

Session exclusion card for years K-10



When an external provider like **Minus18, FocusOne Health, Shine SA or Elephant Ed** comes to your child's school it's an immediate red flag. Ask to see the content. If the principal says it's copyright, it's usually because the provider doesn't want parents to know the content. It's then your right to remove your child from the session.

The principal must give parental advice about the content. Another teacher from the school must also be in the room. This rule HAS NOT been followed by many schools.

About the card

This card can be used by a student to excuse themselves from Respectful Relationship sessions or **any controversial topic** deemed unsuitable by their parents, guardians or even themselves. This applies where uncomfortable LGBTQA+ content is discussed.

What if the principal or teacher won't accept the card?

The law in each state says that it is the parents right to withdraw their child from controversial sessions. Please see the following page for links to each state's law.

Using the card

The student doesn't need to speak to the teacher or explain themselves. The parent or guardian has done that work beforehand. This makes it easier on the student. The student just stands, gives the card to the teacher, and goes to the library or other room until the session is over. No words are necessary. **Here's the steps to follow:**

1. Print this page and complete the card with your and your child's details.
2. Explain to your child what it's about and why you are giving this tool to them. They will probably know when to use it, yet you may give them key words like gender, trans, LGBTQA, queer, pride etc. When the child hears those words, the card could be used.
3. Cut out and laminate the card.
4. Book a 5-minute discussion with the teacher to explain what the card is and when the child will use it. You may also need to explain its use to the principal. **A Tip: Try to have another student in the class also with the card. In this way your child will not be flying solo.**

Session Exclusion Card



Student's name

Usual classroom teacher name

If this card is presented to you, please allow to visit the library or alternative room until the teaching session is complete. I understand that the parental right to withdraw a child from certain school sessions must be respected. No verbal communication is needed.

Parent name Signature..... Date.....

Links to State-based rules on withdrawing students from certain content

NSW: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/pdhpe/child-protection-and-respectful-relationships-education/evidence-based-practice/policy-and-procedures>

Victoria: <https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/sexuality-education/policy>

South Australia: Part 9, section 96. The Head Teacher must also receive notice from the parent that a child is being withdrawn:

https://www.legislation.sa.gov.au/_legislation/lz/c/r/education%20regulations%202012/2013.05.15/2012.188.un.pdf

Queensland: Section 6 point 1:

<https://www.dcssds.qld.gov.au/resources/dcsyw/supporting-families/charter-of-rights-for-parents.pdf>

Western Australia: Section 71 and 72: Page 48

[https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/legislation/prod/filestore.nsf/FileURL/mrdoc_2020.pdf/\\$FILE/School%20Education%20Act%201999%20-%20%5B01-c0-02%5D.pdf?OpenElement](https://www.legislation.wa.gov.au/legislation/prod/filestore.nsf/FileURL/mrdoc_2020.pdf/$FILE/School%20Education%20Act%201999%20-%20%5B01-c0-02%5D.pdf?OpenElement)

Tasmania: This is a little tougher, yet parents can take advice from these documents:

<https://www.legislation.tas.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-2016-051#GS39@EN>

<https://publicdocumentcentre.education.tas.gov.au/library/Document%20Centre/Application-Exemption-Participation-in-Approved-Learning-Ministerial-No-10.pdf>”

ACT: No specific legal document

Northern Territory:

<https://nt.gov.au/community/parents-and-families/your-rights-as-a-parent>

