

31<sup>st</sup> March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Sex and relationship education at Philips High School

You are receiving this letter in advance of the Summer half-term in which Year 9 students will be studying some elements of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) in their Character lessons. See below an overview of the topics which will be covered;

Lesson 1	Understanding intimate relationships and consent;
Lesson 2	Understanding contraception and Safe Sex
Lesson 3	Relationships in the media – expectations vs. reality
Lesson 4	Staying Safe: recognising sexual exploitation and risk


Government guidelines outline that, from the age of 11, it is compulsory for all schools to provide a sex and relationship education programme. All topics being taught are part of the Government RSE Statutory Guidance.

We believe that it is important to provide our students with a thorough and balanced curriculum, including age-appropriate information about sex and relationships. The details of what will be taught to the various year groups is detailed in the Philips High School's Sex and Relationship Education Policy, which can be accessed on our school website or in hard copy via our school office.

Though schools must provide sex and relationship education for students from the age of 11, up until the age of 19, only aspects of the science national curriculum are compulsory for students to learn. We encourage you to keep your child in this programme and to have conversations at home about this topic. However, you can withdraw your child if you wish.

Headteacher: Mr C Hibbert BA (Hons), MSc, NPQH

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Such requests should be submitted to myself, the head teacher, who will discuss this with you and your child's teacher and determine an appropriate substitute for these lessons. In most instances, children will be provided with self-directed reading or exercises which they can complete under the supervision of a member of staff. Please note that you only have the right to withdraw your child up until the 3rd term before they turn 16. After that, should your child decide that they want to take part in sex education, they may do so without parental consent.

If you have any concerns or queries about your child's participation in these lessons, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or our Personal Development staff to discuss these.


Yours sincerely



Mr C Hibbert  
**Headteacher**

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