



# Life to the Full Secondary Review

---

## Key Findings

December 2023

## INTRODUCTION

As the **Ten Ten Resources** newly appointed Director of Ethos, I am delighted to share with you the key findings from the review of our **Life to the Full** Secondary Programme.

Life to the Full is used in nearly 70% of all Catholic secondary schools in England and Wales and 25% responded to our survey. This short overview captures a wealth of positive feedback about the programme but also some important critiques and suggestions for improving it further.

Needless to say, we value all of the feedback that schools have provided. We are especially grateful to the schools that we visited in Southwark, Lancaster, Hexham and Newcastle, Portsmouth and Birmingham Dioceses.



Rod Isaacs  
**Director of Ethos**  
**Ten Ten Resources**

## THE POSITIVES AND THE NEGATIVES

### The Positives

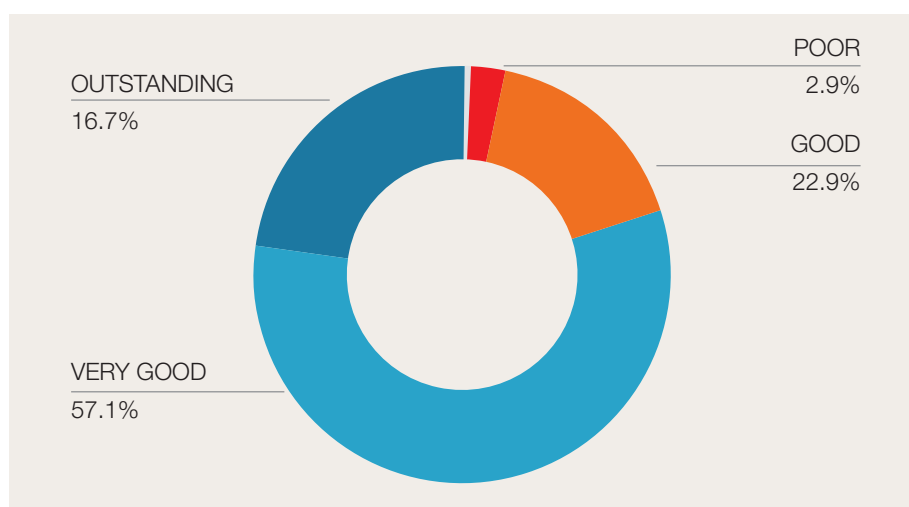
‘Excellent quality resources with clear explanations and guidance.’

‘Teacher guidance is very helpful, especially with building confidence for delivery.’

‘Catholic teaching is clearly and sensitively expressed’

‘High-quality videos that speak to pupils in an engaging way even on awkward topics.’

Overall, our research shows that there is strong agreement from RSHE/RSE leads and classroom teachers (including non-Catholic staff) that **Life to the Full** is a quality resource that is fit for purpose. It is seen as well-planned, well-resourced and easy to deliver, giving non-specialist staff the support and confidence they need to present RSHE/RSE lessons through a Catholic lens.



In fact, 96.7% of schools rated **Life to the Full** as ‘good’, ‘very good’ or ‘outstanding’. We ran some data searches on survey responses, and the five most frequently used descriptions of **Life to the Full** were:

1. ‘well-planned and resourced’
2. ‘supports teachers’
3. ‘engaging/enjoyable’
4. ‘quality resources/quality Catholic teaching’
5. ‘accessible/easy to use’

Pupils interviewed during our school visits enjoyed the video content and mentioned the value of drama and story to engage them and prompt discussion. Teachers said that we handled difficult topics sensitively, pitched our content at the right level, and that this was both informative and inclusive.

Several teachers commented on how essential **Life to the Full** is: ‘We would be lost without it’. RSHE leads spoke of it as a ‘safety net’, ‘security blanket’ or ‘reassurance’ for non-Catholic staff especially.

---

## The Negatives

‘Students do not always engage with the portions intended to be humorous...’

‘It becomes very samey with the same presenters and format through to year 11...’

‘Inclusivity needs to be handled with more sensitivity...’

‘A greater awareness of the realities of life...’

Encouraging as these positive aspects are, we are just as interested in areas where the programme is not being so well received by pupils and/or staff. Constructive criticism has touched on two key areas:

1. The first is the role of the presenters in the programme and the desire for more variety and perhaps more relatability. Comments focused on the suitability of the tone used and the effectiveness of humour, which at times was felt to fall flat or be distracting.
2. The second is the sense that the content is not always sufficiently inclusive of all young people. Some comments related to there being too much emphasis on Catholic teaching without giving due regard to other beliefs and worldviews, whilst other comments described some of the content and scenarios as unrealistic or unrelatable.

---

## Ideas for improvement

Alongside highlighting areas for development, there were dozens of suggestions for improving the programme ranging from bringing in a wider range of activities for pupils, to the introduction of shorter form videos, to the addition of more assessment materials.

There were also some requests for a more detailed treatment of some topics, observations about video issues that need to be addressed, and expressions of interest in more resources for Sixth Form.

## NEXT STEPS

---

### Our response

As we take on board these critiques and suggestions, our first goal is to thoroughly review all existing content and plan how to make it more streamlined, user-friendly and supportive of pupils' learning. We are also looking to develop new content that effectively connects to young people and at the same time opens up their understanding of a Catholic vision in a relatable way.

Ten Ten Resources are really excited about the opportunity to bring fresh creativity and innovation to what we already do.

---

### What can you expect next?

Over the coming months, we will be working closely with some partner schools to trial new material before a wider-scale development of the programme. In our February half-term email, you can expect to hear in more detail about how our proposed plans are developing.

---

If you have questions or comments on the **Life to the Full** review and our next steps, or if you are interested in becoming a partner school and helping us as we trial new material, please email: **[contact@tentenresources.co.uk](mailto:contact@tentenresources.co.uk)**