

26<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Due to the high level of interest in the County Lines across the community, and following a meeting that was hosted by West Suffolk College in November, we have agreed to hold a 'County Lines Awareness Raising meeting on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 from 6.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. at Newmarket Academy to raise awareness in our community, and to answer any questions that you may have.

County Lines involves young people in drug activity with links to gang and knife crime. We have been working closely together with the police, the local councils and other agencies. We have also sought advice from other parts of the country which are experiencing similar problems.

Our aim is to help protect young people from the increasing risks they face and to take a shared approach to this problem. Our intention is to ensure that families have the information that they need to understand the current position and how best to support young people. The Awareness Raising Session is for all parents and carers with children in our schools, there will be a presentation and opportunities for questions. The presentation is for parents and carers only due to some of the content being for over 18s. The Awareness Raising Session, in partnership with the Western Suffolk Community Safety Partnership, is for all parents and carers with children in our schools, there will be a presentation and opportunities for questions.

Given that the space is limited to 200 attendees, it is important that you book your place/s using the Eventbrite link provided below. Please copy and paste this into your browser.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/criminal-exploitation-and-county-lines-awareness-raising-session-tickets-94370379345>

Following the presentation, there will be an opportunity to talk to school senior leaders, if you have any specific questions.

Parking will be available, please follow the signs and staff on the evening who will direct you.

We very much hope to see you on the 11<sup>th</sup> March. In the meantime, if you have any concerns, please contact your child's school in the first instance.

Yours sincerely



Mr Neil Fisher  
Assistant Principal  
Newmarket Academy