



5th February 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

We are always mindful of the many challenges that young people face on a daily basis and we constantly strive to ensure that young people are ready and equipped to face those challenges and make positive, safe decisions.

The Headteachers and Principals of the West Oxfordshire Learning Partnership secondary schools understand the behaviours and risks that are associated with alcohol, illegal drugs and so-called 'legal highs' and the effect they can have on health and wellbeing and students' ability to learn.

For that reason, all our schools in West Oxfordshire have been working hard together, to deliver a focus fortnight of 'Drugs Education' in each of our schools. The focus fortnight will take place from **29th February 2016 - 11th March 2016** inclusive and will involve some of the following activities:

- School assemblies
- PSHE lessons
- A parents' evening supported by The Training Effect (a drug & alcohol education service), our local schools' police liaison officers and our school nurses. You may go to any of these sessions regardless of which school your child attends:
 - **2nd March Bartholomew School 6.45pm – 8.00pm**
 - **8th March Burford School 6.45pm – 8.00pm**
 - **9th March Wood Green School 6.45pm – 8.00pm**
- Follow up work by our school nurses.

The aim of this focus fortnight is to educate young people and to offer strategies to manage the challenging situations that they may find themselves in, within the community. We also hope to offer some advice and guidance to parents on how to support their children, particularly with regard to managing risk, staying safe and challenging negative peer influence.

All schools in the West Oxfordshire Partnership adopt a zero tolerance approach to alcohol, illegal drugs and legal highs and any students found in possession of these substances in school, or indeed under the influence of these substances, will be at risk of permanent exclusion.

I do hope you will be able to join us at one of our schools above, at the times stated, for the parents' evenings. *[To enable the host schools to prepare, please could you email gcradock@chipping-norton.oxon.sch.uk if you would like to attend, indicating which venue and number of seats required.]* I also trust you will support us in our endeavours to keep young people safe and clearly informed, in order that they can make the right choices.

Yours faithfully

Mr R W Shadbolt
Headteacher
Wood Green School
On Behalf of the West Oxfordshire Learning Partnership