

26 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As I am sure you are aware, the sexual exploitation of children across the UK has been in the news, especially in light of the issues in Telford, Rotherham, Rochdale, Swindon and Bristol, and continues to be a concern.

Dangers can come from the any area of a young person's life - the internet and social networking sites such Facebook, twitter and snapchat - but also through friendship groups and people known to the young people themselves.

We also know that the best protection we can give to young people is knowledge of the dangers so that they are aware and can protect themselves, as well as letting them know where they can go for help and support if they are worried.

In order to do this, the theatre company AlterEgo CreateSolutions is coming to perform an interactive play which will tackle the difficult issue of Child Sexual Exploitation, to all year 8 students on Monday 2 October 2023. The play is called Chelsea's Story and will provide an opportunity for interaction with the actors helping students to see the choices Chelsea has made and how she might have chosen differently. We will also provide information to all students on where to go if they are worried about exploitation, feel forced into doing something they don't want to, or if they feel they are at risk. School staff will also be on hand to help with questions.

This activity in secondary schools is part of a proactive programme of work around raising and tackling the complex nature of Child Sexual Exploitation and is being supported by Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership and all Partner Agencies in the county. Over the last ten years the play has been presented to over 90,000 year 8 students across the county.

We hope that this will be a powerful and memorable way to enhance the PSHE curriculum and help our young people to stay safe.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch



Miss S Hind
Head of Year 8