



St. Joseph's Roman Catholic High School

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Headteacher: Mr R. Woods | **Deputy Headteachers:** Mr M. Graham, Mrs J Morgan | **Chair of Governors:** Mrs P. Jones
Registered Charity Number: 1075795 | **Facebook/Twitter:** StJosephsRCHS

September 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian,

In order to raise awareness of child exploitation we have commissioned Applied Theatre specialists Alter Ego Creative Solutions to perform their acclaimed play 'Chelsea's Choice' on Thursday October 6th 2016. Pupils in Year 10 will be viewing the play at the start of the school day.

The play - which has now been seen by over 250,000 young people around the UK - tells the story of a group of three students who discover the diary of a girl called Chelsea. Chelsea was a young girl who, having fallen out with her friends and family, was approached by a man called Gary. Gary was older, owned a car, had a flat and treated her like an adult. Unfortunately Gary was not what he seemed to be! Chelsea's story is played out and examined by the three students along with their teacher in an attempt to understand what happened to Chelsea and how it could have been prevented.

The production is 40 minutes and raises awareness of:-

- * Healthy Relationships
- * Safe Internet Use
- * Risky Behaviour
- * The Grooming Process
- * Child Sexual Exploitation
- * Where young people can go for help and advice

Child Sexual Exploitation is a highly sensitive subject and every care has been taken to ensure that the production is hard-hitting and relevant without being graphic or offensive. The issues are raised and discussed in a manner entirely relevant and suitable for students in Year 10.

"The Government believes that local initiatives like 'Chelsea's Choice' have a key role to play in preventing grooming and exploitation and in helping keep children safe from this heinous crime." - Rohini Krishnamurthy, Child Safeguarding Division, Department for Education.





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With high profile cases around the country currently making the news on a regular basis, it is all of our duties to raise awareness of this subject. Councils, charities, support agencies, schools, parents and carers all need to engage with and acknowledge this issue in order to give young people the tools and knowledge that they need to keep themselves and their friends safe.

If for any reason you wish to withdraw your child from watching the performance or you have any concerns, questions or wish to discuss anything further please feel free to contact school and speak to either Mr Singleton or Miss Finch.

Kind regards

Mr M Singleton
Assistant Headteacher

Miss R Finch
Year 10 Manager of Learning

