



Rudgwick Primary School

Use of Films in School Policy

Our vision: Rudgwick Primary School aims to be a community where everyone is **inspired** by a love for learning, is supported and encouraged to **believe** in themselves and is enabled to **achieve** success.

Review by: Head Teacher

Approve by: Head Teacher

Date for review: 12/10/24

Frequency of review: 10 years

Films are a valuable resource for teachers in school especially with the increased use of ICT. They can bring history to life, be used as a stimulus for children's writing or even illustrate a scientific point. However we must make sure that the films shown are suitable for children.

Under the Children Act 1989, teachers have a duty of care towards their pupils, traditionally referred to as 'in loco parentis' i.e. 'in place of a parent'. Legally, while not bound by parental responsibility, teachers must behave as any reasonable parent would do in promoting the welfare and safety of children in their care. Rudgwick Primary School places a great emphasis on safeguarding children and wants to ensure that children are protected from unsuitable materials.

The British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) classifies films as:

U: Universal

Suitable for all. A U film should be suitable for audiences aged four years and over. However, it is impossible to predict what might upset a particular child.

PG: Parental Guidance

Suitable for general viewing, but some scenes may be unsuitable for younger children. A PG film should not disturb a child aged around eight or older. Parents should consider whether the content might upset younger or more sensitive children.

Whilst teachers may use clips from a variety of films through the internet (all must be previewed) complete films above a 'U' or 'PG' classification will not be shown.

In our school we recognise the value that film has in children's education and want to ensure the safeguarding of children. We recognise that children have very different personalities, backgrounds and experiences, and will often react to a given scene in very different ways.

As a guiding principal, U films may be shown across the school but PG films only in KS2 with the written permission of parents. This must include a signed consent. However, it is important that the teacher has determined it is suitable and appropriate for the children and that they are able to justify their reasons. It is important to make sure that any children watching are not likely to suffer any ill effects as a result of seeing the film. If teachers are unsure about a film they should seek advice from colleagues or the school leadership team, or seek parental advice for individual children. If there is any doubt then it would be safer not to show the film. Further guidance for parents and teachers is available from the BBFC website.

The school will purchase an annual licence to cover the screening of films for use in school and to respect the copyright of the owners of the film.

Approved by Governors: