

27/01/2025

RE: Relationship, Sex and Health Education at West Kirby School and College

Dear Parents/Carers

Government guidelines outline that, from the age of 11, it is compulsory for all schools to provide an RSE and health education curriculum.

At our school, we believe that it is important to provide our pupils with a thorough and balanced curriculum, including age-appropriate information about sex and relationships.

The details of what will be taught to the various year groups is detailed in the school's Secondary RSE and Health Education Policy, which can be accessed on our school website www.wkrs.co.uk , or in hard copy via our school office.

Though schools must provide RSE and health education for pupils from the age of 11, up until the age of 19, only aspects of the science national curriculum are compulsory for pupils to learn. Therefore, as parents, you are entitled to request that your child be removed from sex education lessons up to and until three terms before they turn 16-years-old. After that point, if your child wishes to receive sex education, the school will make arrangements to provide them with sex education during one of those terms.

Withdrawal requests should be submitted in writing to myself, the Headteacher, who will discuss this with you and your child's teacher, and determine an appropriate substitute for these lessons. In most instances, children will be provided with self-directed reading or exercises which they can complete under the supervision of a trainee teacher.

Furthermore, following the government's recent review of Relationship, Sex and Health Education parents can access all resources that are taught both internally by our staff and external specialist agencies that we use in school such as Brook Advisory Service. If you would like to request to view these resources please email Mr R Musgrave (rmusgrave@wkrs.co.uk).

Within this next term we will be using the Brook Advisory Service for all pupils from Year 7 – Post 16 to give specialist teaching in 3 key areas; Healthy Relationships; Online Safety; and Consent.

If you have any concerns or queries about your child's participation in these lessons, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or your child's class teacher to discuss these.

Yours sincerely,

R. Hicks

Headteacher