


Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board



Section: Student

**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE:
Pr ST: 27 Human Development
and Sexual Health Exemption**

NUMBER:	Pr ST: 27
EFFECTIVE:	Dec. 10, 2019
AMENDED:	
RELATED POLICIES:	See References
REPEALS:	
REVIEW DATE:	2024-2025

1.0 OBJECTIVE

- 1.1 The objective of this procedure is to outline the process to allow students to be exempted, at the request of their parent(s)/guardian(s), from instruction related to the Human Development and Sexual Health expectations found in strand D of *The Ontario Curriculum: Health and Physical Education, Grades 1-8, 2019*.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 **Period of Instruction:** refers to the period, including the beginning and end dates, during which instruction in Human Development and Sexual Health during health and physical education classes is delivered. This period could extend over several days or weeks, depending on individual schools' calendars and teachers' lesson plans.
- 2.2 **Unforeseen Event:** refers to an event that impairs a school's ability to administer the "period of instruction".
- 2.3 **Fully Alive:** refers to the Family Life program developed by The Institute for Catholic Education (ICE), established by the Catholic Bishops of Ontario. The purpose of this program is to foster and enhance the integrity, values, traditions and distinctiveness of Catholic education, while fulfilling the expectations found in strand D of *The Ontario Curriculum: Health and Physical Education, Grades 1-8, 2019*.

3.0 NOTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 The Principal will provide parent(s)/guardian(s) with a letter for Unit 3: Created Sexual - Male and Female, from the Fully Alive program. The letter will identify the content related to human development and sexuality within the program, as well as reference the health and physical education expectations *by grade*.
- 3.2 The Principal will inform parent(s)/guardian(s) that they can choose to have their child or children exempted from instruction related to Human Development and Sexual Health expectations by completing and returning an exemption form for each child.
- 3.3 The Principal will notify all parent(s)/guardian(s) at least twenty (20) school days before the start of the "period of instruction" related to the Human Development and Sexual Health expectations.

4.0 PROCESS

- 4.1 The Principal will make a standard exemption form available to parent(s)/guardian(s) every school year, indicating the date by which the completed exemption form must be submitted in order for their child to be exempted from instruction related to the Human Development and Sexual Health expectations. The deadline for parent(s)/guardian(s) to submit the completed exemption form must not be more than five (5) days before the start of the period of instruction. (Appendix A: Exemption from Human Development and Sexual Health Form)
- 4.2 In the case of an unforeseen event, the Principal has the authority to move the period of instruction to a later date in the school year and will give notice of the change to parent(s)/guardian(s) as soon as reasonably possible.
- 4.3 Principals will provide parent(s)/guardian(s) with an acknowledgement letter upon receipt of the completed exemption form. (Appendix B: Acknowledgement of Receipt of Exemption from Human Development and Sexual Health Form)

5.0 SUPERVISION OF EXEMPTED STUDENTS:

- 5.1 Parents must choose **one** of the following options of supervision for their child:
- to remain in the classroom during the exemption period without taking part in instruction in Human Development and Sexual Health, and to be assigned work or activities by the teacher that are *unrelated* to Human Development and Sexual Health; *or*
 - to leave the classroom for the duration of the instruction and remain in the school under staff supervision. The student's activities during the exemption period will be at the discretion of the Principal; *or*
 - to be released into the care of the parent(s)/guardian(s) or their approved designate.