.
- Young People in **Residential care** were specifically encouraged to participate.

Internet safety

- The Office of the Commissioner for Children is very committed to promoting the **safe use of the internet** amongst children, educators, parents and all other relevant stakeholders.
- The Office has formed part of the Safer Internet Centre **BeSmartOnline!** for the past seven years. Apart from creating awareness, the Office is also responsible for ensuring child participation within the centre.
- In 2016, the Office also participated in a National Radio Campaign entitled 'Think before you click' which brought together various stakeholders and consisted of a series of effective messages which were aired on the radio and targeted mostly parents/carers and educators.

