

For Information.....

From: Fiona Fearon To: ALL Parents

SCS is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. SCS is also committed to collaborating with children and their families to ensure safety for all. This newsletter is designed to keep you updated on safeguarding updates and resources that you as parents may find useful in keeping your child safe.

SCS creating safety together

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Who are SHAPE?



The SHAPE Programme organises events throughout the year for children and young people.

SHAPE's objective is to listen to the voice of children and young people in Sandwell using five themes:

- Staying **S**afe
- Being **H**ealthy
- Enjoying and **A**chieving
- Making a **P**ositive Contribution
- **E**conomic Wellbeing

The SHAPE Takeover Challenge

The National Youth Takeover Challenge is a scheme where council and partner agencies open their doors for young people to take over the role of senior officers and boards and runs from 17th November to 1st December.

- The Sandwell Drugs & Alcohol Partnership Board Takeover Challenge took place on 22nd November at Jack Judge House, Oldbury.
- School Health Improvement Group Takeover Challenge takes place on 28th November at the Council House in Oldbury.
- Council Cabinet Leaders and Members Takeover Challenge takes place on 6th December in the Council House in Oldbury.

Shape conference - Well done to our KS4 Students!

On the 22nd November our student council representatives and staff attended a 'SHAPE' conference at Oldbury library. Our students were asked to chair a 'takeover day' with different agencies from the local authority including the police, school nurses, DECCA and many others.

Our students put forward to the local authority their ideas and concerns around the services delivered and also provided the agencies with solutions to the areas they felt needed to be developed. The student council representatives challenged the views and opinions of the agencies and put forward their own personal experiences whilst stating what they believed had benefitted them as individuals.

The head of DECCA has since been in contact and requested further consultation with our students. A local councillor has also requested to make a short film to showcase the important views of our students in the areas discussed at the Takeover Day.

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Shape Resources for Parents

Parents and carers of young people who attend Sandwell secondary schools are being invited to attend **Clickwise** sessions to learn about **keeping safe online**.

Sessions, also aimed at students who attend secondary schools, will focus on online safety and filters, child sexual exploitation (CSE) and exposure to pornography and other dangers online.

The sessions will be delivered by Adam Shaikh who is the Youth Commissioner of Sandwell and the Chair of SHAPE Youth Forum.

There will also be a performance and workshop focusing on spotting signs of grooming and exploitation from Loudmouth Education and Training, which are specialists in delivering safeguarding programmes.

Councillor Simon Hackett, Sandwell Council's cabinet member for children's services, is in full support of these sessions and urges parents and carers to book their places: "With children and young people now spending more time online it is essential they know how to stay safe.

"These sessions will give parents and carers some really good tips on how they can keep their children safe online and look out for warning signs of potential dangers.

"I urge people to get their place as soon as possible."

The Clickwise project is holding seven sessions over the next six months in schools and academies in Sandwell.

These will take place from 6pm – 8pm and doors will open at 5.30pm.

The venues for each of the events are as follows:

Rowley

St Michael's School, Curral Road, Rowley Regis, B65 9AN
Wednesday 29 November 2017

Tipton

ACE Academy, Tipton, DY4 7NR
Tuesday 30 January 2018

Smethwick

Holly Lodge, Holly Lane, Smethwick, B67 7JG
Monday 5 February 2018

West Bromwich

Sandwell Central Sixth, New Square, New Street, West Bromwich, B70 7PG
Wednesday 21 March 2018

George Salter Academy, Davey Road, West Bromwich, B70 9UW
Wednesday 2 May 2018

Wednesbury

Wodensborough Ormiston Academy, 148 Hydes Road, Wednesbury, WS10 0DR
Wednesday 28 March 2018

Oldbury

Oldbury Academy, Pound Road, Oldbury, B68 8NE
Tuesday 17 April 2018

To book a place on a session go to www.sandwell.gov.uk/shapeevents