



6th February 2023

English Martyrs' Catholic School,
A Voluntary Academy,
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Principal: M. Calen

Dear Parents/Carers

I am sure that you have seen the widespread media coverage of HSB (harmful sexual behaviours) over the last 18 months; an area where young people are far more engaged in than ever before. We want to ensure at English Martyrs' that our students know what to do if they experience or witness harmful sexual behaviours from everyday sexist 'jokes' or 'banter' to more serious examples such as online harassment or even inappropriate physical contact without consent:

We have been raising awareness of this in school this year through the theatre production visit 'Chelsea's Choice', through posters, assemblies, PSHE and at our Parent Information evenings. We aim to keep the message 'live' and ongoing for our students and staff and educate all in order to eradicate a culture which tolerates such negative behaviours affecting the dignity of the individual.

The next phase of our approach with this area, is in the form of creating a charter which, as you will read, describes the rights of the individual; the aims of our community and the principles of our strong and caring ethos. The attachment alongside this email is a copy of the charter for you to read through, prior to launching this in school through form time and PHSE and making our charter visible around school.

Some of the language in the charter is strong language. We are not shying away from the heart of these sensitive issues; the more open we are with students around harmful sexual behaviours and their causes, the more protected, educated and empowered all of our young people will be.

Your comments and opinions are valued. Please email office@englishmartyrs.org with any thoughts you may have on the charter or on our approach to this topic.

Yours sincerely

M Calen
Principal

M Singh
Assistant Principal