New expert healthy relationships group to advise on curriculum

The panel will provide advice and support on issues relating to the delivery of healthy relationships education within the curriculum. This includes a range of areas including improving understanding of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues, violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence, respect and consent, sexism and bullying.

Emma Renold, Professor of childhood studies at Cardiff University's School of Social Sciences has agreed to chair the Group.

As well as teaching on undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in the field of childhood studies, Professor Renold has recently collaborated with Welsh Women's Aid, NSPCC Cymru and the Children's Commissioner to develop the online resource AGENDA: A Young People's Guide to Making Positive Relationships Matter.

Kirsty Williams said:

> "Providing good quality learning for children and young people on healthy relationships is essential to tackling a range of important issues and I want to have the best expert advice to help us achieve this.

> "I am delighted such an experienced figure such as Professor Emma Renold has agreed to chair the group as she brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this new role.

> "She is internationally recognised for her work on gender and sexuality in childhood and youth across a wide range of areas including bullying, violence and sexualisation and I look forward to working with her."

Professor Renold said:

> "It is both a privilege and an honour to help support the effective delivery of sex and relationships education within the curriculum in Wales.

> "Chairing this panel is an incredible opportunity to draw upon research evidence, and collaborate with experts, including young people, to identify the most effective resources and practices that will address and enhance children and young people's gender and sexual well-being."

The panel will be made up of individuals and organisations with relevant experience and expertise.