

IslamicRSE – Exercising Your Parental Rights

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

This is a step-by-step guide on how to exercise your parental rights regarding the NEW compulsory Relationships Education (RE). *Note: Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) is to be replaced with RE.*

It is designed for PARENTS whose children attend PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

Before contacting your child's school:

You must approach the school with a view to creating a positive relationship and working with the staff in a collaborative manner. Ensure you approach the headteacher in a polite and constructive fashion. Refer to our resource 'School Engagement Tips for Parents' to find out how to interact with your child's school effectively.

1. What to do if you have not made contact with your child's school about RE/SRE:

>> If you have **NOT** contacted your child's school about RE/SRE, do so as a priority. Find out if the school is currently teaching RE/SRE or plans to teach RE before September 2020.

2. What to do if the school is currently teaching any aspect of RE/SRE (before Sept 2020):

>> If you **have contacted** your child's school and know it is **CURRENTLY TEACHING** any aspect of RE/SRE take action:

>> If the **school is teaching** any aspect of RE/SRE, you can **USE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHT TO WITHDRAW YOUR CHILD**. You have the right to do so until September 2020. (Ensure you teach your child RSE/SRE out of school.)

3. What to do if the school is planning to teach any aspect of RE/SRE (before Sept 2020):

>> If you **have contacted** your child's school and know it is **PLANNING TO TEACH** any aspect of RE/SRE take action:

>> If the **school is NOT** teaching RE/SRE but **plans to do so before September 2020**, you can **USE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHT TO WITHDRAW YOUR CHILD**. You have the right to do so until September 2020. (Ensure you teach your child RE/SRE out of school.)

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4. What to do if the school is currently NOT teaching RE, nor planning to teach it before September 2020:

>> This means, the school has to make plans now to meet the Government's deadline to teach RE from 1st September 2020. Primary schools are free to teach Sex Education in addition to Relationships Education.

Take the following actions:

Relationships Education (compulsory)

>> Find out what measures are included in the school's consultation process to enable you to be involved and develop the curriculum.

>> Find out what topics the school plans to teach your child as part of RE.

>> Find out how the school plans to take into consideration your child's religious background before deciding what to teach.

>> Find out how many hours of RE teaching your child will receive per week over the course of the year.

>> Find out what resources they are thinking of using.

>> Find out how the school plans to take into consideration your child's religious background before deciding on what resource(s) to use.

>> Find out if the school plans to use any external organisations, if so which ones.

>> Find out how the school will make clear the difference between the content of Relationships Education and Sex Education.

Sex Education (optional)

>> Find out what topics the school plans to teach your child as part of Sex Education.

>> You can use your parental rights to **withdraw your child from Sex Education** indefinitely – it is your unconditional right.