

[School address]

How to use this template: Delete all sections that do not apply to your nation or circumstances. Personalise the letter, identify particular lessons or materials where possible. Parents seeking withdrawal should use the wording applicable to their nation, as withdrawal rights differ significantly across the UK. The article **Four Years On: How where you live affects what you children are taught should help with this**

Dear [Headteacher Name]

I/we write as the parent(s) of [child's name], who is in Year [insert year].

I/we understand that the school is required to teach [delete as appropriate: Relationships and Sex Education (England, Secondary), Relationships Education (England, Primary) and Relationships Sexuality Education (Wales and Northern Ireland), Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Education (Scotland)].

We are a Christian family with sincerely and strongly held beliefs about marriage, relationships, biological sex and gender. I/we are concerned that some teaching, resources or wider school activities may present contested beliefs about these subjects as established fact, or may introduce themes that are not appropriate for my/our child's age and development.

I/we would therefore be grateful if the school would provide:

1. Its current relationships and sex education policy;
2. An outline or curriculum map showing what will be taught to my/our child's year group and when;
3. The names of any published programmes, lesson packs or online platforms being used;
4. An opportunity to inspect the teaching materials, presentations, videos, worksheets and recommended websites that will be used;
5. The names of any external providers involved in lessons, assemblies, staff training, clubs or whole-school activities; and
6. An explanation of how the school assesses resources and external providers for factual accuracy, balance, age-appropriateness and safeguarding.

My/our overall concerns relate to the content, balance and age-appropriateness of the school's curriculum and its respect for the role of Christian parents.

[If living in England]: I/we am/are aware that as a statutory pre-condition to **[Relationships Education/Relationships and Sex Education]** being taught to **my/our** child, the school must consult with parents as to the content of the school's Relationships and Sex Education policy and what you are choosing to teach my child. Would you therefore please let me know, and see examples of, the full range of materials which are being used and explain how they are used within the curriculum? I/we am/are aware that schools or organisations should not refuse such a request on 'copyright' grounds.

I/we would also like to draw your attention to the most recent guidance from the Department for Education (taking effect from September 2026) which clarifies that schools should not teach as fact that all people have a gender identity distinct from biological sex.

Schools are to avoid using external providers which are ideological, misrepresent the law or have a vested interest in what is being taught. **I/we** would like you to let **me/us** know which external providers you are using.

Importantly, the statutory guidance requires schools to teach Relationships Education in a way that is both age appropriate and has due regard for the religious background of the pupils. This is in addition to the statutory obligation to respect the manner in which **I/we** seek to raise **my/our** child in accordance with our Christian faith. Can you please inform **me/us** how you have sought to consider this statutory obligation?

[If living in Scotland]: I/we am/are aware that the official guidance says RSHP should be taught in an “objective, balanced and sensitive” way, and that learning should be appropriate to the child’s age and stage. As part of this, schools should consider the makeup of their own student body, including the gender and age range of their pupils, and consider whether it is appropriate or necessary to put in place additional support for pupils with particular protected characteristics. Would you therefore please let **me/us** know, and see examples of, the full range of materials which are being used and explain how they are used within the curriculum? **I/we am/are** concerned about the embedding of LGBT education across the curriculum. This is inappropriate as it unnecessarily sexualises and politicises a variety of lessons and the wider culture of the school. **I/we am/are** would like to be made aware of where this happens and of any external agencies who are invited into the school to deliver any RSHP related content.

I/we understand that Scottish Government guidance accepts that parental requests concerning withdrawal from all or part of a planned sexual-health education programme should be fully considered by the school. Although this does not create a general right to withdraw from RSHP or integrated LGBT-inclusive education, please identify which parts of the provision planned for **my/our** child constitute a sexual-health education programme and explain the school’s procedure for considering a request for withdrawal.

[If living in Wales]: I/we am/are aware that Wales does not give parents a right to withdraw children of compulsory school age from RSE. However, schools should work closely with parents and carers so that they understand what is being taught. **I/we** therefore want to understand the school’s RSE policy. How are you taking into account our strongly held Christian beliefs as you deliver the RSE Code which we understand seeks to “develop awareness and understanding of different identities, views and values and a diversity of relationships, gender and sexuality, including LGBTQ+ lives.” **I/we am/are** concerned about the embedding of LGBT education across the curriculum without consideration of our traditional Christian viewpoint. **I/we** believe this integration may be being delivered inappropriately in a way that unnecessarily sexualises and politicises a variety of lessons and the wider culture of the school. Would you therefore please let **me/us** know, and see examples of, the full range of materials which are being used and explain how they are used within the curriculum?

[If living in Northern Ireland]: I/we are aware that schools are required to be sensitive about the resources they use to deliver Relationships Sexuality Education. Teachers must satisfy themselves that the resources they plan to use, reflect the ethos of the school, are age-appropriate, are sensitive to the personal circumstances and cultural background of their pupils (including the religion in their family home), are factually accurate and make clear distinctions between fact and opinion. Whilst **I/we** are aware there is no legislative provision permitting parental withdrawal from these lessons schools may consider requests concerning other lessons individually. Would you therefore please let **me/us** know, and see examples of, the full range of materials which are being used and explain how they are used within the curriculum in a way that respects our traditional Christian beliefs?

I do hope the school pays genuine regard to our concerns and will not undermine the values and beliefs we are instilling in our **son/daughter** at home. **I/we** look forward to hearing from you soon and we would

like to have a meeting with the relevant member of staff to discuss in more detail the issues raised in this letter.

Kind Regards,

[Parent(s) name]