

1st July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

PSHE Drop down day – Year 10

On Tuesday 13th July, Year 10 will be taking part in a PSHE day. As part of our statutory responsibility to deliver a full RSE programme, students will explore various areas of relationships and sex education. As part of our planned programme of study, we intend to show our Year 10 students a BBC documentary on **Online Safety**, which focuses on the theme of 'Revenge Porn', which is now a criminal offence. Revenge Porn is the sharing of private, sexual materials, either photos or videos, of another person without their consent and with the purpose of causing embarrassment or distress. The images are sometimes accompanied by personal information about the individual, including their full name, address and links to their social media profiles. The offence applies both online and offline and to images which are shared electronically or in a more traditional way so includes the uploading of images on the internet, sharing by text and e-mail, or showing someone a physical or electronic image.

What is the documentary about?

The documentary is currently available on BBC iPlayer and is called 'Zara McDermott; Revenge Porn'. It tells the story of social media influencer Zara McDermott and how intimate images of her were shared without her permission, when she was a Y10 pupil at school. It shows the long-term consequences of decisions made as a young person; which in her case have not been positive.

Although the nature of the documentary is sensitive, I wanted to reassure parents that we feel the content is wholly suitable for the pupils at school in KS4. It does not show scenes of a sexual nature or nudity (body parts are blurred out) however, foul language is used on four occasions during the documentary.

What will my child learn?

As you know, our students are growing up in a society where social media is increasingly influential and this session will teach your child the importance of staying safe online, the law behind the sharing of images of any kind and organisations that are fighting for change in legislation. After students have watched the documentary there will be a follow up session that will reflect on key messages and also allow pupils to ask questions. All of these learning intentions are themes that run throughout our PSHE curriculum.



Relationships and Sex Education is a compulsory subject; however, parents do have the right to withdraw their child from the 'sex education' element of this subject after discussion with the school. Even if a child is withdrawn, many pupils will discuss such issues with each other outside the classroom. We hope all students will have the opportunity to take part in our carefully planned lessons to support them in their understanding of what are often relevant and sensitive topics based on recent statistics and data. If you wish for your daughter to be removed from the 'sex education' element of RSE then please complete the relationships and sex education removal [form](#).

Yours sincerely,



Megan Martin | PSHE Lead and Careers Lead

Northampton School for Girls

