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**Kent
Police**

Spotting Signs of Child Exploitation
25th November 2021 at 1700 – 1930 hours
Hosted by Holmesdale school



AIM:

To increase the understanding and awareness surrounding current trends, criminality and exploitation that our young people are aware of or actively participating in.

Objective:

The main objective is for positive engagement with the families and support networks of these young people, and to raise awareness and understanding.

We intend to achieve this through partnership working, alongside supporting charities, and the Police Crime Commissioner.

We will empower those attending to tackle and disrupt crime, with a multi-agency approach and through intelligence led policing, bridging the gap between young people and the available services. This will continue to achieve results and reduce criminal exploitation through our young people.

Kent Police is dedicated to providing a first-class service, putting victims and witnesses first and at the heart of what we do. This drive, along with the Police Crime Commissioners Safer in Kent plan, is to keep Kent moving forward, tackling abuse, exploitation and violence. Child centred policing is at the heart of Kent Police's control strategy, along with exploitation, serious violence, abuse, high harm crime and counter terrorism. The enablers for this being mental health, missing persons, vulnerable and looked after children, gangs and county lines, serious and organised crime and drugs. We fully intend to raise awareness and increase knowledge on current techniques used by gangs and individuals who groom and exploit our young people into criminality.

There will be education on coming crime trends, gang recruitment, how to identify potential grooming into these networks and children's sexual exploitation. How the use of social media and social platforms are used to commit crime and communicate.

Why?

It has become clear that without the knowledge of their parents, carers and guardians that some young people are faced with situations that could make them vulnerable to exploitation, gangs and crime. This is made easily accessible through having access to a multitude of platforms on social media, so it is important that parents can identify and react where necessary and have the best chance of recognising signs and indicators of potential grooming and exploitation steering our young people away from crime and exploitation.

Health Warning:

The topics that will be covered are emotive and sensitive, should you feel that you would like any further assistance with this please speak to the host.

Agenda:

16:30 hours – Networking, this allows those attending to visit various stands and the mini police surgery.

17:00 – Opening by Deputy Head of Holmesdale school MR Alex Campbell and A/PS Felicity Hall from Kent Police's Schools team

17:15 – Partner to Kent Police, Lauren GEATER from Fearless which form part of crime stoppers. This service is a site where you can access non-judgmental information and advice about crime and criminality – it is also 100% anonymous where you can pass on information. Lauren also attends school Kent wide and provides this input to our young people.

17:45 – Guest speaker, Nick Hickmott, From We are with you. This partner offers free confidential support with alcohol, drugs or mental health from one of their local services or online.

18:00 – Guest speaker, Michaela FLURY from Family Matters. This service offers specialist counselling, ISVA with advice and support from report to court, and free and practical helpline. It is community funded and supported by the Kent Police Crime Commissioner.

18:30 – *Break / Networking*

18:45 – Guest speaker, Francis OSEI from Restore Reform Respect (RRR). Francis formed this charity in 2012 delivering inputs on, anti – crime, anti – gang, county lines, anti – knives, early intervention and education. RRR host assemblies to our young people in Kent and Medway primary, secondary and colleges. They are a specialist organisation set up for vulnerable young people with an aim to help them achieve in school without turning to offending and raising awareness about the importance of education. Their key message is, " Education is the key, and NOT the life of crime. "

19:15 – Guest speaker, Luke PETERS from St Giles Trust (SGT). SGT is a charity who use their own and lived experiences to support people who are not getting the help they need. They empower and encourage each person to overcome the adversity they face, from the outside world and from within themselves. They're key message is that they want to see everybody – no matter what their background to have a positive future.

19:45 – Closing

20:00 – *End*

Kent Police Schools team:

Aside from the main event, the newly formed Kent Police schools team will be hosting an on-site surgery in the side classroom joining the main hall. This is should anyone wish to speak to us to discuss anything in confidence, report crime or pass on intelligence which is **youth based**.

This will also be made up of local district PCSOS and the local youth engagement officers for a continuity of service for the wider community.

Stands:

As well as the main inputs, we have a number of partners, and colleagues who will be in attendance:

- Emma PRICE from the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU). The VRU are in partnership between the police, local councils, health service providers and other key agencies to deliver a reduction of violence to the county.
- Micheala FLURY from Family Matters, as above in agenda.
- Roxanne FROST, Manager from Youth Services.
- Lauren GEATER from Fearless, as above in agenda.
- Nick HICKMOTT from We are with you, as above in agenda.
- Luke PETERS from St Giles Trust, as above in agenda
- Francis Osei form Reform, Restore, Respect , as above in agenda.
- Ester LEIGH-HOLLANDS from KCC Youth Hub delivery Manager. The Kent County council youth workers team will be on hand to share information on the services they can provide.
- The Police Crime commissioners (PCC) Schools project Manager, Caroline FILMER to explain our PCC's vision and the safer in Kent plan alongside information on funded projects we have an invested interest in.
- Kenward trust, TBC
- Breck Foundation, TBC

Kent Police Recruitment:

For anyone who wishes to know more about this please speak to any of the Police Officers in attendance who are recruitment ambassadors

Outcome:

- For those in attendance to feel educated on current criminality and crime.
- To have information on crime that our young people are expose to
- To feel empowered to report crime and intelligence

- Gain details for partners, charities and local Policing teams to give the continuity of service and maintain relations.
- Give feedback on the event for further events to better the relationship between all involved
- To roll out this event as County wide with potential of regional work through County Lines
- To develop a working strategy and clear objects for Kent Police and partners to progress through intelligence and local policing.
- Raise awareness around these issues and prevent or deter young people getting involved

Location

This will be held in the main hall of :

Holmesdale School

Malling Road

Snodland, ME6 5HS

The main hall can accommodate around 80-100 people. The invite will be sent out to parents/ carers / guardians of the hosting school, however for the benefit of the local community it is now also decided to open to Aylesford and The Mallings schools.

Time

17:00 hours start

20:00 hours finish

Confirmed attendance of Police officers and staff:

- Kent Police Schools Team, Lead PC 12850 Felicity HALL
- Local Youth Engagement officer PCSO Jo-Anne TILLER
- Kent Police Schools team PS Joe BREEN
- Kent Police Schools Project Manager on behalf of the PCC, Caroline FILMER.

There will be an opportunity for feedback on this event. It will be beneficial to hear views on current concerns, and what we can do as a Police service to better our contact with these young people. Kent Police are committed to building these rapport with our young people but also with they're families and support networks.

Please send any feedback to:

Felicity.hall@kent.police.uk