



Midhurst Rother College

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Part of United Learning

7 May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Charlie's Promise – Knife Crime Assembly

At Midhurst Rother College, we pride ourselves on ensuring that our students are educated on a range of diverse subjects to ensure they are well prepared for challenging life issues. Considering recent incidents in schools, and the ever-prevailing existence of knife crime in the UK, the College will be utilising a range of approaches to educating students on the dangers of knife crime; both carrying a weapon and its use.

We have invited Martin Cosser, CEO and founder of the organisation Charlie's Promise to lead assemblies to the students. Martin's son Charlie was unfortunately a victim of knife crime and sadly lost his life aged 16 in 2023 after attending a party with his friends. Whilst Charlie was on life support, his dad made the most important promise to do everything he could to raise awareness of knife crime and the immeasurable damage it causes to the victim, their family and friends.

Martin will be delivering assemblies to students on **16 June (Years 7 – 8) and 17 June (Years 9, 10 and 12)**. These assemblies will be age appropriate for the students but will inevitably be hard hitting. You may wish to discuss this topic with your children prior to the assembly, as well as discussing their emotions afterwards.

Alongside these assemblies, our values curriculum in tutor time will allow students to discuss this further and gather their thoughts and questions following the presentation. PSHE lessons over this time will also focus on the law around knife crime and how best to protect yourself.

As a college, we cannot shy away from educating students on real life events and I am confident that the assembly, tutor time discussions and PSHE work will be invaluable to the students' life experiences.

I appreciate that this assembly is not until after the Half Term break, however we would like to give you time to consider its content. This is a sensitive subject, and although we value its discussion with the students, we appreciate that you may have strong feelings about this matter. If you do not wish for your child to attend this assembly, please complete this short form to allow us to plan accordingly: <https://forms.office.com/e/Y8fQkvcAs5>. If you wish your child to be withdrawn, please let us know by **Friday 23 May**. If you are happy for your child to attend, there is no need to complete the form.

If you would like further information on Charlie's Promise this can be found here: [Charlie's Promise | Working to prevent knife crime](#)

Yours sincerely

Mrs Leanne Wallis

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