



MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P. Gibson

MSc (Educational Leadership), BA (Economics)

📍 Silverdale Road, Earley,
Reading, RG6 7HS

☎ 0118 926 2467

✉ office@maidenerleghschool.co.uk

🌐 www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk

8 February 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Parent Conferences – Whole School

Do you know **exactly** where your son or daughter is during the evening and at the weekend? Do you know **every** friend they have? The answer to those questions is almost certainly 'no'.

It is normal and healthy for teenagers to have the freedom to go out with their friends and to socialise with a diverse range of people, both in the real world and online, but this puts them at risk. As their parent, you need to be able to talk to your teenager about how to keep safe and how to make informed choices, but would you know where to begin? Do you know what risks exist, what advice to give or what signs to look for which might suggest they need help?

In order that you are better placed to have those discussions at home, and to understand the risks facing your children, we have organised some sessions for parents covering issues such as drugs, grooming and criminal exploitation, county lines and online safety. These are issues affecting young people of all backgrounds, ethnicities and abilities locally. The sessions are run by specialists and are supported by other agencies. Please see the attached flyer for information.

Whilst we all hope that these issues never affect our children, we have to recognise that they could, and that our best defense is to arm ourselves and our children with information and advice.

You can attend one or all of the sessions - just sign up to the ones that interest you using the parentconference@... email address for the relevant school/schools. The relevant email addresses can be found on the flyer. They cost nothing, but might really help you.

If you want any more information, please do not hesitate to contact your child's head of year or me.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Gibson
Headteacher

“INFORMATION AND EMPOWERMENT” PARENT CONFERENCES

These events are open to Parents/Guardians of students attending Bulmershe School, Waingels College, Maiden Erlegh School and Maiden Erlegh School in Reading.

4 March 2019 7.30 – 8.45 pm

Maiden Erlegh School, Silverdale Road, RG6 7HS

‘Drug abuse and addiction is not a spectator sport- eventually the whole family gets to play’.

Presented by **Elizabeth Burton-Phillips MBE**, Founder of DrugFAM www.drugfam.co.uk and author of *“Mum, can You Lend Me Twenty Quid? What drugs did to my family”*.

To book a place at this event please email parentconference@maidenerleghschool.co.uk

20 March 2019 7.30 – 8.45 pm

Waingels College, Waingels Rd, Woodley, RG5 4RF

‘Exploitation (County Lines, sexting, on-line grooming).

Presented by **Christina Berenger**, Detective Chief Inspector, PVP Berkshire, Thames Valley Police.

To book a place at this event please email parentconference@waingels.wokingham.sch.uk

1 April 2019 7.30 – 8.45 pm

The Bulmershe School, Woodlands Avenue, Woodley, RG5 3EU

‘Online Safety –understanding the virtual world that your children live in?’

Presented by: **Adam Stockton**, Technical Support Manager and Online Safety Program Coordinator, McAfee UK

To book a place at this event please email parentconference@bulmershe.wokingham.sch.uk

Also attending will be representatives from:

- **Just Around the Corner (JAC)** - www.jacoutreach.org
- **SAFE Project**
- **Smart** <https://smartcjs.org.uk/>
- **Thames Valley Police Wokingham Neighbourhood Team**
- **Wokingham Safeguarding Children**
- **Youth Offending Service**



Places are limited to 2 per family and will be issued on a first come first served basis.