

6 January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Knife Crime Information Presentations for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10

I hope you have had an enjoyable festive period and that your child is well rested for the demands of the term ahead.

I am writing to inform you that students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 will attend a presentation on Wednesday or Thursday this week (i.e. 8 or 9 January) on the very challenging and sensitive topic of knife crime. Martin Cosser, the father of a child fatally wounded in a knife attack, is visiting us to deliver this presentation.

You may have seen or heard of Martin via his very public social media campaigns via his charity '[Charlie's Promise](#)'. He visits schools regularly to present to students of all ages, including those at the upper end of primary schools, to educate about the impact knife crime can have on families. His talks are age-appropriate but emotive and can be disturbing: whilst he does not show or describe any graphic images at all, he does talk openly about the suffering his son endured and the anguish he and his family continue to experience.

Knife crime is a hugely important topic, and one that is already covered in our Relationships, Health and Personal Development curriculum. However, we know that nothing has a greater impact than hearing directly from those affected by these devastating events. Martin is visiting many local schools and the view taken by my headteacher colleagues is that if this stops even one child from considering carrying a knife, then Martin's visit will have been worth it. Please be assured that this is not a response to any particular incidents related to The Weald; rather, it is a response to a critical national issue.

Your child will attend the presentation with their year group for the duration of one period (50 minutes) on either Wednesday or Thursday. Their class teacher and senior staff will be present throughout. Should anyone wish to leave, they will of course be allowed to do so and they will be supervised by staff. In addition, anyone who wishes to discuss any of the content of Martin's presentation will be able to do so with their pastoral leader and/or a member of the senior team.

If you do not wish your child to attend this presentation, please contact your child's pastoral leader as listed below as soon as possible:

Attenborough House	Miss Lucas	nlucas@theweald.org.uk
Blackman House	Mr Healy	jhealy@theweald.org.uk
Da Vinci House	Mrs Green	vgreen@theweald.org.uk
Mercury House	Mrs Summerfield	ssummerfield@theweald.org.uk
Seacole House	Ms Moore	jmoore@theweald.org.uk
Thompson House	Mrs Sharp	asharp@theweald.org.uk

Or please contact me via office@theweald.org.uk or call the switchboard (01403 787200).

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs S Edwards
Headteacher