

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr S Garrity Chair of Governors: Mrs H Baker



18th November 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Drug and Alcohol Awareness Assembly

I am writing to inform you of an upcoming assembly that we have arranged for Year 8 and Year 10 students on the topic of drug and alcohol awareness. The assembly will take place on Wednesday 4th December and will be delivered by The Amy Winehouse Foundation, who specialise in creating resources and presentations to educate young people of the risks associated with drug taking.

The foundation takes a holistic approach to drug and alcohol education and they believe that all young people should be properly informed about drugs, alcohol and their related issues in order to create an honest and open environment in which informed choices can be made. They engage students in discussing their real thoughts, feelings and behaviours; helping them to find ways to address issues such as low self-esteem, poor body image, peer pressure and bullying without turning to drugs or alcohol. If you would like further information about the assembly and this organisation please visit their website via www.amywinehousefoundation.org.

Our reasons for organising this presentation is that we know that young people feel under a great deal of pressure, whether it be to succeed in exams, maintain relationships or to look or act in certain ways. These stresses can have a significant impact on both their physical and emotional health. Many young people who feel stressed will seek positive ways to cope with whatever life throws at them, perhaps taking part in sports and leisure activities, meeting with friends or confiding in someone they trust. Unfortunately, however, there are those that suffer in silence and who find other means to cope with their problems, which can mean drug or alcohol misuse. We hope that this presentation, along with the additional pastoral work that takes place in school, will help to address this issue and to ensure that our students feel safe and supported.

If you have any concerns regarding your child taking part in this assembly, please contact me or Mrs Wibberley via email at allen@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk or wibberley@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully

Mrs L Allen

Head of Human Sciences and Deputy Head of Sixth Form