



# **THE RIGHT TO BE EXCUSED FROM SEX EDUCATION**

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Title	The right to be excused from sex education.
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Following government guidelines parents have the right to request that their child be withdrawn from some or all of sex education delivered as part of statutory RSE. If a parent would like to withdraw their child they must first make the request to the Headteacher in writing.

Before granting any such request the headteacher will invite parents and child into school to discuss the request to ensure that their wishes are understood and to clarify the nature and purpose of the curriculum. School will want to document this process to ensure a record is kept.

The headteacher will discuss with parents the benefits of receiving this important education and any detrimental effects that withdrawal might have on the child. This could include any social and emotional effects of being excluded, as well as the likelihood of the child hearing their peers' version of what was said in the classes, rather than what was directly said by the teacher. Although the detrimental effects may be mitigated if the parents propose to deliver sex education to their child at home instead.

Once those discussions have taken place, except in exceptional circumstances, the school will respect the parents' request to withdraw the child, up to and until three terms before the child turns 16. After that point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, the school will make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those terms.

This process is the same for pupils with SEND. However there may be exceptional circumstances where the Headteacher may want to take a pupil's specific needs arising from their SEND into account when making this decision.

If a pupil is excused from sex education, it is the school's responsibility to ensure that the pupil receives appropriate, purposeful education during the period of withdrawal. There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education or Health Education.