



# WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

*Pride In Achievement*

Headteacher: Mr Steven Hogan

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**Please contact the school if you want help to read or translate this letter.**

Dear Parent / Carer,

As part of the Year 10 Life Studies programme during the next academic year (from September 2023), your son / daughter will have lessons in Sex Education, in accordance with statutory guidance and in line with the school's RSHE policy and syllabus.

Sex Education is an important part of the RSHE curriculum and it is important young people are given accurate, reliable and appropriate information about relationships, sex and health. They should be equipped with the skills to make appropriate use of the range of information available to them in the wider world and on the internet, and shown how to use this to make appropriate informed choices about sex and relationships. This should happen in a supportive environment, and both at home and in school are the best places for this education to occur.

Whilst the school and specialist teachers are well placed to provide Relationships, Sex and Health Education, we acknowledge that parents are the main teachers of any young person and it is a shared responsibility between schools, parents / carers and the community. Whilst I hope that you would recognise that the provision of this programme within school provides an opportunity for us all to work together to promote positive behaviours and attitudes to sex and relationships, I am required to advise you that you do have the right to withdraw your son/daughter from the Sex Education lessons within the Life Studies syllabus, should you wish to do so. Please note that within the statutory guidance there is no right to withdraw from Relationships or Health Education lessons.

Within the programme for Year 10 Life Studies in 2023–24 the following lessons are designated as Sex Education:

- Term 1 Lesson 1: Positive relationship values and expectations
- Term 1 Lesson 2: Consent, peer pressure (including how alcohol and drugs affect decisions), & sexual safety in intimate relationships (including coercive control and persuasive or manipulative behaviour), where to get help and how to recognise when it is needed
- Term 1 Lesson 3: Sexual health clinics and how to access help
- Term 1 Lesson 4: Teen pregnancy and young parenthood (including fostering, adoption & abortion)

In the event that any timetabled lessons are lost due to bank holidays or other school closures then some of these lessons may need to be merged.

I must inform you that as part of the statutory guidance, when a student reaches three terms before their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, if they have been withdrawn from Sex Education by their parents, they are entitled to request that they can return to lessons. In line with the school RSHE policy, any withdrawn student will be informed of this right when they reach the correct point within the school year.

If you choose to withdraw your son / daughter, you will recognise the need to provide appropriate information about these topics at home. Alternative supervision arrangements will be made for any student withdrawn from these lessons and they will be given other Life Studies work to complete. **Please note that if you have previously withdrawn your child from Life Studies in the previous academic year an updated request is required each year.**

Should you wish to withdraw your child from Sex Education lessons, then please complete the online form located here: <https://forms.office.com/e/61V6ZSb0K1>

You can also access the form by scanning this QR code:



There is also a link to the form and more information about Relationships, Sex and Health Education available on the school website, including a copy of the school RSHE policy, the full Life Studies syllabus and example resources:

<https://www.woodbridgehigh.co.uk/page/?title=SMSC%2C+RSHE+%26amp%3B+British+Values&pid=150>

If there are any problems with the online form, if you require this letter to be translated, or if you have any further questions, then please contact me via email ([vwardle@woodbridgehigh.co.uk](mailto:vwardle@woodbridgehigh.co.uk)).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Wardle'.

Vicky Wardle  
Life Studies Co-ordinator