



Withdrawal from RE/RSE Curriculum 25-26

This guide is designed to help you understand your statutory rights regarding your child's participation in Religious Education (RE) and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), as outlined in **Section 71(1) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998** and current Department for Education guidance.

Religious Education (RE)

At Beacon Academy, RE is a vital part of our curriculum, fostering empathy and cultural understanding. However, we respect the diverse beliefs of our community.

- **Your Right:** Parents have the right to withdraw their children from all or part of RE lessons and Collective Worship.
- **The Process:** You do not need to provide a reason for this request. We simply ask that you contact the Headteacher so we can discuss alternative arrangements for your child's supervision during these times. Contact is made initially by emailing office@beaconacademy.co.uk with the subject: "Withdrawal from RE".

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

The RSE curriculum is divided into three main pillars: **Relationships Education, Health Education, and Sex Education.**

What You Can Withdraw From

- **Sex Education:** Parents can request that their child be withdrawn from the specific "Sex Education" components of the curriculum (those parts not covered by the National Curriculum for Science).
- **The "Three Term" Rule:** In secondary education, if a student wishes to receive sex education rather than being withdrawn, the school must provide this during one of the three terms before the student turns 16.

What is Non-Withdrawable

- **Relationships & Health Education:** These are statutory requirements. There is no parental right to withdraw students from these lessons as they focus on safety, healthy relationships, and mental wellbeing.



- **National Curriculum Science:** Elements of reproduction and biological growth covered in Science lessons are mandatory.

How to Request a Withdrawal

We believe that open communication is the best way to support your child's education. If you are considering withdrawing your child from any of these areas:

1. **Review the Curriculum:** We encourage you to look at the national curriculum and statutory content that will be delivered for the benefit of all children at different ages and stages.
2. **Put your request in writing:** Please email office@beaconacademy.co.uk for attention of the Principal outlining your request to withdraw your child from Religious Education, Sex Education or both. We will aim to arrange a discussion with the Principal or the Subject Lead. This allows us to clarify the lesson content and ensure your child is supported during any periods of withdrawal.

Note: Unless there are exceptional circumstances, the school will respect a parent's request to withdraw their child from Sex Education **up until three terms before the child turns 16.**