

## School lessons to cover **sexting**, **FGM** and mental health

The Department for Education (DfE) has unveiled fresh guidelines for sex and health education across England.

sexting 色情短信

FGM 女性割礼

Three new subjects have been created—relationships education from primary school, relationships and sex education at secondary school, and health education for all ages in which students will learn about the importance of getting enough sleep, the dangers of sexting and how to spot anxiety in their friends.

According to the guidelines, secondary school pupils will be taught about female **genital mutilation** (FGM) with a focus on awareness over its illegality and the availability of support networks. Students aged 11 and older should also be taught about other forms of “honour-based” abuse, as well as **grooming**, forced marriage and domestic abuse, the DfE said.

genital 生殖的

mutilation 损毁；残缺

grooming 诱奸

But the government’s announcement comes amid a **backlash** from parent groups who do not want sex education to be a **mandatory** part of the curriculum.

backlash 反对

mandatory 强制的；命令的

MPs are to debate a petition on Monday demanding parents retain the right to opt their child out of sex education classes in schools after more than 100,000 people stressed parents’ “fundamental right” to decide when their children are taught relationship and sex education (RSE) topics.

“We have **grave** concerns about the physical, psychological and spiritual **implications** of teaching children about certain sexual and relational concepts proposed in RSE and believe that they have no place within a mandatory school curriculum,” Dr Katherine Sarah Godfrey-Faussett, the petitioner, stated.

grave 严肃的；重大的

implication 含义；影响