2026505401 DOCUMENTS IN SCOPE

SUMMARY LIST OF DOCUMENTS

1. Email relating to agenda for Review Group meeting and updates to draft of guidance.
2. [redacted S36(1)].
3. [redacted S36(1)].
4. [redacted S36(1)].
5. [redacted S36(1)].
6. Sharing latest draft within Team.
7. [redacted S36(1)].
8. Sharing draft with Mr Greer.
9. Copying sharing draft with Mr Greer to DD and Director.
10. Response from and to DD on draft shared.
11. Sharing latest draft with Team Leader.
12. [redacted S36(1)].
13. Comments from Unit Head on latest draft.
14. Response to comments on AI from Unit Head.
15. Cost estimate to Budget officer.
16. Draft of guidance to share with Mr Greer forwarded to SPAD.
17. Comments from colleague on latest draft.
18. Request for input from colleague on AI.
19. Update from Team Leader to Cabinet Secretary on progress with revised guidance.
20. Sharing table of comments on red flag issues.
21. Correspondence with Private Office on deadline and sharing draft with Mr Greer.
22. Comments from colleague on AI references in draft guidance.
23. Response to comments on AI from colleague.
24. [redacted S36(1)].
25. [redacted S36(1)].
26. Note from Private Office on timeline for publication.
27. Note to SPAD from Team Leader on publication timeline.
28. Sharing latest draft within Team.
29. Comments on latest draft from Team Leader.
30. Response to SPAD on update of communication with Mr Greer.

31. [redacted S30(b)(i)].
32. Sharing latest draft with Unit Head.
33. Advice from DD on likely publication timeline.
34. Note from Team Leader on suggested publication timeline with back up date.
35. [redacted S30(b)(i)].
36. [redacted S36(1)].
37. [redacted S36(1)].
38. [redacted S36(1)].
39. [redacted S36(1)].
40. [redacted S36(1)].
41. [redacted S36(1)].
42. [redacted S36(1)].
43. [redacted S36(1)].
44. Sharing latest draft within Team..
45. Comments on latest draft from Unit Head.
46. Response to Unit Head from Team Leader on comments in latest draft.
47. Comments from Violence Against Women and Girls Unit on latest draft.
48. [redacted S36(1)].
49. [redacted S30(b)(i)].
50. Correspondence within Team on comments from stakeholder.
51. Correspondence within Team on amendments to latest draft and covering submission.
52. Response from Team Leader on amendments to latest draft and covering submission.
53. [redacted S36(1)].
54. [redacted S30(b)(i)].

DOCUMENT 1

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 17 September 2025 17:09
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: [redacted S38(1)(b)]shared "Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance - April 2025 version - as at 16 September 2025" with you

Thanks very much [redacted S38(1)(b)], agenda looks good – the only suggestion/question on that would be at what stage we bring in other stakeholders – e.g. section 3 would be good to share with LGBT / faith stakeholders but we may want to wait till we have the whole guidance nearly final and share it then? Would be good for the group to agree that and we can say we have a lot of interest from stakeholders about being involved.

On the guidance itself, I left quite a few comments in section 2 and 3 – see what you think and happy to discuss further. One of the things I noticed I think from section 2 we dropped the "parenthood" element – should this be across the piece? Are we saying that this guidance is on the relationship and sexual health aspect of RSHP only as we don't really cover parenthood (should we?)

Some of the hyperlinks were not working but could just be me and I would imagine there will need to be a sweep across all the links/resources to ensure they work and are current / updated. Also noting that we list the transgender guidance which we will need to keep an eye on.

[redacted S25(1)]

I've gone through section 4 now too, wasn't as long as I thought it was. Grateful for any comments and before I issue along with agenda and paper, probably by tomorrow afternoon.

Hope that my comments make sense but very happy to discuss further,
Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 17 September 2025 12:30
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: [redacted S38(1)(b)]shared "Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance - April 2025 version - as at 16 September 2025" with you

DOCUMENT 2
[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 3

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 4

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 5

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 6
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 23 October 2025 11:58
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: [redacted S38(1)(b)]shared "Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance - April 2025 version - as at 20 October 2025" with you

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Thanks very much for this, I see how much work you have done on it and it's shaping up really well.

I have left a couple of comments and tracks for your to consider, I got a little bit confused with the additional text tables for "whole school guidance" under section 3 – would these be key learning points? Should we have similar ones in section 2? (probably not relevant to section 1 as it's intro)

We'll need consistency in the titles of the sections - I noticed section 2 in the main body of text is titled "Whole school approach to RSWE" (though the title in the content list is RSWE) and section

3 in the main body is titled "Embedding relationships and sexual wellbeing education" but in the

Contents it's "Embedding Relationships and Sexual Wellbeing Education as a Whole School Approach"

There are still quite a few references to sexual health in the document – might be worth checking over whether these should stay as they are or be changed to sexual wellbeing so we have consistency (though appreciate some may be referring to previous docs or stats etc so may need to stay as they are)

It would be good to fix the graphic on page 17, unfortunately this is way beyond my technical capabilities. You might be able to fix this quickly or we could see if there might be someone in the division who could help with that as I know this can be time consuming if you don't do it often.

I hope this makes sense, very happy to chat through if helpful?

Thanks again for all your hard work on this, great to see the progress. [redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 October 2025 15:53
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: [redacted S38(1)(b)]shared "Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance - April 2025 version - as at 20 October 2025" with you

[redacted S38(1)(b)] invited you to edit a file

Latest version of RSHP guidance for consideration please.

I've moved the key learning points up to quick read section.

Have a read over and see what you think before I send it on to the Review Group.

[redacted S25(1)]

This invite will only work for you and people with existing access.

Open Share

This email is generated through SCOTS Connect's use of Microsoft 365 and may contain content that i
SCOTS Connect.

DOCUMENT 7

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 8
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From:	[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent:	13 November 2025 16:59
To:	Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Cc:	Kate Higgins; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject:	RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request
Attachments:	Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance - November 2025 version - as at 11 November 2025.docx

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

A bit later than promised but please find attached a draft of the revised RSHP guidance for sharing with Mr Greer.

I should caveat that this is still work in the final stages of progress, as there are a few areas highlighted through the document that need finished off. However it is not far off being completed before going to wider stakeholders as mentioned below.

The main change to note is the name of the subject, the Core Review Group have agreed to call it "relationships and sexual wellbeing education" in the hope of futureproofing the guidance with an eye on the outcome of the Curriculum Improvement Cycle, being led by Education Scotland. Education Scotland are part of the Core Review Group.

Thanks,

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)] | m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 05 November 2025 09:32
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)],

Happy to pass on a tidied up version, early next week, that can be sent on to Mr Greer.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

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From: [redacted S38(1)(b)] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Sent: 05 November 2025 09:27
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; Kate Higgins
<Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)] Subject: RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

Ms Gilruth has noted your helpful email below. Cab Sec has asked if we will be able to share with him after today's meeting? It would be really helpful if we could.

Thanks,

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills – Jenny Gilruth MSP
The Scottish Government
St Andrews House | Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

Mob: [redacted S38(1)(b)] | Email: CabSecES2024@gov.scot

Ms Gilruth's Ministerial Preferences can be found here

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From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 04 November 2025 16:56
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

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We plan to share that draft with stakeholders within the next month for any final red flag issues before the Group formally agrees a final draft that would go for Ministerial clearance ahead of publication, hopefully by the end of the year. The Group has one more meeting scheduled, on 3 December, where I hope a final version can be signed off.

We can include Mr Greer in the circulation of the draft we share with stakeholders for red flags, this month.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)] | m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

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Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Sent: 04 November 2025 16:41
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Subject: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

I hope you're well.

Cab Sec has advised that Ross Greer is looking for some assurance on where we are with the updated RSHP guidance. Ms Gilruth mentioned she was meant to meet officials last week but it got moved due to stage 3. Is there anything that Ms Gilruth can share with Mr Greer by way of an update? If not, Cab Sec has suggested offering him a meeting? I'd be grateful for advice, please.

Many thanks,
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)] |Deputy Private Secretary | Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
: [redacted S38(1)(b)] |St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

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DOCUMENT 9

From:	[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent:	13 November 2025 17:04
To:	Lewis Hedge; Clare Hicks
Subject:	FW: RSHP Guidance - Update Request
Attachments:	Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance - November 2025 version - as at 11 November 2025.docx

Sending on for information. Apologies for not copying you both in at the time.

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | [redacted S38(1)(b)] [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 13 November 2025 16:59
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)] ,[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

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I should caveat that this is still work in the final stages of progress, as there are a few areas highlighted through the document that need finished off. However it is not far off being completed before going to wider stakeholders as mentioned below.

[redacted S30(b)]

Thanks,

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | [redacted S38(1)(b)] [redacted S38(1)(b)]

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[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)],

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Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)] [redacted S38(1)(b)]

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Sent: 04 November 2025 16:56
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>;
[redacted S38(1)(b)] [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

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We can include Mr Greer in the circulation of the draft we share with stakeholders for red flags, this month.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

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Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

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Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

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Many thanks,
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DOCUMENT 10

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 17 November 2025 10:14
To: Lewis Hedge; Clare Hicks
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Thanks Lewis.

Yes the Review Group are all supportive. They have been very helpful in shaping the guidance and dealing with the comments from the consultation.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

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Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>
Sent: 13 November 2025 17:58
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]>; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot> Subject:
Re: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)], great to see this in near-final form. Is the review group all supportive?

Lewis

Lewis Hedge – DD Curriculum and
Qualifications e:

lewis.hedge@gov.scot; m:
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2025 5:03:59 pm
To: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>
Subject: FW: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

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[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]
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2024
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Sent: 04 November 2025 16:41
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Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; Kate Higgins
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[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]|Deputy Private Secretary | Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills : [redacted S38(1)(b)]|St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such emails or attachments. Ms Gilruth's Ministerial Preferences can be found here
Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

DOCUMENT 11

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 19 November 2025 12:57

To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)] invited you to edit a file

Hiya,

Latest version for consideration. Main changes have been around paragraphs 2.11 to 2.22 and the flow

There's no more outstanding comments or highlights.

Thank you,

Stuart

[redacted S25(1)] a

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Connect.

Subject: [redacted S38(1)(b)]"Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance - November 2025 version - as at 11 November 2025" with you

DOCUMENT 12

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 13

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 21 November 2025 09:58
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal
Attachments: RSHP - revised guidance - November 2025 version - as at 11 November 2025 [redacted S38(1)(b)].docx

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Thanks for your stewardship of this piece of work. It's moving along really well.

Yesterday afternoon I took some time to read the draft and I have attached a version with some track changes and comments. The vast majority are editing type points and will be easy to deal with. In commenting I am conscious that you are expert in this area and in places I have questioned the use of certain words or what I read as being odd language – there may very well be good reason as to why certain phrases are used so feel free to ignore me if I am simply wrong!

As [redacted S38(1)(b)] suggests in her email below timescale look tight but lets see what can be done. Please keep me in the loop.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 14
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 November 2025 14:42
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal - final thought

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)].

I'll take a look at your comments. Might be a place for some wider resources on AI generated relationships but take your point about futureproofing the guidance.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 November 2025 11:29
To: Stuart Downes <Stuart.Downes@gov.scot>
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]Subject: FW: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal - final thought

Apologies [redacted S38(1)(b)], another thought that I had meant to add to my email below.

On the AI/digital front there is an increase in concern about certain technologies (chatbots and beyond) that are able to gauge and respond to human emotion. We know that boys are particularly susceptible to spending long periods online are also more likely to converse with these online tools. The RSHP guidance is understandably focused on healthy relationships between real people but there is a growing risk of a young person developing a relationship

with an AI companion (see the article below) which may be particularly unhealthy. I do wonder whether updated RSHP guidance should make some sort of reference to this at least to partially future proof the advice?

SAIFCA Supports Common Sense Media's Warning: AI Companions Present Unacceptable Risks to Children

As a team we don't have experience in this area but worth a conversation with [redacted S38(1)(b)] ([redacted S38(1)(b)]) who will also be able to point you to others in the university sector who are looking at this sort of issue.

Thanks
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 November 2025 09:58
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)] Subject: RE: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal

[redacted S38(1)(b)],

Thanks for your stewardship of this piece of work. It's moving along really well.

Yesterday afternoon I took some time to read the draft and I have attached a version with some track changes and comments. The vast majority are editing type points and will be easy to deal with. In commenting I am conscious that you are expert in this area and in places I have questioned the use of certain words or what I read as being odd language – there may very well be good reason as to why certain phrases are used so feel free to ignore me if I am simply wrong!

As [redacted S38(1)(b)]suggests in her email below timescale look tight but lets see what can be done. Please keep me in the loop.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S36(1)

DOCUMENT 15

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 25 November 2025 17:23
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: FW: COST ESTIMATE - SCT1125617176 - Statutory Relationships and Sexual Wellbeing Education in Scottish Schools (RSHP) guidance publish SG Website
Attachments: sales_estimate_en-us_SCT1125617176-G-01_20251125_162030737.pdf

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

hope you're well.

Just to share with you that we will incur a small cost for publishing the RSHP guidance (cca £800). I hope this can be met from our budget (we've had a bit of underspend on some of the maths budget lines including MWS that we can hopefully offset against). We're working towards publication in December but there is a chance it will slip into the new year. Any problem please let me know.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]– thanks again for helping with this, would you mind asking [redacted S38(1)(b)]to raise the purchase order in the meantime for the estimated amount,

Many thanks
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 16
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 26 November 2025 10:25
To: Kate Higgins
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request
Attachments: RSHP - revised guidance - November 2025 version - as at 11 November 2025.docx

Hi Kate,

Further to this request, [redacted S38(1)(b)]from FM's office was in touch earlier in the week and I sent on a more recent draft of the guidance for sharing with Mr Greer, now attached for your information.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 13 November 2025 16:59
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

A bit later than promised but please find attached a draft of the revised RSHP guidance for sharing with Mr Greer.

I should caveat that this is still work in the final stages of progress, as there are a few areas highlighted through the document that need finished off. However it is not far off being completed before going to wider stakeholders as mentioned below.

The main change to note is the name of the subject, the Core Review Group have agreed to call it “relationships and sexual wellbeing education” in the hope of futureproofing the guidance with an eye on the outcome of the Curriculum Improvement Cycle, being led by Education Scotland. Education Scotland are part of the Core Review Group.

Thanks,

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 05 November 2025 09:32
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)],

Happy to pass on a tidied up version, early next week, that can be sent on to Mr Greer.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Sent: 05 November 2025 09:27
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; Kate Higgins
<Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)] Subject: RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

Ms Gilruth has noted your helpful email below. Cab Sec has asked if we will be able to share with him after today's meeting? It would be really helpful if we could.

Thanks,
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills – Jenny Gilruth MSP
The Scottish Government
St Andrews House | Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

Mob: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| Email: CabSecES2024@gov.scot

Ms Gilruth's Ministerial Preferences can be found here

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---

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 04 November 2025 16:56
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

The Core Review Group who are supporting with updating the revised teaching guidance meet again tomorrow afternoon (5 November) where I hope they will agree on a near final draft.

We plan to share that draft with stakeholders within the next month for any final red flag issues before the Group formally agrees a final draft that would go for Ministerial clearance ahead of publication, hopefully by the end of the year. The Group has one more meeting scheduled, on 3 December, where I hope a final version can be signed off.

We can include Mr Greer in the circulation of the draft we share with stakeholders for red flags, this month.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Sent: 04 November 2025 16:41
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; Kate Higgins
<Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Subject: RSHP Guidance - Update Request

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

I hope you're well.

Cab Sec has advised that Ross Greer is looking for some assurance on where we are with the updated RSHP guidance. Ms Gilruth mentioned she was meant to meet officials last week but it got moved due to stage 3. Is there anything that Ms Gilruth can share with Mr Greer by way of an update? If not, Cab Sec has suggested offering him a meeting? I'd be grateful for advice, please.

Many thanks,
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]|Deputy Private Secretary | Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills
: [redacted S38(1)(b)]|St Andrews House, Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

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Ms Gilruth's Ministerial Preferences can be found here
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DOCUMENT 17

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 26 November 2025 13:20

To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RSHP Guidance

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

I have identified some typos in the document but also some suggestions that you may want to consider.

Page 1 I will advise [redacted S38(1)(b)] re the two typos.

Para 1.1 The reference to the 2000 Act doesn't look right.

Para 1.16 Increases in STI dates don't look right.

Para 2.14 I wondered whether there was justification to a link to the existing advice.

Para 2.20 I know that you have referenced later in the document the fact that ASN learners have capacity to make decisions themselves, but I wondered if there was benefit in raising that point firstly at 2.20.

Para 2.22 This appears to assume universal internet access.

Graphic – penultimate bullet Addition of "and".

Para 3.4 The mobile phone issue (inappropriate access) seems relevant here so you may want to link to the guidance.

Para 3.11 Inclusion of “the”.

Happy to discuss.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
|| Scottish Government || Numeracy/MathsTeam ||
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 18
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From:	[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent:	27 November 2025 12:50
To:	[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc:	[redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject:	RE: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal - final thought
Attachments:	RSHP - revised guidance - November 2025 version - as at 11 November 2025 dr.docx

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

Further to [redacted S38(1)(b)]suggestion about referring to AI in the updated RSHP teaching guidance, I've added some text to the end of paragraph 1.14 but wished to sense check it with you as well. Do you think it reads OK?

1.14. This guidance reflects those recommendations. It also reflects changes to society since the last version was published in 2014 and the increasing use of technology that allows us to interact online more easily. This presents new opportunities but also significant challenges for children and young people especially as artificial intelligence develops, bringing with it an increasing number of new and complex issues that we have not faced before such as the ability to create fake sexualised imagery using the picture of an individual without their consent or AI companion chatbots that simulate relationships.

Thanks, and happy to chat if helpful.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)] (he/him)
Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 November 2025 11:29
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)] Subject: FW: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal - final thought

Apologies [redacted S38(1)(b)], another thought that I had meant to add to my email below.

On the AI/digital front there is an increase in concern about certain technologies (chatbots and beyond) that are able to gauge and respond to human emotion. We know that boys are particularly susceptible to spending long periods online are also more likely to converse with these online tools. The RSHP guidance is understandably focused on healthy relationships between real people but there is a growing risk of a young person developing a relationship with an AI companion (see the article below) which may be particularly unhealthy. I do wonder whether updated RSHP guidance should make some sort of reference to this at least to partially future proof the advice?

SAIFCA Supports Common Sense Media's Warning: AI Companions Present Unacceptable Risks to Children

As a team we don't have experience in this area but worth a conversation with [redacted S38(1)(b)] ([redacted S38(1)(b)]) who will also be able to point you to others in the university sector who are looking at this sort of issue.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 November 2025 09:58
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)] [redacted S38(1)(b)]Subject: RE: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal

[redacted S38(1)(b)],

Thanks for your stewardship of this piece of work. It's moving along really well.

Yesterday afternoon I took some time to read the draft and I have attached a version with some track changes and comments. The vast majority are editing type points and will be easy to deal with. In commenting I am conscious that you are expert in this area and in places I have questioned the use of certain words or what I read as being odd language – there may

very well be good reason as to why certain phrases are used so feel free to ignore me if I am simply wrong!

As [redacted S38(1)(b)]suggests in her email below timescale look tight but lets see what can be done. Please keep me in the loop.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 19

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 02 December 2025 09:22
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Cc: Lewis Hedge; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Kate Higgins
Subject: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

PS / Cabinet Secretary

Further to my earlier note, I wanted to provide an update on the work to revise the statutory RSHP guidance.

As advised previously, officials have shared the draft guidance with key stakeholders including equality networks, parental representation bodies and teaching unions. We have now received substantial comments on the scope and content of the guidance, in particular from the teaching unions, which will require further consideration and engagement as well as SGLD input. In short, the EIS and NASUWT do not support the guidance in its current form and further amendments will be required to ensure they endorse the guidance on publication.

In light of this, we have suggested to the RSHP Core Review Group that we reschedule the proposed meeting on the 3rd December until we have had the opportunity to resolve the outstanding issues so that the Group can then consider a final draft at their next meeting.

This will mean that it will not be possible to publish the final guidance by the end of the calendar year as expected but delaying the publication into the New Year will enable us to address outstanding issues and ultimately deliver an improved guidance that will be more helpful to the teaching profession.

Please let me know if the Cabinet Secretary would like any further information at this stage.

Many thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]/ Maths, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing/Curriculum and Qualifications/Education Reform Directorate/ Mob [redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 20

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 03 December 2025 12:33

To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: [redacted S38(1)(b)]shared "Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - red flag comments - 1 December 2025" with you

[redacted S38(1)(b)]invited you to edit a file

Have tabulated comments received mostly from Unions and SCES.

I'll add my thoughts shortly.

[redacted S25(1)]

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DOCUMENT 21

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: Kate Higgins
Sent: 04 December 2025 15:17
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024; Maria Gray
Cc: Lewis Hedge; Education Reform Directorate BSU; Clare Hicks; [redacted S38(1)(b)] [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Yep will do – I have a regular catch up with Ross's parliamentary assistant on Monday and will raise it there

Kate Higgins
Special Advisor
Education, Skills, Veterans and cross-government on Trade Unions
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

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From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
> On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education &
Skills 2024
Sent: 04 December 2025 15:12
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)] >; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; Education Reform Directorate BSU <ERDirectorateBSU@gov.scot>; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot[redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)]

CabSec has noted that she agrees with Kate's point below in that it would be helpful to have a deadline – she would like this to be moved on, please.

Ms Gilruth is keen to hear feedback from Mr Greer – could you perhaps prompt this, @Kate?

Thanks,
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Deputy Private Secretary | O ice of the First Minister – Temporary cover in o ice of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills | [redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 04 December 2025 10:21
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; Kate Higgins
<Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; Education Reform Directorate BSU <ERDirectorateBSU@gov.scot>; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)]
policy have not had any feedback from Ross Greer, grateful if SPADs or PO could share with us as soon as it is available.

We'll press on with the TU engagement and send further advice in January as set out below,

Many thanks
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
> On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Sent: 03 December 2025 21:29
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
>; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; Education Reform Directorate BSU

<ERDirectorateBSU@gov.scot>; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Hi all,

CabSec is disappointed this has been delayed again.

Ms Gilruth is also keen to know whether we have received any feedback from Ross Greer on the draft guidance (which PO shared with him). We have not had anything back – have policy or SpAds?

Thanks,
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Deputy Private Secretary | O ice of the First Minister – Temporary cover in o ice of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills | [redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 03 December 2025 13:54
To: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; Education Reform Directorate BSU <ERDirectorateBSU@gov.scot>; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>;[redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Thanks Kate, we're meeting NASUWT next Monday but EIS don't have availability until the second week of January. We'll aim to provide an update and further advice at that point, please let us know if you'd like to discuss further in the meantime.
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Sent: 03 December 2025 10:37

To: [redacted S38(1)(b)] ; >; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; Education Reform Directorate BSU <ERDirectorateBSU@gov.scot>; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>[redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Given how close we are getting to dissolution I think it would be helpful to offer a deadline for this to be finalised and published. It may of course prove impossible to secure agreement from all partners in order to do so, but that perhaps needs to be considered.

Kate Higgins
Special Advisor
Education, Skills, Veterans and cross-government on Trade Unions
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

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From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 03 December 2025 10:01
To: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; Education Reform Directorate BSU <ERDirectorateBSU@gov.scot>; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>[redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Thanks Kate. Depending on how quickly we can find an agreement with the key stakeholders, we would intend to get the Core review group to agree the final guidance in January, followed by SGLD clearance and then send to Cabinet Secretary ahead of publication. We will share timescales as soon as we can.
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Sent: 02 December 2025 17:54
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

>; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; Education Reform Directorate BSU <ERDirectorateBSU@gov.scot>; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

When will we be able to publish it?

Kate Higgins
Special Advisor
Education, Skills, Veterans and cross-government on Trade Unions
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Scottish Government
St Andrew's House, 2 Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 02 December 2025 09:22
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; Education Reform Directorate BSU <ERDirectorateBSU@gov.scot>; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]

redacted S38(1)(b)] Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot> Subject: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

PS / Cabinet Secretary

Further to my earlier note, I wanted to provide an update on the work to revise the statutory RSHP guidance.

As advised previously, officials have shared the draft guidance with key stakeholders including equality networks, parental representation bodies and teaching unions. We have now received substantial comments on the scope and content of the guidance, in particular from the teaching unions, which will require further consideration and engagement as well as SGLD input. In short, the EIS and NASUWT do not support the guidance in its current form and further amendments will be required to ensure they endorse the guidance on publication.

In light of this, we have suggested to the RSHP Core Review Group that we reschedule the proposed meeting on the 3rd December until we have had the opportunity to resolve the outstanding issues so that the Group can then consider a final draft at their next meeting.

This will mean that it will not be possible to publish the final guidance by the end of the calendar year as expected but delaying the publication into the New Year will enable us to address outstanding issues and ultimately deliver an improved guidance that will be more helpful to the teaching profession.

Please let me know if the Cabinet Secretary would like any further information at this stage.

Many thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]) / Maths, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing/Curriculum and Qualifications/Education Reform Directorate/ Mob [redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 22
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 08 December 2025 12:08
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal - final thought

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

Apologies for the delayed response. I've added in the below line in red.

I also wondered whether we needed to say something about inappropriate content that CYP could be exposed to as a result of AI tools. Not quite sure if this fully aligns with the rest of the guidance, but an important consideration in terms of CYP safety in relation to AI. If you think it fits, I'd suggested adding to the final line:

"…., AI companion chatbots that simulate relationships and risk of exposure to inappropriate and explicit content."

There is probably more that we could say in terms of risks to CYP – for instance, there is evidence that some AI tools being used in education are not signposting to the most appropriate HWB advice for that country (i.e. chatbots signposting to American support lines for suicide / mental health support when the YP is in the UK) but that may be too granular in detail for the guidance?

Happy to have a call if easiest.

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)],

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]| Science & Technology | Curriculum & Qualifications Division

---

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 27 November 2025 12:50
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)] Subject: RE: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal - final thought

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

Further to [redacted S38(1)(b)]suggestion about referring to AI in the updated RSHP teaching guidance, I've added some text to the end of paragraph 1.14 but wished to sense check it with you as well. Do you think it reads OK?

1.14. This guidance reflects those recommendations. It also reflects changes to society since the last version was published in 2014 and the increasing use of technology that allows us to interact online more easily. This presents new opportunities but also significant challenges for children and young people especially as artificial intelligence develops and becomes increasingly embedded within everyday digital tools. This brings with it an increasing number of new and complex issues ~~that we have not faced before~~ such as the ability to create fake sexualised imagery using the picture of an individual without their consent or AI companion chatbots that simulate relationships.

Thanks, and happy to chat if helpful.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 November 2025 11:29
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)] Subject: FW: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal - final thought

Apologies [redacted S38(1)(b)], another thought that I had meant to add to my email below.

On the AI/digital front there is an increase in concern about certain technologies (chatbots and beyond) that are able to gauge and respond to human emotion. We know that boys are particularly susceptible to spending long periods online are also more likely to converse with these online tools. The RSHP guidance is understandably focused on healthy relationships between real people but there is a growing risk of a young person developing a relationship with an AI companion (see the article below) which may be particularly unhealthy. I do wonder whether updated RSHP guidance should make some sort of reference to this at least to partially future proof the advice?

SAIFCA Supports Common Sense Media's Warning: AI Companions Present Unacceptable Risks to Children

As a team we don't have experience in this area but worth a conversation with [redacted S38(1)(b)] ([redacted S38(1)(b)]) who will also be able to point you to others in the university sector who are looking at this sort of issue.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 November 2025 09:58
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)] Subject: RE: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal

[redacted S38(1)(b)],

Thanks for your stewardship of this piece of work. It's moving along really well.

Yesterday afternoon I took some time to read the draft and I have attached a version with some track changes and comments. The vast majority are editing type points and will be easy to deal with. In commenting I am conscious that you are expert in this area and in places I have questioned the use of certain words or what I read as being odd language – there may very well be good reason as to why certain phrases are used so feel free to ignore me if I am simply wrong!

As [redacted S38(1)(b)]suggests in her email below timescale look tight but lets see what can be done. Please keep me in the loop.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 23

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: Stuart Downes
Sent: 08 December 2025 14:20
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
; [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal - final thought

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)]

That's very helpful, I've added that suggestion in. Will also see if I can weave any of your other suggestions in too.

Thank you,

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

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Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 08 December 2025 12:08
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
> Subject: RE: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal - final thought

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Apologies for the delayed response. I've added in the below line in red.

I also wondered whether we needed to say something about inappropriate content that CYP could be exposed to as a result of AI tools. Not quite sure if this fully aligns with the rest of the guidance, but an important consideration in terms of CYP safety in relation to AI. If you think it fits, I'd suggested adding to the final line:

"…., AI companion chatbots that simulate relationships and risk of exposure to inappropriate and explicit content."

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Happy to have a call if easiest.

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)] | Science & Technology | Curriculum & Qualifications Division

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 27 November 2025 12:50
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)] >
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)] >; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal - final thought

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Further to [redacted S38(1)(b)] s suggestion about referring to AI in the updated RSHP teaching guidance, I've added some text to the end of paragraph 1.14 but wished to sense check it with you as well. Do you think it reads OK?

1.14. This guidance reflects those recommendations. It also reflects changes to society since the last version was published in 2014 and the increasing use of technology that allows us to interact online more easily. This presents new opportunities but also significant challenges for children and young people

especially as artificial intelligence develops and becomes increasingly embedded within everyday digital tools. This brings with it an increasing number of new and complex issues ~~that we have not faced before~~ such as the ability to create fake sexualised imagery using the picture of an individual without their consent or AI companion chatbots that simulate relationships.

Thanks, and happy to chat if helpful.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e:

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

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Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 November 2025 11:29
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)] >
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: FW: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal - final thought

Apologies [redacted S38(1)(b)]
another thought that I had meant to add to my email below.

On the AI/digital front there is an increase in concern about certain technologies (chatbots and beyond) that are able to gauge and respond to human emotion. We know that boys are particularly susceptible to spending long periods online are also more likely to converse with these online tools. The RSHP guidance is understandably focused on healthy relationships between real people but there is a growing risk of a young person developing a relationship with an AI companion (see the article below) which may be particularly unhealthy. I do wonder whether updated RSHP guidance should make some sort of reference to this at least to partially future proof the advice?

SAIFCA Supports Common Sense Media's Warning: AI Companions Present Unacceptable Risks to Children

As a team we don’t have experience in this area but worth a conversation with Lizzie (de facto Chair of AI in Education) who will also be able to point you to others in the university sector who are looking at this sort of issue.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 21 November 2025 09:58
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)] >; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
> Subject: RE: Draft statutory RSHP guidance - withdrawal

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Thanks for your stewardship of this piece of work. It’s moving along really well.

Yesterday afternoon I took some time to read the draft and I have attached a version with some track changes and comments. The vast majority are editing type points and will be easy to deal with. In commenting I am conscious that you are expert in this area and in places I have questioned the use of certain words or what I read as being odd language – there may very well be good reason as to why certain phrases are used so feel free to ignore me if I am simply wrong!

As [redacted S38(1)(b)] suggests in her email below timescale look tight but lets see what can be done. Please keep me in the loop.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 24
[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 25
[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 26
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]on behalf of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Sent: 12 December 2025 10:25
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Kate Higgins
Cc: Lewis Hedge; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Hi all,

The Cabinet Secretary would be grateful if immediate work could be taken forward to ensure that this guidance is published ASAP.

Thanks,
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Deputy Private Secretary | O ice of the First Minister – Temporary cover in o ice of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills | [redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Sent: 04 December 2025 15:12
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)].

CabSec has noted that she agrees with Kate's point below in that it would be helpful to have a deadline – she would like this to be moved on, please.

Ms Gilruth is keen to hear feedback from Mr Greer – could you perhaps prompt this, @Kate?

Thanks,
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Deputy Private Secretary | O ice of the First Minister – Temporary cover in o ice of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills | [redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 04 December 2025 10:21
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; Kate Higgins
<Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)], policy have not had any feedback from Ross Greer, grateful if SPADs or PO could share with us as soon as it is available.

We'll press on with the TU engagement and send further advice in January as set out below,

Many thanks
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Sent: 03 December 2025 21:29
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Hi all,

CabSec is disappointed this has been delayed again.

Ms Gilruth is also keen to know whether we have received any feedback from Ross Greer on the draft guidance (which PO shared with him). We have not had anything back – have policy or SpAds?

Thanks,
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Deputy Private Secretary | O ice of the First Minister – Temporary cover in o ice of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills | [redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 03 December 2025 13:54
To: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Thanks Kate, we're meeting NASUWT next Monday but EIS don't have availability until the second week of January. We'll aim to provide an update and further advice at that point, please let us know if you'd like to discuss further in the meantime.
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Sent: 03 December 2025 10:37
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Given how close we are getting to dissolution I think it would be helpful to offer a deadline for this to be finalised and published. It may of course prove impossible to secure agreement from all partners in order to do so, but that perhaps needs to be considered.

Kate Higgins
Special Advisor
Education, Skills, Veterans and cross-government on Trade Unions

[redacted S38(1)(b)

Scottish Government
St Andrew's House, 2 Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
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From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 03 December 2025 10:01
To: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Thanks Kate. Depending on how quickly we can find an agreement with the key stakeholders, we would intend to get the Core review group to agree the final guidance in January, followed by SGLD clearance and then send to Cabinet Secretary ahead of publication. We will share timescales as soon as we can.
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Sent: 02 December 2025 17:54
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

When will we be able to publish it?

Kate Higgins
Special Advisor
Education, Skills, Veterans and cross-government on Trade Unions
[redacted S38(1)(b)

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From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 02 December 2025 09:22
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot> Subject: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

PS / Cabinet Secretary

Further to my earlier note, I wanted to provide an update on the work to revise the statutory RSHP guidance.

As advised previously, officials have shared the draft guidance with key stakeholders including equality networks, parental representation bodies and teaching unions. We have now received substantial comments on the scope and content of the guidance, in particular from the teaching unions, which will require further consideration and engagement as well as SGLD input. In short, the EIS and NASUWT do not support the guidance in its current form and further amendments will be required to ensure they endorse the guidance on publication.

In light of this, we have suggested to the RSHP Core Review Group that we reschedule the proposed meeting on the 3rd December until we have had the opportunity to resolve the outstanding issues so that the Group can then consider a final draft at their next meeting.

This will mean that it will not be possible to publish the final guidance by the end of the calendar year as expected but delaying the publication into the New Year will enable us to address outstanding issues and ultimately deliver an improved guidance that will be more helpful to the teaching profession.

Please let me know if the Cabinet Secretary would like any further information at this stage.

Many thanks
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]/ Maths, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing/Curriculum and Qualifications/Education Reform Directorate/ Mob [redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 27

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 15 December 2025 14:28
To: Kate Higgins
Cc: Clare Hicks; Lewis Hedge; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RSHP guidance

Importance: High

Hi Kate

Further to the Cabinet Secretary's request to expedite the publication of the revised statutory RSHP guidance, we have liaised with the publisher and the earliest they can publish the guidance this week is Friday 19th December in the afternoon (as PDF only with html version to follow later).

[redacted S36(1)]

I understand that you are due to discuss the RSHP guidance with Ross Green (who has seen a previous working draft) and I thought it might be helpful to share this update with you in advance of your meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions / want to discuss further.

Many thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]/ Maths, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing/Curriculum and Qualifications/Education
Reform Directorate/ Mob [redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 28

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 15 December 2025 16:09
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: Latest version of RSHP guidance and table tracking recent comments
Attachments: Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - red flag comments - 1 December 2025.docx

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

The attachment summarises the comments we received on the guidance issued recently. I've marked it up where I've been able to take some action. The link below is the current version of the guidance with this action tracked in.

[redacted S25(1)]

Would you mind having a look over the current version of the revised guidance and let me know what you think?

I've picked up most of the accessibility issues highlighted by APS as well.

Thank you,

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | Education Reform Directorate | DG Education and Justice |

Scottish Government | Area 2-B North | Victoria Quay | EDINBURGH | EH6 6QQ | e: [redacted

S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

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DOCUMENT 29

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 15 December 2025 17:23
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Latest version of RSHP guidance and table tracking recent comments

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Thanks very much for your ongoing work on this.

I can see the changes you've made to reflect the comments from stakeholders.

I have made a couple of comments and suggestions in track on the text (I haven't looked at the hyperlinks as I know Yasmin was checking these separately).

The main questions that remain for me would be:

1. Title – we had feedback from unions that RSHP is a familiar term for schools, if we change this we need to be clear on rationale and include definition of sexual wellbeing? You'll see I suggested including a line on keeping the guidance under review re: curriculum reform so if CIC results in change of name we can update at that point?
2. Scope – need confirmation from SGLD if settings are included and then have consistent reference throughout guidance re: teachers and practitioners?
3. Quick read version – unions asked to remove this and shorten the length of guidance, also added risk that we miss important detail in shortening the info (equally I see that you've done further work on this and we don't want to lose important points..)
4. Engaging with parents and carers – should this section be Engaging with children and young people, parents and carers and shift the balance on CYP first? (Thanks also for sending on the quotes from CYP consultation for inclusion which I'll look at next)

I hop this is helpful and very happy to discuss in more detail tomorrow,
Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 15 December 2025 16:09

To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: Latest version of RSHP guidance and table tracking recent comments

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

The attachment summarises the comments we received on the guidance issued recently. I've marked it up where I've been able to take some action. The link below is the current version of the guidance with this action tracked in.

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Thank you,

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Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | Education Reform Directorate | DG Education and Justice | Scottish Government | Area 2-B North | Victoria Quay | EDINBURGH | EH6 6QQ | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

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DOCUMENT 30
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: Maria Gray
Sent: 16 December 2025 09:13
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Cc: Lewis Hedge; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Kate

Thanks very much for the helpful update.

Please let us know when you would like to meet to discuss further.

Best wishes

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Sent: 16 December 2025 08:40
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

All

Just to confirm that I discussed this with Ross Greer's parliamentary assistant and Cab Sec and Ross have exchanged emails agreeing to meet early in the New Year to discuss the guidance and to share in confidence the issues that are preventing progress in the working group.

Would be good to meet beforehand to go through these challenges and issues to inform advice for Cab Sec

Kate

Kate Higgins
Special Advisor
Education, Skills, Veterans and cross-government on Trade Unions

[redacted S38(1)(b)

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From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 12 December 2025 16:42
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)],

This is brief note to let the Cabinet Secretary know that this afternoon Lewis Hedge and I discussed the publication of RSHP guidance with Kate Higgins. Kate intends to discuss the issue with Ross Greer's office on Monday afternoon and following that we will quickly provide Ms Gilruth with advice on next steps leading to publication.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]| [redacted S38(1)(b)]| Science, Technology, Maths, HWB | Curriculum & Qualifications Division

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From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Sent: 12 December 2025 10:25
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Hi all,

The Cabinet Secretary would be grateful if immediate work could be taken forward to ensure that this guidance is published ASAP.

Thanks,
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Deputy Private Secretary | O ice of the First Minister – Temporary cover in o ice of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills | [redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Sent: 04 December 2025 15:12
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot[redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)].

CabSec has noted that she agrees with Kate's point below in that it would be helpful to have a deadline – she would like this to be moved on, please.

Ms Gilruth is keen to hear feedback from Mr Greer – could you perhaps prompt this, @Kate?

Thanks,
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Deputy Private Secretary | O ice of the First Minister – Temporary cover in o ice of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills | [redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 04 December 2025 10:21
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>; Kate Higgins
<Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)], policy have not had any feedback from Ross Greer, grateful if SPADs or PO could share with us as soon as it is available.

We'll press on with the TU engagement and send further advice in January as set out below,

Many thanks
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024
Sent: 03 December 2025 21:29
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Hi all,

CabSec is disappointed this has been delayed again.

Ms Gilruth is also keen to know whether we have received any feedback from Ross Greer on the draft guidance (which PO shared with him). We have not had anything back – have policy or SpAds?

Thanks,
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Deputy Private Secretary | O ice of the First Minister – Temporary cover in o ice of the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills | [redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 03 December 2025 13:54
To: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Thanks Kate, we're meeting NASUWT next Monday but EIS don't have availability until the second week of January. We'll aim to provide an update and further advice at that point, please let us know if you'd like to discuss further in the meantime.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Sent: 03 December 2025 10:37
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Given how close we are getting to dissolution I think it would be helpful to offer a deadline for this to be finalised and published. It may of course prove impossible to secure agreement from all partners in order to do so, but that perhaps needs to be considered.

Kate Higgins
Special Advisor
Education, Skills, Veterans and cross-government on Trade Unions
[redacted S38(1)(b)

Scottish Government
St Andrew's House, 2 Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
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From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 03 December 2025 10:01
To: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>

Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

Thanks Kate. Depending on how quickly we can find an agreement with the key stakeholders, we would intend to get the Core review group to agree the final guidance in January, followed by SGLD clearance and then send to Cabinet Secretary ahead of publication. We will share timescales as soon as we can.
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Sent: 02 December 2025 17:54
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

When will we be able to publish it?

Kate Higgins
Special Advisor
Education, Skills, Veterans and cross-government on Trade Unions
[redacted S38(1)(b)

Scottish Government
St Andrew's House, 2 Regent Road, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Government are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot.

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 02 December 2025 09:22
To: Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills 2024 <CabSecES2024@gov.scot>
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot> Subject: Draft revised statutory RSHP guidance - update

PS / Cabinet Secretary

Further to my earlier note, I wanted to provide an update on the work to revise the statutory RSHP guidance.

As advised previously, officials have shared the draft guidance with key stakeholders including equality networks, parental representation bodies and teaching unions. We have now received substantial comments on the scope and content of the guidance, in particular from the teaching unions, which will require further consideration and engagement as well as SGLD input. In short, the EIS and NASUWT do not support the guidance in its current form and further amendments will be required to ensure they endorse the guidance on publication.

In light of this, we have suggested to the RSHP Core Review Group that we reschedule the proposed meeting on the 3rd December until we have had the opportunity to resolve the outstanding issues so that the Group can then consider a final draft at their next meeting.

This will mean that it will not be possible to publish the final guidance by the end of the calendar year as expected but delaying the publication into the New Year will enable us to address outstanding issues and ultimately deliver an improved guidance that will be more helpful to the teaching profession.

Please let me know if the Cabinet Secretary would like any further information at this stage.

Many thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]/ Maths, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing/Curriculum and Qualifications/Education Reform Directorate/ Mob [redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 31
[redacted S30(b)(i)]

DOCUMENT 32
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 16 December 2025 12:21
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: [redacted S38(1)(b)]shared "Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - young people quotes for guidance - 15 December 2025" with you

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)].

Link to current version below.

[redacted S25(1)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 16 December 2025 12:16
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: [redacted S38(1)(b)]shared "Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - young people quotes for guidance - 15 December 2025" with you

[redacted S38(1)(b)],

Can you send me the latest draft of the RSHP guidance doc please. I'll aim to sit down and read it properly in the next few days.

Just speaking to [redacted S38(1)(b)]who will advise Ms Gilruth that detailed advice will follow in advance of her meeting with Mr Greer – this will include new draft and timeline.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 16 December 2025 11:37
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: [redacted S38(1)(b)]shared "Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - young people quotes for guidance - 15 December 2025" with you

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Thanks very much for pulling this together.

Having read through all the quotes, I've come a full circle I admit and wonder about the risk of pulling out selective quotes out of context in the guidance. I've read through the YS/SYP summary report and I think it looks good when you see all the quotes in the round to see the wide ranging views but not sure about including the individual quotes on their own in the guidance.

I wonder if a better approach might be to quote the combined YS/SYP report below so that it's prominent throughout the guidance and reference the overall findings? That way we emphasise the importance of CYP views but don't give too much weighting to individual views?

For example, we could include something along these lines:

"As part of the public consultation on the draft revised guidance, Scottish Government commissioned Young Scot and the Scottish Youth Parliament to engage with children and young people about how RSHP is taught in schools, which included consultation survey and in-person focus groups.(include footnote to the report RSHPE Report (October 2024)

Children and young people felt the most important things about RSHP were:

- Supporting and enabling young people to make good decisions in the future
- Having a comfortable space in which to participate in RSHP

- Making young people aware and informed about relationships, sexual health and parenthood”

This made me also think about the public consultation which I don’t think we reference in the guidance and wonder if we should?

You’ll see I have suggested inserting a new para in the first section (page 8) with a footnote as below:

1.19. The Scottish Government held public consultation between August and November 2023 on the content of the revised guidance and Young Scot and the Scottish Youth Parliament were commissioned by the Scottish Government, during the same period, to engage with young people to gather their views. The summary of all the responses which have informed this guidance was published in February 2025.[25]

I hope this is helpful but very happy to discuss – my afternoon is clear so happy to work through any of this.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 15 December 2025 15:59
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: [redacted S38(1)(b)]shared "Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - young people quotes for guidance - 15 December 2025" with you

[redacted S38(1)(b)]invited you to edit a file

I've pulled out the yp comments from the SYP and Young Scot consultations. Feel free to highlight any you like and I'll do the same and add in the revised guidance.

Thanks

[redacted S25(1)]

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DOCUMENT 33
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: Lewis Hedge
Sent: 17 December 2025 09:02
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; Clare Hicks; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP guidance

An updated version for Cab Sec would be helpful, and depending on the scheduling of meetings and colleague's capacity it would be good if that could be a version cleared by SGLD so we can be confident that any presentational issues aside it is substantively in a good place. And from a brief chat with Kate yesterday I think there will still be a desire to move to publication quickly after the RG meeting and for Cab Sec to be able to outline the next steps at that meeting.

Thank you [redacted S38(1)(b)]for the prep for today.

L

Lewis Hedge – DD Curriculum and Qualifica ons e: lewis.hedge@gov.scot; m: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 16 December 2025 08:43
To: Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]Subject: RE: RSHP guidance

I understand that Cab Sec had an exchange with GP last night. GP accepted they had not had the time to consider the draft and they won't do so in advance of the Christmas break so publication in the new year is now likely.

In terms of next steps I do think we need to provide an update to Ms Gilruth (version of what we already have in hand) and should perhaps include an updated version of the guidance to share with Mr Greer. I see Kate's email has appeared as I type and good to have a quick discussion about handling.

Thanks to [redacted S38(1)(b)]who is picking up a short briefing for Mr Macpherson on RSHP in advance of Cabinet this morning.

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 16 December 2025 08:24
To: Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)] Subject: RE: RSHP guidance

Tremendous news

From: Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>
Sent: 15 December 2025 18:20
To: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]Subject: Re: RSHP guidance

Thanks Kate

From: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2025 6:17:58 PM
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP guidance

Its ok we don't need to do anything this week – can update you tomorrow

Kate Higgins
Special Advisor
Education, Skills, Veterans and cross-government on Trade Unions
[redacted S38(1)(b)

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From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 15 December 2025 14:28
To: Kate Higgins <Kate.Higgins@gov.scot>

Cc: Clare Hicks <Clare.Hicks@gov.scot>; Lewis Hedge <Lewis.Hedge@gov.scot>; [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RSHP guidance
Importance: High

Hi Kate

Further to the Cabinet Secretary's request to expedite the publication of the revised statutory RSHP guidance, we have liaised with the publisher and the earliest they can publish the guidance this week is Friday 19th December in the afternoon (as PDF only with html version to follow later).

This would involve a very limited opportunity to engage with SGLD on some substantive comments raised by some stakeholders (including e.g. the position on denominational schools in light of a recent Supreme Court judgment). As you know, there are two Bills in education portfolio that are due to reach a critical milestone tomorrow and SGLD may not have the capacity to clear the statutory guidance before publication. We would also not be able to engage with EIS before publication, and perhaps more importantly, agree any final changes to the guidance with the Core Review Group which was set up to oversee the whole review process.

I understand that you are due to discuss the RSHP guidance with Ross Green (who has seen a previous working draft) and I thought it might be helpful to share this update with you in advance of your meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions / want to discuss further.

Many thanks
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]/ Maths, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing/Curriculum and Qualifications/Education
Reform Directorate/ Mob [redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 34

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 18 December 2025 10:56
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RSHP - next steps

Hi both

Just ahead of our catch up this afternoon I thought I'd jot down a provisional timeline for RSHP guidance next steps and we can discuss later on.

The date for CabSec's meeting with RG is still unknown but we now have some dates confirmed below and I'm proposing additional ones (in italics) below based on these.

23/12	Draft guidance shared with SGLD
6/1	Comments back from SGLD
12/1	Updated guidance (SGLD cleared) shared with CabSec
14/1	Call with EIS
15/1	Core Review Group
16/1	Update to CabSec seeking approval for publication
23/1	Publication (with 30/1 as a backup)

[redacted S38(1)(b)]/ Maths, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing/Curriculum and Qualifications/Education

Reform Directorate/ Mob [redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 35

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 18 December 2025 14:41

To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: Brief comments on RSHP guidance

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Quick comments on draft:

- In places we use language of 'should' to encourage schools to do things which to my eye gives the school an out if they decide to ignore the guidance. I wonder whether our expectation is stronger and we could say things like 'schools are expected to' or even 'schools must'.

- Scope – the guidance is for schools but also other publicly funded settings. I see we tend to use teachers as the primary recipients of the guidance with the likes of practitioners being deleted from the draft. I think that works but wanted to check we are not risking a misstep.

- In places we refer to the 'current' curriculum and I worry that risks immediately dating the guidance. While no doubt the document will need to be updated we don't want to accidentally give the impression the advice is only good in the period before the CIC concludes. Maybe I am overthinking it?

- [redacted S36(1)]

A few other textual changes in the draft but not a great deal.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)] | Unit Head | Science, Technology, Maths, HWB | Curriculum & Qualifications Division

DOCUMENT 36
[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 37

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 38

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 39

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 07 January 2026 16:28
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: FW: RSHP guidance - comments by 12 January
Attachments: Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance - December 2025 version - clean - as at 19 December 2025.docx

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Happy New Year, hope you had a lovely break.

[redacted S38(1)(b)] in my team has been leading on reviewing the RSHP guidance and our CabSec's keen to publish this as soon as possible.

[redacted S36(1)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)] is on leave until next week and he may have already shared this with your team at some point in the past but just in case, would you be able to check for your interests please.

Apologies for springing this on you with very short notice but if you could please come back by next Monday I would really appreciate it as we will need to finalise the guidance with the Review Group next week.

Many thanks for your help,

Best wishes

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)] / Maths, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing/Curriculum and Qualifications/Education

Reform Directorate/ [redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 40
[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 41

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 07 January 2026 19:31
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP guidance - comments by 12 January
Attachments: Health and Wellbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance - December 2025 version - clean - as at 19 December 2025 - LL comments.docx

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Happy New Year to you too.

Thanks for letting me have a look. I've tracked some suggested changes, just to add clarity.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 07 January 2026 16:28
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)] Subject: FW: RSHP guidance - comments by 12 January

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Happy New Year, hope you had a lovely break.

Stuart in my team has been leading on reviewing the RSHP guidance and our CabSec's keen to publish this as soon as possible.

[redacted S36(1)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)] is on leave until next week and he may have already shared this with your team at some point in the past but just in case, would you be able to check for your interests please.

Apologies for springing this on you with very short notice but if you could please come back by next Monday I would really appreciate it as we will need to finalise the guidance with the Review Group next week.

Many thanks for your help,

Best wishes

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)] / Maths, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing/Curriculum and Qualifications/Education
Reform Directorate/
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 42

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 43

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 44

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 08 January 2026 18:02
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: Health and Welbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance with final comments - 12 January 2026 (A55101201)
Attachments: Health and Welbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance with final comments - 12 January 2026.obr

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)] ([redacted S38(1)(b)]on return and also copying in [redacted S38(1)(b)]for awareness)

[redacted S36(1)]

Once we have these we can share with the Core Group ahead of the meeting on

Thursday and hopefully finalise after that. ([redacted S38(1)(b)]and I are meeting with EIS on Wednesday but we already have their comments which we have tried to reflect so the main focus of that call will be on handling/bringing them on board if we can)

I would suggest that once we have a final version signed off by the Core Group we can share with CabSec and ask for her sign off. We'll need to check with APS about timescales so we can include this in the sub and specify by when we need the sign off so that we meet the publication timescales. I think we've missed the 23rd Jan so we're looking at 30th at the earliest. Stil no response from PO about the RG meeting but if it happens next week we can build that into the process/timescales. Let me know what you think and feel free to review/edit the final draft.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]- will be good to start on the sub early next week but we can discuss once you've caught up on things.

Happy to discuss further on Monday,

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 45

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 09 January 2026 13:47
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Health and Welbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance with final comments - 12 January 2026 (A55101201)

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)],

This is looking good. I have added in a single comment and a single track change. The section on data, 3.6 etc, is obviously less detailed but now feels much safer than the previous version.

In looking at the draft I see you have moved towards the use of 'learners' as opposed to 'pupils' or 'children and young people'. I personally prefer learners to pupils but in the past I am aware Ms Gilruth has dislike for the term. Just looking at the AI guidance that [redacted S38(1)(b)] is working on we have used CYP there. Is there a particular reason for using learners in the context of RSHP?

We will need to chase again on Ross Greer next week and directly with Kate if necessary.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

-----Original Message-----

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 08 January 2026 18:02

To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: Health and Welbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance with final comments - 12 January 2026 (A55101201)

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)] ([redacted S38(1)(b)] on return and also copying in [redacted S38(1)(b)] for awareness)

[redacted S36(1)]

Once we have these we can share with the Core Group ahead of the meeting on

Thursday and hopefully finalise after that. ([redacted S38(1)(b)] and I are meeting with EIS on Wednesday but we already have their comments which we have tried to reflect so the main focus of that call will be on handling/bringing them on board if we can)

I would suggest that once we have a final version signed off by the Core Group we can share with CabSec and ask for her sign off. We'll need to check with APS about timescales so we can include this in the sub and specify by when we need the sign off so that we meet the publication timescales. I think we've missed the 23rd Jan so we're looking at 30th at the earliest. Stil no response from PO about the RG meeting but if it happens next week we can build that into the process/timescales. Let me know what you think and feel free to review/edit the final draft.

[redacted S38(1)(b)] - will be good to start on the sub early next week but we can discuss once you've caught up on things.

Happy to discuss further on Monday,

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 46

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 12 January 2026 11:23
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Health and Welbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance with final comments - 12 January 2026 (A55101201)

Thanks very much [redacted S38(1)(b)], that's a good point about "learners", I will revert to CYP.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]- can you please look at [redacted S38(1)(b)]comment, we can either reference this as a quote or number this as para.

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

-----Original Message-----

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 09 January 2026 13:47

To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Health and Welbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance with final comments - 12 January 2026 (A55101201)

Thanks [redacted S38(1)(b)],

This is looking good. I have added in a single comment and a single track change. The section on data, 3.6 etc, is obviously less detailed but now feels much safer than the previous version.

In looking at the draft I see you have moved towards the use of 'learners' as opposed to 'pupils' or 'children and young people'. I personally prefer learners to pupils but in the past I am aware Ms Gilruth has dislike for the term. Just looking at the AI guidance that [redacted S38(1)(b)]is working on we have used CYP there. Is there a particular reason for using learners in the context of RSHP?

We will need to chase again on Ross Greer next week and directly with Kate if necessary.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

-----Original Message-----

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 08 January 2026 18:02

To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: Health and Welbeing - RSHP - Guidance Review - revised guidance with final comments - 12 January 2026 (A55101201)

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)] ([redacted S38(1)(b)]on return and also copying in [redacted S38(1)(b)]for awareness)

[redacted S36(1)]
Once we have these we can share with the Core Group ahead of the meeting on

Thursday and hopefully finalise after that. ([redacted S38(1)(b)]and I are meeting with EIS on Wednesday but we already have their comments which we have tried to reflect so the main focus of that call will be on handling/bringing them on board if we can)

I would suggest that once we have a final version signed off by the Core Group we can share with CabSec and ask for her sign off. We'll need to check with APS about timescales so we can include this in the sub and specify by when we need the sign off so that we meet the publication timescales. I think we've missed the 23rd Jan so we're looking at 30th at the earliest. Stil no response from PO about the RG meeting but if it happens next week we can build that into the process/timescales. Let me know what you think and feel free to review/edit the final draft.

[redacted S38(1)(b)]- will be good to start on the sub early next week but we can discuss once you've caught up on things.

Happy to discuss further on Monday,

Thanks

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 47

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From:	[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent:	12 January 2026 14:33
To:	[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc:	[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject:	RE: RSHP guidance - comments by 12 January

https://erdm.scotland.gov.uk/documents/A55121812/details

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Unit
Scottish Government Justice Directorate
St Andrews House Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG

T: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) - gov.scot (www.gov.scot) |

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 12 January 2026 14:30
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]; [redacted S38(1)(b)] Subject: RE: RSHP guidance - comments by 12 January

Sorry [redacted S38(1)(b)] just opened the link and I think it's a different doc, Thanks
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 12 January 2026 14:18
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: RSHP guidance - comments by 12 January

Hi all

With apologies

https://erdm.scotland.gov.uk/documents/A55078827/details

Regards

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Unit
Scottish Government Justice Directorate
St Andrews House
Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG

T: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) - gov.scot (www.gov.scot) |

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)] >
Sent: 12 January 2026 13:15
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)] >
Subject: RE: RSHP guidance - comments by 12 January

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Many thanks, could you please add the attachment □
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)] >
Sent: 12 January 2026 12:59

To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)] > Subject: RE: RSHP guidance - comments by 12 January

Afternoon [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Many thanks.

Just to confirm we have added some comments/suggested text changes.

Regards

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Unit
Scottish Government Justice Directorate
St Andrews House Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG

T: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) - gov.scot (www.gov.scot) |

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 12 January 2026 11:19

To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)] >
Subject: RE: RSHP guidance - comments
by 12 January

Hi
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Hope all is well with you.
Sorry to chase but could you please confirm that you're happy with the text for your interests,
Many thanks
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 07 January 2026 16:19

To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)] >
Subject: RSHP guidance - comments by
12 January

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Happy New Year, hope you had a lovely break.

As you may know, we are in the process of reviewing the RSHP guidance and our CabSec's keen to publish this as soon as possible.

[redacted S36(1)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)] is on leave until next week and he may have already shared this with you but just in case, could you please check that you are happy for your interests please.

Apologies for the short notice but if you could please come back by next Monday I would really appreciate it as we will need to finalise the guidance with the Review Group next week.

Many thanks for your help,
Best wishes
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)] / Maths, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing/Curriculum and Qualifications/Education
Reform Directorate/[redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 48

[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 49
[redacted S30(b)(i)]

DOCUMENT 50
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 19 January 2026 14:56
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Revised RSHP teaching guidance: update and red flag issues

Hiya,

Helpful comments from [redacted S38(1)(b)].

On the LGBT WG recommendation point, I wonder if we've maybe not covered the thematic outcomes point enough? We mention it as part of why the guidance is needing updated but we perhaps need to tease some of that out in the later guidance?

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 19 January 2026 14:12
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Revised RSHP teaching guidance: update and red flag issues

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I think this seems quite balanced and the point about professional learning has been made by the Core Review Group itself (though given ES current capacity issue will be more easily said than done).

What's your view on the LGBT WG recommendation point – I suspect this is the bit that RG would be interested in? I know you've shared with other LGBT stakeholders too,

Happy to discuss

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 51

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Sent: 20 January 2026 12:21
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

Subject: RE: Revised RSHP teaching guidance: update and red flag issues

I've added paragraphs to section 3 on thematic outcomes to [redacted S25(1)]

Grateful for any thoughts.

[redacted S30(b)(i)]

Thanks,

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 19 January 2026 14:56
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
>
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
>

Subject: RE: Revised RSHP teaching guidance: update and red flag issues

Hiya,

Helpful comments from [redacted S38(1)(b)]

On the LGBT WG recommendation point, I wonder if we've maybe not covered the thematic outcomes point enough? We mention it as part of why the guidance is needing updated but we perhaps need to tease some of that out in the later guidance?

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 19 January 2026 14:12
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Revised RSHP teaching guidance: update and red flag issues

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I think this seems quite balanced and the point about professional learning has been made by the Core Review Group itself (though given ES current capacity issue will be more easily said than done).

What's your view on the LGBT WG recommendation point – I suspect this is the bit that RG would be interested in? I know you've shared with other LGBT stakeholders too,

Happy to discuss

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 52
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 20 January 2026 13:06
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]y
Subject: RE: Revised RSHP teaching guidance: update and red flag issues

Thanks very much [redacted S38(1)(b)], the thematic outcomes look good to me – do you think we need to run past the Core review group again (they would have to turn it round very quickly)
It might be worth chasing SGLD for their advice, flagging that advice needs to go up to CabSec now.
I've made a couple of tweaks in track and added comment to the comms strategy, hope that's helpful and happy to discuss.
[redacted S38(1)(b)]

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 20 January 2026 12:21
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Revised RSHP teaching guidance: update and red flag issues

I've added paragraphs to section 3 on thematic outcomes to [redacted S25(1)]

Grateful for any thoughts.

[redacted S30(b)(i)]

Thanks,

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 19 January 2026 14:56
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Revised RSHP teaching guidance: update and red flag issues

Hiya,

Helpful comments from [redacted S38(1)(b)].

On the LGBT WG recommendation point, I wonder if we've maybe not covered the thematic outcomes point enough? We mention it as part of why the guidance is needing updated but we perhaps need to tease some of that out in the later guidance?

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

[redacted S38(1)(b)]
Curriculum Unit: STEM & Health and Wellbeing | e: [redacted S38(1)(b)]| m: +44(0) [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I am normally available between 8am and 4pm. If you need to contact me urgently, try calling the mobile number above.

Health and wellbeing in schools - Schools - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

From: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Sent: 19 January 2026 14:12
To: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Cc: [redacted S38(1)(b)]
Subject: RE: Revised RSHP teaching guidance: update and red flag issues

Hi [redacted S38(1)(b)]

I think this seems quite balanced and the point about professional learning has been made by the Core Review Group itself (though given ES current capacity issue will be more easily said than done).

What's your view on the LGBT WG recommendation point – I suspect this is the bit that RG would be interested in? I know you've shared with other LGBT stakeholders too,

Happy to discuss

[redacted S38(1)(b)]

DOCUMENT 53
[redacted S36(1)]

DOCUMENT 54
[redacted S30(b)(i)]