


Background

The Division and public health officials have a responsibility to protect the health and safety of our youth by providing medically accurate and timely information to students in the area of human sexuality education. Moreover, Alberta Education requires that human sexuality education within the approved Alberta curriculum be provided for all students.

It is equally important that a complete educational program that addresses the moral and ethical aspects of human sexuality be provided for our students. Such a program must be consistent with our Catholic philosophy and be in keeping with the basic moral principles of respect and dignity for all human life, endeavoring to respond in a manner consistent with the teaching of our Catholic faith and with Gospel values.

Procedures

1. Medicine Hat Catholic Schools recognizes that parents are the “first teacher” of their children. Parents must be in a position to make informed decisions regarding their choice to have their children participate in Human Sexuality Education. On the student registration form, parents will have the opportunity to “Opt In” or “Opt Out” of the Human Sexuality programming for their child.
2. The Alberta Catholic bishops provide a list of recommended resources to use in teaching Human Sexuality that meets the Alberta Education program of studies outcomes and is approved by the Superintendent.
3. Resources other than those in the approved curricula must be reviewed and approved by the school administration and the Superintendent prior to being utilized for instruction.
4. Parents will be encouraged to become familiar with the information being presented to their children at various grade levels.
5. Staff in-service will be provided to assist staff in the delivery of Family Life and Human Sexuality education from a Catholic perspective.
6. Use of community resource personnel is encouraged, provided that the presentation is done in a manner respectful of the Catholic moral and ethical position and it is approved by the Superintendent.

Reference: Section 11, 16, 58, Education Act Ministerial Directive 4.1.2 – Human Sexuality Education Guide to Education Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education Amendment Act	Approved: 
	Date Approved: August 2006
	Reviewed or Revised: August 2023 February 2025

Note: References shall be updated as required and do not require additional approval

