



Guidance on Right to withdraw

The statutory guidance for RSE and Health Education into effect in all secondary schools from 2020, including academies, free schools and independent schools. In secondary education from September 2020:

- Parents will not be able to withdraw their child from any aspect of Relationships Education or Health Education.
- Parents will be able to withdraw their child (following discussion with the school) from any or all aspects of Sex Education, other than those which are part of the science curriculum, up to and until three terms before the age of 16.
- After that point, the guidance states that ‘if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school should make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those terms.
- Where pupils are withdrawn from sex education, schools should document the process and will have to ‘ensure that the pupil receives appropriate, purposeful education during the period of withdrawal.

Parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from part or all, of the sex education delivered as part of statutory RSE. Any such request should be submitted to the Associate Principal in writing.