

Khutbah: Our Children, Our Amanah: Protecting Their Fitrah from Corruption in Schools

Opening – The Trust We Carry

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا قُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا

"O you who believe, protect yourselves and your families from the Fire..."
(Surah Al-Tahrim, 66:6)

This is not advice. It is a divine command. Allah ﷻ is telling us — you will be asked. Not the teacher. Not me. You.

We live in a time when silence is dangerous. If we do not guide our children, others will — and what they teach may not only damage their minds but corrupt their hearts and steal their deen.

Section 1: What Are Our Children Being Taught?

Let's speak openly.

- Some children as young as 5 or 6 in Year 1 are taught to name private parts aloud in class. From September 2026 this will be compulsory in primary schools
- By Year 2, they are taught about "appropriate and inappropriate touch", but without the Islamic values of modesty and haya.
- Later, children are told that being 'gay' is normal.
- They are taught that 'gender' is a feeling, and that they might have been born in the wrong body, encouraging them to embrace this identity rather than their biological reality.
- By secondary school, lessons about sexual relationships often focus on legal consent, without any mention of marriage, morality, or Allah's guidance.

Just because something is legal does not mean it is moral. Is this the belief system we want our children to grow up with?

Section 2: The Islamic Responsibility of Parents

The Prophet ﷺ said:

كُلُّكُمْ رَاعٍ، وَكُلُّكُمْ مَسْئُولٌ عَنْ رَعِيَّتِهِ

"Each of you is a shepherd, and each of you is responsible for his flock." (Sahih al-Bukhari and Muslim)

You will not be asked what the government taught your child. You will be asked:

- What did you do to protect them?
- Did you speak up?
- Did you check what they were learning?
- Did you push for change — or did you leave them to be raised by a system that doesn't share your values?

What happens if your son grows up and tells you he wants to marry John instead of Aisha?

If you strive to protect your child and the children of others, Allah ﷻ will protect your child.

Section 3: Real Stories from Our Community

Some examples from schools:

- A video promoting gender identity (where a girl wanted to become a boy) was shown to Year 3 children without warning. Parents were ignored until they challenged it and demanded a meeting. The school eventually removed the video and apologised.
- A book about two male penguins raising a chick was found in a Year 1 child's bag. It normalised same-sex parenting by comparison to animals. After a parent's challenge, the book was removed, and a new library policy was introduced.
- In one school, parents built a relationship with the school over time. When a new RSE programme was introduced, the school:
 - Shared lesson materials openly
 - Took feedback from parents
 - Ensured only senior staff delivered RSE
 - Avoided inviting ideological outside speakers

Lesson: Parents who speak, shape the outcome. Parents who remain silent, surrender the future. It only takes one parent to act. Most schools respond positively when parents raise concerns politely, knowledgeably, and persistently.

Section 4: What Must We Do?

Step 1: Know what is statutory and what is not.

- You can withdraw your child from sex education in primary and secondary school (up to the age of 15).
- You can ask to see resources and challenge inappropriate content.

Step 2: Ask the school questions.

- What is taught year by year?
- What resources are used?
- Is a range of beliefs presented — or just one?

Step 3: Demand real consultation.

- Schools must consult parents before reviewing the RSE policy. This document sets out how this subject is taught in schools.
- Push for your voice to be included — not ignored.

Step 4: Work with other parents.

- Be united, respectful, and persistent.
- Change comes when you stand together.

Section 5: Use the Toolkit – Take Action Today

If you don't know where to begin, Muslim Family Initiative has created a free, practical RSE Toolkit to help you:

- Understand what schools are required to teach
- Know your rights
- Challenge inappropriate content
- Ask the right questions
- Engage with schools effectively

Scan the **QR code** available in the masjid today to access it instantly.

They are also launching live webinars to support parents in challenging schools and creating change — step by step, with support.

Additional sessions for:

- Muslim governors
- Muslim teachers working in state schools
- Imams and community leaders supporting parents

This is your responsibility. This is your moment to act.

Closing Reminder and Du‘ā

Brothers and sisters — if we don't shape our children's beliefs, someone else will. If we do not protect their hearts, we will answer for what fills them.

إِنَّ السَّمْعَ وَالْبَصَرَ وَالْفُؤَادَ كُلُّ أُولَئِكَ كَانَ عَنْهُ مَسْئُولًا

“Indeed, the hearing, the sight, and the heart — all of these will be questioned.” (Surah Al-Isra, 17:36)

Du‘ā: O Allah, protect our children's hearts and minds. Keep their fitrah intact. Give us wisdom, strength, and courage to speak. Make the act of raising our children a means of guidance — not regret — on the Day we meet You.