



Winterton Community Academy

Newport Drive, Winterton, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN15 9QD

Telephone: (01724) 732777

email: reception@wintertonca.com

Headteacher – Mr K Rowlands

Ref: LD/ AW/SG

9th February, 2024

Dear parent / guardian,

Further to the letter you received from Mr Rowlands on Tuesday, I would like to share with you the steps we have taken in school to address safeguarding concerns that have come to light in our community.

We have replaced normal curriculum lessons for one hour today, for all students, to enable staff to take the time to share the below message with students and share the three videos that are linked below.

It is imperative as a school that we do all we can prior to the half term holiday to ensure that the young people in our community have an awareness of child criminal exploitation, grooming and county lines and that they do all they can to ensure they are safe. Whilst all of these elements of safeguarding are part of our taught curriculum, recent concerns in the community have driven us to heighten awareness further.

The communication shared with all students today reads:

"On Tuesday, Mr Rowlands wrote to your parents about some concerns we have had in the wider school community.

These concerns included elements of child criminal exploitation, using and dealing drugs and knife crime.

Scarily, an estimated 27,000 young people are involved in gangs across the UK who have not been identified by services and some 100,000 children are already slipping through gaps in social care and education and are in danger of being targeted by criminals. We are aware that this issue exists in our wider school community.

Before we break up for the half term holiday, we have cancelled the normal curriculum for this lesson to ensure that every member of the school community receives the same clear and simple message. It is our job to educate you and ensure that you have the necessary information to keep yourself safe when you are not in school.

During this session you will be shown three short videos.

The first is an animation called 'Anywhere Kids'. This is a video about 'grooming'. Don't worry if you do not understand what the phrase 'grooming' means - it will become clear in the video.

The second video is called 'Missed Me'.

This video is based on true events in Hull and shows how young people get pushed and pulled into situations of great risk and harm and are exploited by criminals.

The third and final video is called 'Trapped' and is based on a true story in Scunthorpe and involves the story of a near fatal stabbing.

This video highlights the push and pull factors that lead to young people becoming involved in drugs and child exploitation.

It is essential that all young people are aware of the dangers, risks and avenues of support that exist".

Video 1:

[Anywhere Kids \(youtube.com\)](#)

Video 2:

[Missed Me? \(youtube.com\)](#)

Video 3:

[Trapped - YouTube](#)

I would also like to direct parents and students to a website called CMARS. This is the North Lincolnshire Children's Resilience and Safeguarding Board and contains a wealth of information for parents, carers, professionals and young people. The website is exceptionally easy to navigate. If you are curious in reading / watching further resources, I would encourage you to click on the resources section and you will find help and support, including who to contact if you have any concerns.

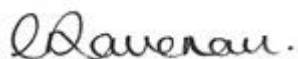
[CMARS | Children's resilience and safeguarding board \(northlincscmars.co.uk\)](#)

Thank you for taking the time to read this communication, it is not designed to sensationalise or scare anyone. However, it is hoped that with a transparent approach, you are able to support us in ensuring that all young people stay safe in our community.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school or on daveran.l@wintertonca.com

Have a lovely half term.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Louise Daveran

Assistant Head Teacher