



Allenbourn
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Allenbourn Middle School

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Headteacher: Mr M Legge B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

4th July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

As I am sure you are aware, the sexual exploitation of children and young people across the UK has always been a concern and numbers affected are sadly on the increase.

Risks can come from any area of their lives; through the Internet and social networking sites such Facebook and Twitter but also through friendship groups and from individuals 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 (and their friends) as well as letting them know where they can go for help and support if they are worried.

The play, now called Chelsea's Story (previously known as Chelsea's Choice), tackles the difficult issue of Child Sexual Exploitation and will provide an opportunity for discussion and interaction with the actors, helping pupils to see how Chelsea's life plays out at that time.

This play has been presented to over 40,000 young people nationally and feedback is very positive. It is a play which we have shown our Year 8 pupils for many years as we feel it is an excellent platform through which to help educate our young people.

I am pleased to say that, in collaboration with other Initio Learning Trust Schools, we have secured an opportunity for our Year 8 pupils to watch this play and participate in an actor facilitated post-show talk exploring the issues raised. This will take place at St Michaels Middle School on 6th July 2023. Pupils need to arrive at Allenbourn at the usual time in full school uniform. Allenbourn staff will walk pupils to and from the venue.

The actors will provide information to our pupils with details about 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 (including myself as Designated Safeguarding Lead) will also be on hand during and after the performance to help with questions.

This performance is part of a proactive programme of work around raising and tackling the complex nature of Child Sexual Exploitation and is supported by the Dorset Safeguarding Children Board.





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Upon returning to Allenbourn we will further explore and reflect on the plays themes via a PSHE based lesson.

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

More information about the play and the drama company is on the 'Alter-Ego' website

<http://www.alteregocreativesolutions.co.uk/chelseas-story>

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mr Luke Smith

Deputy Headteacher - Designated Safeguarding Lead