

DORSET ECHO

COMMENT

Marrying up new ideas

A NEW scheme enabling schoolchildren to quiz couples about details of their married lives looks interesting, to say the least.

A charity organisation by the name of Explore is offering pupils at four secondary schools the chance of what is described as 'no holds barred' question and answer sessions (Page 7).

The idea is to teach pupils more about marriage and give them the opportunity to study relationships outside their family unit where it might be less difficult to ask awkward questions.

Given that the traditional nuclear family of husband, wife and 2.4 children seems to be an endangered species, with today's society radically different from that of, say, 40 years ago, it might not be a bad idea for youngsters to learn a certain amount about something of which they may have little direct experience.

With around two in five marriages ending in divorce and a general decline in the number of marriages taking place anyway, it might stand the pupils in good stead with regard to their own future relationships.

What they will learn from the workshops remains to be seen, but, as Explore's Rawle Beckles points out, there will be no dress rehearsal when it comes to what questions can be asked and what subjects mentioned.

And that is rather like life itself.