



**HAGLEY CATHOLIC
HIGH SCHOOL**
SEMPER FIDELIS

1 October 2021

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s) of Year 9, 10 and 11

At Hagley Catholic High School we have a firm commitment to all elements of education. This includes striving for the best possible academic outcomes and progress for all our students but also ensuring that they get a broad pastoral and holistic education as part of our Character and Culture curriculum, and our vision and culture that strives to make them POWERful learners in all areas of their life.

On Tuesday of this week we welcomed into school Alter Ego Creative Solutions, a Theatre in Education company who deliver workshops and productions on key issues and challenges facing young people.

Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 watched a production on the dangers of drugs and child exploitation that culminates in County Lines, the act of transporting illegal drugs from one area to another and often across police and different local authority boundaries, usually by children and young people who are coerced into it by gangs.

The production was excellent and well received by all students and staff who attended. It would be easy for our young people, and us as teachers and parents, to assume that such things won't happen to our children. And while we all hope that this is the case, they are certainly better armed now to recognise the dangers and the influence that some very unscrupulous individuals in the world outside of their school can have.

You can find out more information about County Lines, should you wish at the following link:
<https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/what-we-do/crime-threats/drug-trafficking/county-lines>

It would be naïve of us to think that our children will not be exposed to illegal substances at some point in their young lives. But I hope that in involving them in this production we have gone some way to making sure they make the very best choices if, and when, they are faced with such decisions and dilemmas

In writing this letter I am also compelled to make sure everyone is aware that Hagley has a zero tolerance to illegal drug use, possession or distribution, and I hope that your children, our students, are very clear that engaging in such behaviour could well put their place at Hagley in jeopardy.

I hope and pray that no one would put their education or reputation at such risk.

With every good wish to you and all your families.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Hodgson

Principal

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