Kettlethorpe
HIGH SCHOOL

Media policy

Next to be reviewed: September 2024

Contents

Introduction

This policy relates to the use of films, TV programmes, YouTube videos and other video resources in teaching and learning. The term 'video' used below applies to all such resources.

Pupils have a range of experiences, backgrounds and sensitivities and there needs to be an awareness of the different responses that pupils will have to videos. Some pupils may be particularly sensitive and this should be taken into account when planning lessons.

When writing schemes of work that use videos the age rating of the video should be considered as an indication of the video's appropriateness for the pupils in question. Depending on the age rating of the video and the age of the pupils concerned, then these courses of action should be followed.

Age rating below the age of all pupils in class

The video has an age rating below the age of all pupils in the class:

- the video can be used without further action.

Age rating above the age of some pupils in the class

The video has an age rating such that some pupils are younger than the rating (e.g. a 15 video is to be used in a Year 10 class with pupils aged 14 and 15):

- parents of these younger pupils must be informed and given the opportunity to have alternative arrangements made for their child

- good practice would be to inform parents of all pupils in the group and give them the opportunity to have alternative arrangements made for their child · an example letter is attached (letter A).

Age rating above the age of all pupils in the class

The video has an age rating older than the age of all pupils in the class:

- consideration must be made of alternative videos that would meet the same learning objectives

- should use of the original video be planned, parents must be informed of the video and the rationale for its use in the context of the scheme of work and learning objectives. Parents may request that alternative arrangements be made for their child

- an example letter is attached (letter B)

Alternative arrangements may vary depending on the number of pupils involved and nature of the film, and include the following:

- An alternative video used

- Excerpts used that meet the learning objectives but avoid specific scenes

- Pupils discreetly withdrawn from all of the video, with alternative resources provided

- Pupils discreetly withdrawn from parts of the video.

FAQ

How do I treat a video to be used that was a TV programme broadcast after the watershed?

TV programmes that were broadcast after the watershed (9pm) should be treated as a 15 rated video.

I'm only planning to show clips from a video – do I need to inform parents?

If the use of clips or excerpts of a video are planned, this may remove the need to inform parents as detailed above. However, the excerpts used must not contain any scenes which may cause offence and the relevant timings must be explicit in the scheme of work and adhered to by colleagues.

What should I do about videos without an age rating?

Professional judgement must be used in the selection and use of such videos.

Letter A

Dear Parent/Carer

Use of the film Pan's Labyrinth (2006) in Spanish lessons

The languages department are planning to use the film Pan's Labyrinth as part of the scheme of work on the Spanish Civil War. The film is a 15 certificate and the department

felt that you should be aware of its content in order to decide if you feel that it would be suitable for your son/daughter.

The film portrays the horror of the Spanish Civil War through parable, with the 'grim realities of war' being reflected in a fantasy world. It contains scenes of violence which some pupils will find upsetting, hence the 15 certificate.

The reason the department has chosen the film is that we are studying the Spanish Civil War and its lasting effect on Spain and Spanish people. This enables pupils to appreciate the history and sensitivities in current Spanish society, as well as an understanding of the brutality of civil war. The film is a powerful story which is unflinching in betraying the horrors of war and has been highly acclaimed by critics.

If you would prefer your son/daughter not to see this film please complete the slip below and return to the Spanish teacher by 10 October so that alternative arrangements can be made. Please be re-assured that any alternative arrangements will be handled sensitively and discreetly. Yours sincerely,

Etc.

Pan's Labyrinth

I would prefer my son/daughter not to see the film Pan's Labyrinth during Spanish lessons.

Pupil's name   Tutor group

Signature

Letter B

Dear Parent/Carer

Use of the film Macbeth (1971) in English lessons

The English department are planning to use the film Macbeth as part of the scheme of work on the Shakespeare text. The film is a 15 certificate and the department felt that you should

be aware of its content in order to decide if you feel that it would be suitable for your son/daughter.

The film retells the story of Macbeth in a gripping way. It contains scenes of nudity, and violence which a number of pupils will find upsetting.

The reason the department has chosen this version of the film rather than alternatives is that it is the film that tells the story in the most engaging way, bringing the book alive through its imagery and storytelling. As a book, Macbeth contains passages that are intense, haunting and bloody and the film follows the book in this respect. The film retells the story in a powerful way and has been highly acclaimed by critics. It enables pupils to have a much stronger understanding of the plot and characterisation of Macbeth.

If you would prefer your son/daughter not to see this film please complete the slip below and return to the English teacher by 10 October so that alternative arrangements can be made. Please be re-assured that any alternative arrangements will be handled sensitively and discreetly. Yours sincerely,

Etc.

Macbeth

I would prefer my son/daughter not to see the film Macbeth during English lessons.

Pupil's name   Tutor group

Signature