



Isca Academy

Statement on the Right to Withdraw a Child from Sex and Relationships Education

Date of publication: June 2020

Review date: June 2021

Isca Academy believes in the importance of a full and rounded education, which includes the study of Personal Social Health Education and Sex and Relationships Education. We comply fully with the Right to Withdraw a Child from Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) lessons.

As an Academy, we follow the guidance on SRE provided by the Department for Education, effective from September 2020. This guidance explains that the right of withdrawal does not extend to other areas of the curriculum.

- Parents have the right to withdraw their child from non-statutory (i.e. non-science) components of Sex Education within SRE
- In this instance, a discussion with the Headteacher should take place before a child is withdrawn from SRE lessons. This discussion might cover the benefits of receiving this important education and any detrimental effects that withdrawal might have on the child.
- Once those discussions have taken place, except in exceptional circumstances, we will respect the parents' request to withdraw the child, **up to and until three terms before the child turns 16**. After that point, if the child wishes to receive sex education rather than be withdrawn, we will make arrangements to provide the child with sex education during one of those terms. This is in line with the DfE guidance.
- There is no right to withdraw from Relationships Education or Health Education

At Isca Academy, we fully acknowledge that parents have the right to choose whether or not to withdraw their child from non-statutory Sex Education components of SRE, although we endeavour to ensure that parents or carers are aware of the educational objectives and content of the PSHE/SRE programme of study. In this way, parents can make an informed decision. Where parents have requested that their child is withdrawn, Isca Academy respects that request and discusses the arrangements with the parents or carers to explore how the student can continue to receive appropriate, purposeful education during the period of withdrawal. If students are withdrawn from SRE, Isca Academy will supervise them during SRE time on school premises and will provide other appropriate work so that learning time is not lost. However, parents should be aware that attending other subject lessons, such as additional Maths or English with specialist teachers, will not be possible.