

Dear Parent/Carer

25th September 2026

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

Dangers can come from many areas of young people's lives, including the internet and social networking sites such as 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 of the risks and can protect themselves, as well as knowing where they can go for help and support if they are worried.

In order to do this, we are presenting an interactive play to all of our Year 8 pupils, which will tackle the difficult issue of Child Sexual Exploitation on Wednesday 15th October. The play is called *Chelsea's Story* and will provide an opportunity for interaction with the actors, helping pupils to see the choices the characters made and how they might have chosen differently.

An information sheet will also be available, which has been designed with input from young people. It provides information on where to go if they are worried about exploitation, feel forced into doing something they don't want to do, or feel that they are at risk. School staff will also be on hand to help with any questions. We will then complete some follow-up work in their PSHE lessons.

This activity in secondary schools is part of a proactive programme of work aimed at raising awareness of and tackling the complex nature of Child Sexual Exploitation. It is supported by the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership and all partner agencies in the county.

Over the last thirteen years, the play has been presented to more than 117,000 Year 8 pupils across the county and has been extremely successful.

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

Kind regards,



Mrs Michelle Dempsey

Head of Year 7