



MANOR COURT Community Primary School

incorporating Manor Court Early Years Centre

A Member of Preston Primary Academy Trust

Head Teacher Mr L Talmage

Deputy Head Teacher Mr A Clode Assistant Head Teacher Mrs G Terry

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17th December 2020

Re: County Lines Workshop

Dear Parents/Carers,

In the South West of the UK, including all areas of Somerset, there is a significant rise in county lines drug crime, whereby a large amount of young people, as young as 11 years old, are being criminally and sexually exploited by gangs.

These gangs proactively recruit young people to drug run in and around the South West, as well as outside the area. The gangs and criminal networks use extreme violence and intimidation towards these young people, which result in them feeling trapped and scared. They also train these young people to become recruiters and future gang members. Some of these gangs are forcing these vulnerable children from their homes to establish a base to sell drugs. As well as criminal exploitation, young people, in particular girls, are also being sexually exploited by these gangs.

The Home Office funded a county line pilot project which was carried out in 2018. It identified a clear need for more specialist services, in particular focusing on early intervention work for Year 6s designed to help children gain greater awareness of grooming, recruitment, CSE, gangs, peer pressure, drugs and other dangers. These workshops in other parts of the country have proven to significantly reduce victims of county line gangs. Escapeline have followed the recommendations from the Home Office and is providing workshops for year 6s on how to keep themselves safe from exploitation.

Due to Covid 19, the workshop will be delivered virtually. The workshop will take place on Monday 18th January 2021.

Declaration

I acknowledge receipt of the information regarding the proposed training and give my consent for my child to attend the county lines and child exploitation training which is delivered by Escapeline.

If you DO NOT wish your child to be involved with this training, please email the year group email Y6@manorcourt.ppat365.org to register that you would prefer them not to take part. Please only do this if you do not want your child to participate. If we do not hear from you, we will assume you are happy for your child to be part of the training.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Pidgeon and Miss Thompson
Year 6 Teachers



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