



Midhurst Rother College

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

25 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Talk Consent: Whole school assembly and workshops 30 September & 1 October

To enhance the delivery of our relationships and sex education curriculum, Midhurst Rother College are working with Talk Consent to deliver a whole school assembly to Years 7-10 and 'bystander awareness' workshops to students in Years 10 and 12 and House Captains in Year 9.

Talk Consent deliver age-appropriate education in a relatable way to students and they have a proven track record of delivering to schools across the country.

A message from Talk Consent

Talk Consent delivers effective and engaging education to students to prevent sexual violence.

Our sessions are grounded in the reality of students' lives, they are appropriate to the age of the audience and are delivered by relatable facilitators who students feel comfortable talking to and asking questions.

In the last few years, we have worked with over 325 schools across England. We are trusted by these schools because our sessions are effective, they work for students and are age appropriate, and we take care to ensure all our facilitators are properly trained to deliver them.

About Talk Consent

Talk Consent exists to tackle the very real issue of sexual assault and rape in the UK. 1 in 3 women have been sexually assaulted in the UK and the highest rates of sexual violence are seen amongst teenagers. We passionately believe that education can tackle this problem and so we constantly work to help schools provide that education.

Therefore, our key messages that we deliver (depending on the age of the student) are:

- *Every single person has a right to positive relationships and positive sexual experiences (when they decide to enter those).*
- *Sexual violence is an incredibly serious issue that our society is faced with. It is very common, particularly amongst young people, and it has a devastating impact on the victim.*
- *When you do enter into a relationship or any sexual activity, whenever that is (which for most people will be when they are older and, in a relationship), you must be careful, be respectful of the other person, and make sure it is consensual.*

Evidence shows that high quality relationships and sex education is more likely to keep young people safe from harm as well as increase the age at which they become sexually active.

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Next week's assembly and workshops will cover the following content:

Whole school assembly:

- The fact that every person has a right to equally positive and safe relationships and sexual activity.
- The prevalence of sexual violence and the impact it has on victims.
- The importance of aiming for positive and enthusiastic consent and what that means.
- How to manage grey areas or issues surrounding consent to ensure everyone is safe, healthy and respected.

Year 9 & 10 workshop: 'Bystander Awareness'

This specific workshop is focused on understanding and tackling the issue of sexual harassment.

The workshop will cover:

- The prevalence of sexual harassment amongst young people.
- The impact of sexual harassment on victims.
- The negative impact sexual harassment can have on cultures and friendship groups.
- How we can challenge it when we see it.

Sixth Form: Creating a Safer Society

Through engaging discussion, students will be empowered to feel confident challenging attitudes and expressions like misogyny, harmful stereotypes and objectification.

The session will cover:

- Why it is important to challenge negative behaviour and sexual violence.
- What needs to be challenged and how certain beliefs and attitudes can enable sexual violence.
- How to feel confident challenging someone in a way that ensures you stay safe.

As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents. If you would like to find out more or discuss any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year or me on: Colin.Harris@MRC-academy.org

Yours sincerely



Colin Harris
Director of Humanities and Subject Leader of PSHE