

Maidstone and Causton Federation

Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Lizzie Girling

Maidstone Head of School: Mrs Lucy Thompson

Causton Head of School: Mrs Julia Shaw

Friday 8th February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Gangs, Criminal Exploitation and County Lines Evening

As members of the local community, we recognise that our young people are at risk of being affected by the impact of gangs and drugs in the area and further afield. This worrying issue is not confined to towns closest to London, such as Ipswich, it has gradually been spreading across the entire country.

Along with other local schools, we have received support from both the police, local authority and external providers to tackle the 'County Lines' topic which is so often in the news. Safeguarding training for our staff focuses on understanding the issues of gangs and drug activities and ways in which we can best support pupils who may be at risk.

Claire Prosser, the Locality Officer at Suffolk County Council, has offered to host an information evening for parents and carers on **Tuesday 26th February 2019** starting at 6.30pm and finishing at approximately 8pm. The following topics will be discussed and there will be a number of short films:

- What is a County Line
- What is a Gang
- What are the signs that parents need to look out for
- What are the key vulnerabilities
- Child and adolescent brain development and understanding risk
- What to do and where to go if you have concerns

We hope that you will be interested in attending this event to help raise awareness of the sorts of issues currently being faced by our young people. By working together and raising awareness in this way, we will be able to disrupt this activity that targets the young and the vulnerable.

Please bring this into school by the latest **Monday 25th February 2019**.

Lizzie Girling
Executive Headteacher

I would to attend **Gangs, Criminal Exploitation and County Lines Evening** on
Tuesday 26th February 2019, 6.30 - 8pm

Name(s)

How many seats

Maidstone Road, Felixstowe, IP11 9EG. 01394 283374 / 283375
maidstoneadmin@maidstoneandcauston.org
caustonadmin@maidstoneandcauston.org

Enjoy
Achieve
Thrive