



Using Film in the Classroom Policy

Review date: June 2018

Next Review date: June 2019

Staff resp. for review: ARO

NORBURY MANOR POLICY: Using film in the classroom

The certification of films for the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) has an advisory function.

Therefore, as a teacher, you have the right to make decisions about the suitability of film material that you feel would benefit students educationally. However, in selecting material you should be mindful of both the Every Child Matters agenda and the recommendations of the BFI and BBFC outlined below.

The BBFC and BFI *recommend* that if students are to watch a film or extracts of a film rated outside of their age bracket for educational purposes they:

- provide a supervised classroom setting
- obtain parental/carer consent
- obtain approval of the Head Teacher

Below (Appendix 1) is a copy of the standard letter you should use to obtain this consent. Alternatively you could ask students to write the necessary information (outlined below) in their planners.

- the film title and certificate
- whether you intend to view the whole film or extracts
- outline what you are showing and why it might cause concern/distress
- explain clearly why you are showing it and when

E.g. 'In History next week we will be watching extracts from "Schindler's List" (rated 15) in order to support a unit on the Holocaust. The extracts do contain some graphic and brutal scenes of the way in which concentration camp internees were treated. However, they provide an excellent resource for enabling students to gain a better understanding of this period in our history. If you agree to your daughter viewing this film/extract during next week's lesson(s) please sign below.'

Teachers should obtain consent before they show the extract and alternative and safe provision must be made for students whose parents/carers do not grant consent.

If teachers allow students to watch a film as a reward and for entertainment purposes then the film classification should always be adhered to.

In all cases, teachers should have watched the film in question prior to showing it to students so that an informed judgement can be made as to whether the film is appropriate or not.

An Equality Impact assessment has been carried out with regard to this policy. There was found to be no significant impact on any group with protected characteristics, i.e. this policy does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of disability, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender or sexual orientation.

Updated June 2018

Appendix 1: example consent letter

Dear Parent / Carer,

In **[SUBJECT]** next week we are watching the film/extracts from **[FILM TITLE & CERTIFICATE]** in order to support a unit on **[CURRICULUM FOCUS]**. The film/extracts contain/s some **[BRIEF DESCRIPTION]** scenes. However, this will provide an excellent resource for enabling students to gain a better understanding of this subject and to provoke more informed discussion.

If you would rather your daughter did not view this film/extract during next week's lesson(s) please sign below and ask your daughter to return the slip to me as soon as possible. Alternatively you can contact me by telephone on the college number.

Yours faithfully

[TEACHER'S NAME]



To: **[TEACHER'S NAME]**

Student's name.....

Student's form.....

I **do / do not*** give permission for my child to view the film/extracts in next week's lesson(s).

**delete as appropriate*

Parent/carer's signature: