

Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) Withdrawal Policy



At Millfield High School, we believe that Relationships and Sex Education (RSHE) is a fundamental part of a child's education, supporting their personal development, health, and well-being. Our RSHE curriculum is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills they need to understand their bodies, develop healthy relationships, and make informed decisions about their lives. It plays a crucial role in safeguarding, equipping students to recognize and resist inappropriate behaviours, and ensuring they have accurate, age-appropriate information to prepare them for adulthood.

Why is RSHE Important?

Learning about their bodies, relationships, and emotions is essential for children to grow into confident, informed, and respectful adults. The RSHE curriculum at our school is taught in a sensitive and age-appropriate manner and includes topics such as:

- Understanding physical and emotional changes during puberty
- Developing healthy and respectful relationships
- Recognizing boundaries and the concept of consent
- Understanding reproduction and family life
- Being equipped to identify and address risks to their safety and well-being

We aim to empower students to make safe, respectful, and healthy choices in their lives. Removing children from this part of the curriculum may limit their understanding of these crucial topics, which could have a long-term impact on their personal development and safety.

Parental Right to Withdraw

Parents have the legal right to request that their child be withdrawn from the **sex education** elements of RSHE. This right does not extend to the relationships or health education components, which are compulsory parts of the curriculum. Before deciding to withdraw their child, parents are encouraged to carefully consider the importance of the material being covered and the potential impact on their child's understanding and development.

Withdrawal Procedure

If, after consideration, parents wish to withdraw their child from the sex education elements of RSHE, the following steps must be followed:

1. Request a Meeting

Parents must arrange a meeting with either Mrs Bell or Mr. Grayson to discuss their concerns and the reasons for their request. This meeting will provide an opportunity to:

- Review the content of the RSHE curriculum.
- Address any questions or concerns the parent may have.
- Ensure parents fully understand the importance of the topics being taught.

2. Submit a Written Request

Following the meeting, parents must submit a formal written request for withdrawal, outlining their reasons for the decision. This request will be kept on record.

We strongly encourage parents to reflect on the potential implications of withdrawing their child from the sex education elements of RSHE, including:

- The potential for children to receive inaccurate or incomplete information from external sources.
- The importance of providing children with the knowledge they need to stay safe and make informed decisions.

Our school is committed to working in partnership with parents. If you have concerns about the RSHE curriculum, please do not hesitate to contact the school to discuss these further. We are happy to provide additional resources and information to support you in making an informed decision. By working together, we can ensure that all our students receive the education they need to thrive and succeed in today's world.

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