

November 2021



**INSPIRE SUCCESS**

Headteacher: **MR PAUL HALCRO**

Dear Parents/Carers

At Selston High School we are proud of our school ethos and believe in ambition, teamwork and honesty and want all students, staff, and parents to feel safe, supported and respected.

We are sure you will be aware of the increase in recent media reports in of incidents of harmful sexual behaviour (HSB), sexual violence and sexual harassment (SVSH), and drink spiking, in particular, towards women and girls across the UK. We are writing to let you know what is required of us as a school and in the interest of transparency, what work we will be undertaking with the students of Selston High School to ensure they are informed and have a clear understanding of the law around consent, sexual violence and harassment and what constitutes harmful sexual behaviour.

Having this information, will help students feel safe and confident in recognising and speaking out when they either experience or see something that is unacceptable or harmful to themselves or someone else. We are also aware that students have conversations over social media platforms, we want to ensure they have access to accurate information about their rights and responsibilities and have a clear understanding of where to go for support and how to report any issues. Our aim is for all students to be knowledgeable and help them to cultivate a culture of positive respect and regard for each other.

We will be asking our students to take part in online surveys, the first survey will be to determine how safe they feel at school and in their community. The second survey will focus on if they feel they know enough about the Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) curriculum which is statutory in all secondary schools and covers a wide range of topics ([Understanding Relationships, Sex and Health Education - a guide for secondary school parents \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)) The results of the surveys will help us shape the work we do with our students in RSHE and any group consultation we may undertake in the future.

We would also like to remind you that as a school, we are required to respond and investigate all alleged incidents of HSB, SVSH and Peer on Peer abuse ([Ofsted report on SVSH](#)), and follow all the schools' policies and procedures in order to safeguard all children; this may include referral to police and or social care for further investigation and support. We will always strive to support victims and alleged perpetrators in relation to any Peer on Peer abuse, in accordance with the updated [Government Statutory Guidance, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' 2021 \(KCSIE\)](#).

We understand that this is can be an emotive subject and at some point in the future, we will be inviting you to be part of a consultation so we can all work together to ensure Selston High School is a safe, happy and inclusive school for all children to learn and grow. If you have any specific questions or concerns which you would like to raise in the interim, please do not hesitate to contact the Assistant Headteacher for Behaviour and Attendance, Mr Greasley or the Deputy Headteacher responsible for safeguarding and wellbeing, Ms Gordon.

If you would like to read more about our school ethos and culture, please visit our school website [Ethos and Values - Selston High School \(ttct.co.uk\)](#).

Kind Regards



Headteacher



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THE **TWO COUNTIES** TRUST Ambition | Teamwork | Honesty

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