

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

The increasing problem of knife crime is rarely out of the news, and I am sure that you are aware of incidences involving knife crime both locally and nationally.

Dangers can come from the any area of their lives, 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, we are presenting an interactive play to all of our Year 9 pupils which will tackle the difficult issue of knife crime on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The play is called "Breaking the Chain", which is a hard-hitting applied theatre production that aims to raise awareness, kick-start conversations and build resilience around youth violence - with a focus on knife crime - as part of a public health approach to tackling the issue – an issue that is seeing young people seriously hurt and, all too often, killed on the streets of our towns and cities.

This activity in secondary schools is part of a proactive programme of work around raising and tackling serious youth violence in Gloucestershire and is funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Gloucestershire Constabulary and supported by Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership, Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning and all Partner Agencies in 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.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs D Christopher  
Senior Assistant Headteacher and DSL