



KK19AT

September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Year 12 Skills for Life Programme (including Suicide Awareness Talk) – Information for Parents and Carers

I am writing to inform you that on **Thursday 17 September**, students in **Year 12** will have a collapsed day to launch their Skills for Life Programme. The day will involve external providers delivering practical sessions on First Aid and Drive Safety as well as a talk on drugs and alcohol by The Amy Winehouse Foundation. This is a lived experience of a recovering addict and so may contain some triggering content, students will be given an outline of the day in advance and can leave the session at any time.

There is also a staff led session on AI and Interviews, as part of our curriculum to ready the students for changes to employment and applications.

This year, the students will also take part in a **suicide awareness** talk delivered by an external speaker from the Martin Gallier Project.

The Martin Gallier Project is a North West-based charity dedicated to **suicide prevention, intervention and postvention**, working to break down stigma and ensure that no one faces a suicidal crisis alone. Their work focuses on education, open conversations, and equipping individuals and communities with the knowledge and confidence to support one another.

As a school, we are committed to being a Suicide Safer School. This means actively working to break the stigma around suicide and ensuring that every student feels supported in relation to their mental wellbeing. We believe that education plays a vital role in helping young people understand this sensitive topic in a safe, age-appropriate and supportive environment.

During the session, students will be supported to:

- Recognise signs that someone they know may be struggling
- Feel empowered to ask difficult questions and support their peers
- Understand that suicide prevention is everyone's responsibility
- Learn that it is okay to talk about suicide and that help is available

These sessions are designed to be **engaging, accessible and age-appropriate**, helping young people to talk openly about mental health and suicide in a way that reduces stigma and builds confidence.

The session will be delivered by experienced professionals who are trained to handle this topic with care and sensitivity. Staff will also be present throughout, and additional support will be available for any student who may find the content challenging.

We would strongly encourage you to **discuss this session with your child**, either before or after it takes place. Having open conversations at home can help reinforce the message that it is safe to talk and seek support.

While the content is handled carefully and is **not intended to be shocking or distressing**, it is an **important message that young people need to hear**. Building awareness and confidence to talk about suicide can play a crucial role in keeping themselves and others safe.

If you have any concerns about your child attending, or feel they may need additional support, please do not hesitate to contact the school so that we can work together to support them.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us promote the wellbeing and safety of all our students.
Yours faithfully,

Mrs K Kimber
Assistant Headteacher for Student Wellbeing and Development