



Relationships Education – Right to Withdraw Letter for Parents and Carers

Part 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

We believe that promoting the health and well-being of our children is an important part of their overall education. We do this through our Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme. This covers many topics including all kinds of relationships.

As you may already be aware, Relationships Education became statutory in all primary schools from the Summer Term 2021. We are pleased that this decision has been made as it means that all children will be able to learn about different relationships, different families, growing up, puberty and their changing bodies.

The PSHE Association states,

‘Teaching about puberty before children experience it is essential to ensure that pupils’ physical, emotional and learning needs are met and that they have the correct information about how to take care of their bodies and keep themselves safe.’

‘Ofsted’s PSHE lead, Janet Palmer HMI, has said:

‘If pupils are kept ignorant of their human, physical and sexual rights... they are not being adequately safeguarded. ‘In order to keep pupils safe, it is vital that they learn about puberty before it happens. NHS advice states that puberty can begin as early as 8 for girls and 9 for boys. Currently we teach children about puberty in years 5 and 6. From 2022, we will teach children about puberty in Year 4,

Sex education is not mandatory at primary school and parents have the right to withdraw their children from sex education sessions which cover subjects not included in the statutory curriculum.

Parents and carers do not have the right to withdraw their children from sessions which link to the national curriculum. These subjects include, different relationships, information on puberty, what happens at conception (sperm and egg) and how the human body changes.

Any children who are withdrawn from Sex Education lessons will have to be provided with alternative learning in another learning space. This could be during a session in which the statutory curriculum is being delivered.

Our Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum is fully inclusive in order to meet the needs of all of our pupils in a sensitive and appropriate way which is respectful of their emotional stages, cultural and religious backgrounds. We cover the following objectives:



- friendships
- kind and unkind behaviours, including bullying
- teamwork and resolving disputes
- feelings we experience and how to discuss our feelings
- self-worth and self-respect
- important people in our lives
- consent and autonomy
- secrets and surprises
- growing up and physical and emotional changes to our bodies
- different families and relationships
- different types of love
- how babies are made and how babies are born
- **intercourse**
- **contraception**
- differences, similarities and stereotypes
- body image

We fully believe that all children should learn about these important life skills in an open, honest and safe environment. Children who do not take part in all of these sessions will find out about the subjects from friends or the internet which can lead them open to misconceptions.

Year 5 and Year 6.

Parent/carers have the right to withdraw their child/ren from any sex education lessons that go beyond that of the statutory science national curriculum or relationships education curriculum. (Years 5 and 6).

If you would like to see the slides used within the non-statutory sex education part of the unit before making your decision, they can be found on the school website at <http://www.laceygreen.cheshire.sch.uk/page/rse-relationship-and-sex-education/111025>

The right to withdraw forms are on our website and parts 2 and 3 should be filled in in advance of the non-statutory sex education lessons being taught. This letter should be emailed or handed in to the office. The RSE lead and a member of senior staff will explore your concerns and discuss these with you.

All children whose parents do not complete the right to withdraw documents part 2 and 3 will attend the non-statutory sessions.

We believe it is important to have a strong partnership with parents and carers and will always give you notice of what is being taught and when. We will also provide any further reading or support for any parents and carers wishing to discuss the subjects taught with their children at home.



If there is any part of the curriculum that you have queries about, please contact Ms. Bacon at parents@laceygreen.cheshire.sch.uk.

Many thanks

S Bacon

PSHE Lead



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Part 2

I _____ Parent of _____ in class _____

confirm that I wish to withdraw my child from the following Relationships and Sex Education curriculum sessions:

- How conception occurs-intercourse
- Contraception

I can confirm that I have:

- Read the PSHE and RSE Policies
- Watched and evaluated the relevant module resources including the videos
- I assume full responsibility for the teaching of my child with respect to this aspect of their education including any safeguarding and child protection responsibilities that may be connected to this topic.
- I understand that my child may learn about aspects of sex education from his/her peers.
- I understand that this secondary information may misinform my child on the topic. I understand that the school cannot be held responsible for the transfer of learning or misinformation between children.
- If this occurs I assume full responsibility for addressing these misconceptions.
- I understand that if a misconception held by my child puts my child or any other child at non-urgent risk, the school will contact and inform me.
- I understand that if the safeguarding issue is an urgent risk or if it is clear that a child is at risk because the parent has failed to adequately support the child with the issue, the school will take such action as is necessary to secure the safeguarding of all children including your child and this may include direct teaching according to the RSE curriculum as part of our safeguarding duty.



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Part 3

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENTS

Name of child	Class
Name of parent/carer	Date
Reasons for withdrawing from the sex education lessons within the relationships and Sex Education curriculum.	
Other information that you would like school to consider.	
Parent/carer signature	
To be completed by the school.	
Agreed actions from discussion with parents	