



WOODBIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

Pride In Achievement

Headteacher: Mr Steven Hogan

St Barnabas Road, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 7DQ

Tel: 020 8504 9618

www.woodbridgehigh.co.uk

info@woodbridgehigh.co.uk

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

Dear Parent / Carer,

I wanted to take this opportunity to contact you about the Year 8 Life Studies programme that your child will complete during the next academic year (from September 2026).

As you may recall from my letter last September, Life Studies is a subject that combines Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE), PSHE, Citizenship, Careers, Environment education, and within Year 10 and Year 11 it also incorporates elements of statutory KS4 ICT and KS4 RE within the lessons.

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. It is that 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. 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.

Following the update to the Department for Education guidance regarding RSHE that was released in July 2025 for first teaching in September 2026, there are no lessons that are designated as Sex Education lessons within the Year 8 programme. However, I am required to advise you that in future years you do have the right to withdraw your child 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.

I must also inform you that as part of the statutory guidance, when a student reaches three terms before their 16th birthday, if they have been withdrawn from Sex Education by their parents, they are entitled to request that they can return to lessons. Although this will also not affect any of students in Year 8, it will be relevant in future years.

There is more information about Life Studies and RSHE available on the school website, including a copy of the full syllabus that students will cover throughout all year groups, alongside examples of the resources used and the school RSHE policy:

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

You also have the opportunity to take part in the annual RSHE consultation meeting that will occur in October, more details regarding this will be sent to you in the new academic year.

If you require this letter to be translated, or if you have any further questions, then please contact me via email (ywardle@woodbridgehigh.co.uk).

Yours sincerely



Vicky Wardle
Life Studies Co-ordinator