



MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/Guardian

Year 8 - Kayleigh's Love Story and Breck Bednar

During the PSMSC sessions on Friday 9 July 2021 and Friday 16 July 2021, Year 8 will be covering the dangers of grooming through social media. The first session relates to the murder of Breck Bednar through grooming via online games and the second relates to the murder of Kayleigh Harwood through grooming via social media. Should sports day not go ahead as planned then the sessions will be covered on Friday 2 and Friday 9 July respectively.

For the Breck Bednar case study we will show students a video which was featured as part of a BBC3 docudrama. He was a 14- year-old schoolboy from Surrey who was murdered after being groomed online in 2014 by Lewis Daynes. Over the course of nine months Lewis became gradually more manipulative towards Breck, eventually persuading Breck to travel alone to his flat in Essex where he murdered him.

Here is a link to the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FQwkOSLApjQ>

For the Kayleigh Haywood case study a film, which is called Kayleigh's Love Story, was created by Leicestershire Police (with the support of the parents) to warn other parents and children of the dangers of grooming on the internet. The true story charts the final fortnight of the 15-year-old from Leicestershire, who was killed by landscape gardener Stephen Beadman in November 2015. Police have been showing the five-minute film in schools across Leicestershire and Rutland since July 2016 and since a large number of the year group regularly use social media, or will do so in the future, we believe it is an important message for them to receive.

Here is a link to the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WsbYHI-rZOE>

We are aware some of the scenes are very difficult to watch and you should note the warning at the start of the Kayleigh's Love Story video, but we will be doing this within a supported environment and if a student feels uncomfortable during the film they will be allowed to leave the room for the remainder of the presentation. There will then be a question and answer session with their tutors afterwards, so they can discuss how they feel about what they have just watched.

If you have any concerns or questions about your son/daughter watching these videos then please let me know by contacting me directly at s.bishop@maidenerleghtrust.org

Yours sincerely

Mr S Bishop
Head of Year 8