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21 March 2025

FHU.JCP.CrimExp

Dear Families

### **Re: Criminal Exploitation and Bystander Training**

We are writing to inform you about an upcoming training session that will be delivered to students at Stowmarket High School the week commencing Monday 24 March, as part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding and student well-being. The session, titled *Criminal Exploitation and Bystander Training*, aims to educate students on the dangers of criminal exploitation and the importance of recognising and responding to concerning situations.

This session will be presented by the CE Hubs from Suffolk County Council.

The Criminal Exploitation (CE) Hubs are an initiative by Suffolk County Council, building upon the success of the Suffolk Against Gangs and Exploitation (SAGE) Team. These hubs collaborate with key partners, voluntary groups, communities, children, and families to support, disrupt, protect, and empower individuals and communities at risk of criminal exploitation in identified hotspot locations.

The Hubs adopt a targeted outreach approach, working directly with children, families, and communities, and supporting the efforts of existing community workers and partner agencies. Their objectives include:

- Building stronger links with communities and community groups to identify, support, and protect against the risk of criminal exploitation
- Enhancing understanding, skills, and expertise related to criminal exploitation
- Increasing self-belief in children and young people who are at risk or have been criminally exploited

The CE Hubs work in locations identified through police and community-led intelligence, as well as the Multi-Agency Criminal Exploitation (MACE) panels. They aim to build stronger community links, develop understanding and skills related to criminal exploitation, and boost self-belief among at-risk youth.

Criminal exploitation, including county lines activity, gang involvement, and other forms of coercion, is a growing concern among young people. This training will help students:

- Understand what criminal exploitation is and how it can affect individuals and communities
- Recognise the signs that someone may be at risk



**Kingfisher Schools Trust**

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- Learn about the *Bystander Effect* and the role they can play in keeping themselves and others safe
- Develop confidence in seeking support or reporting concerns

The session will be age-appropriate and delivered in a sensitive manner by trained professionals.

If you would like further information or wish to discuss this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact myself by emailing: [f.hubbard@stowhigh.com](mailto:f.hubbard@stowhigh.com)

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our young people safe.

Yours sincerely,

*Faye Hubbard*

Ms F Hubbard  
DSL & Deputy Headteacher



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