

FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION (FLE)

I. GENERALLY

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) provides Family Life Education (FLE) based on the FLE Standards of Learning (SOL) and curriculum guidelines developed by the Virginia Board of Education. Parents/guardians may exempt their child from FLE.

II. CURRICULA

- High School

The high school FLE curriculum incorporates age-appropriate elements of effective and evidence-based programs on the prevention of dating violence, domestic abuse, sexual harassment, including sexual harassment using electronic means, sexual violence, human trafficking of children, and the law and meaning of consent. Such age-appropriate elements of effective and evidence-based programs on the prevention of sexual violence *may* include instruction that increases student awareness of the fact that consent is required before sexual activity.

- Secondary Schools

The SOL objectives related to dating violence and the characteristics of abusive relationships are taught at least once in middle school and at least twice in high school.

- All Schools

The FLE curriculum offered in any school incorporates age-appropriate elements of effective and evidence-based programs on the importance of the personal privacy and personal boundaries of other individuals and tools for a student to use to ensure that the student respects the personal privacy and personal boundaries of other individuals. The FLE curriculum incorporates age-appropriate elements of effective and evidence-based programs on the harmful physical and emotional effects of sexual abuse including female genital mutilation; associated criminal penalties; and the rights of the victim, including any civil action pursuant to Va. Code § 8.01-42.5.

The FLE curriculum *may* incorporate age-appropriate elements of effective and evidence-based programs on the prevention, recognition, and awareness of child abduction, child abuse, child sexual exploitation child sexual abuse, and in any such curriculum offered in high school, human trafficking of children.

- Students with IEPs

46 ACPS provides modified FLE instruction for students with Individualized
 47 Education Programs (IEPs) when needed.
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49 The School Board reviews its FLE curriculum at least once every seven years, evaluates
 50 whether it reflects contemporary community standards, and revises it if necessary.
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52 **III. Right of Review**
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54 A parent or guardian has the right to review the family life curricula, including all
 55 supplemental materials used in the program. A complete copy of all printed materials not
 56 subject to copyright protection and a description of all audio-visual materials is made
 57 available through any available parent/guardian portal and kept in each school’s library
 58 media center or office and made available for review to any parent/guardian during school
 59 office hours before and during the school year. The audio-visual materials are made
 60 available to parents/guardians for in-person review, upon request, on the same basis as
 61 printed materials are made available.
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63 ACPS develops a summary of the family life curricula designed to assist parents/guardians
 64 in understanding the program and to encourage parental involvement in the instruction of
 65 students in family life education. The summary is distributed to the parents/guardians of
 66 students participating in the FLE program and is posted on the ACPS website. Such
 67 information reflects the curricula of the program as taught in the classroom. The following
 68 statement will be included in the summary: *“Parents and guardians have the right to*
 69 *review the Family Life Education Program offered by their school division, including*
 70 *written and audio-visual educational materials used in the program. Parents and*
 71 *guardians also have the right to excuse their child from all or part of Family Life Education*
 72 *instruction.”*
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74 **IV. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

75 The School Health Advisory Board (SHAB) serves as the community involvement team.
 76 SHAB members provide input to staff regarding new instructional and resource materials
 77 and changes to FLE curriculum.
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- 80 Adopted: January 9, 1997
- 81 Amended: July 1, 2005
- 82 Amended: June 11, 2015
- 83 Amended: October 27, 2016
- 84 Amended: April 25, 2019
- 85 Amended: December 16, 2021
- 86 Amended: December 15, 2022

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 88 Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-207.1, 22.1- 207.1:1, 22.1-207.2.
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 91 *Family Life Education: Board of Education Guidelines and Standards of Learning for Virginia*
 92 *Public Schools*, Virginia Department of Education (Revised September 2016).

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94	Cross Refs.:	BCF
95		IIA
96		INB
97		KLB
		Advisory Committees to the School Board
		Instructional Materials
		Teaching About Controversial Issues
		Public Complaints About Learning Resources