



26th June, 2020

The Rt. Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP,
Secretary of State
20 Great Smith Street,
London.
SW1P 3BT
(sent via e-mail: sec-of-state-diary.ps@education.gov.uk)

My dear Gavin,

I note that your important work of cautiously re-opening schools is succeeding, and I congratulate you for that fine achievement.

I now write with further, profound concerns which are strongly held by the many parents and teachers who have contacted me on the detailed content of the Schools materials on sexual matters (HSE) now circulated countrywide.

I commented in my earlier letter of 12th June on the apparent unsuitability of the so called 'Dice Game', which identifies different human genitalia on each side of the Dice, together with its 'rules'.

I share with you a paragraph from the material on anal sex:

'this can be a pleasurable experience for the person inserting their penis and the person 'receiving' the penis in their anus. The internal clitoris and/or prostate gland can be stimulated through this kind of sex".

...../

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Serious professionals tell me that such activities for under-age girls and boys may well damage sensitive tissues and cause pain. Secondly, I also understand from other sources that such activities are not pleasurable for most females for biological reasons and that anal sex will be particularly embarrassing for girls in puberty.

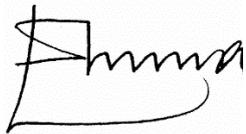
I know from sight of correspondence with PHSE that the 'Dice Game' was neither scrutinised nor cleared by them. Given the particularly sensitive health, social and family boundaries this material would seem to cross, my question is who authorised its inclusion in the HSE official material pack?

On a personal note I am not at all confident that it's usage does not contravene the Children's Act of 1989.

I believe this HSE material to be far beyond the understanding of serious teaching of a healthy society which parliament intended, that it will damage fragile early adolescents physically and psychologically; it risks greater divisions between those with religious convictions and may result in more children being withdrawn from school for permanent home teaching with divisive outcomes.

Might it be possible to withdraw this HSE 'toolkit' and think again?

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne', written in a cursive style.

Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne