



The William Henry Smith School

Dear Parents/Carers,

Government guidelines outline that, from the age of 11, it is compulsory for all schools to provide pupils with a Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and health education curriculum.

At the William Henry Smith School we believe that it is important to provide our students 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 are outlined in the school's RSHE Curriculum Map which can be accessed on our school website [The William Henry Smith School \(whsschool.org.uk\)](http://The William Henry Smith School (whsschool.org.uk))

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/carers, 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.

Requests for withdrawal should be submitted in writing to myself, the Principal, who will discuss this with you and your child's teacher and determine an appropriate substitute for these lessons.

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,

Sue Ackroyd
Principal