



ESHER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL
MORE LANE ESHER SURREY KT10 8AP
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www.esherhigh.surrey.sch.uk
Headteacher : Mr M Boddington

8 January 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

Re: Breck Foundation Workshop, Thursday 13 February 2020

One of our key priorities is to ensure students are safe, both in and outside of school. We educate them to consider their behaviour and be aware of the situations, which may lead to them being placed in danger.

In an ever-changing world in which technology plays a greater role, understanding the dangers faced by young people is becoming more difficult.

A particular area of concern is 'online safety', which involves the use of social media, websites and numerous interactive gaming sites. This aspect of safeguarding is delivered to students via lessons and assemblies. However, despite this, numerous students still take unnecessary risk and become involved with people online, about whom they know very little, often becoming 'friends'.

The aim of the Breck Foundation is to raise awareness of playing safe whilst using the internet. Breck Bednar was a 14 year old boy, from Caterham, Surrey who loved technology and online gaming. He was groomed via the internet and murdered on 17 February 2014 by someone he met online. The foundation has been set up in his memory to help other young people enjoy playing online but crucially to be aware of some simple rules to stay safe.

Esher High School have organised a presentation for parents, which will take place on **Thursday 13 February 2020 from 17.30-18.30** in the **Performing Arts Block, Studio 1**

The presentation will specifically cover the following areas:

- Scrap the stereotypes – the changing landscape of the online world and online gaming, what to look out for?
- Breck's real story; a film showing how a young life was cut short by falling victim to a sophisticated, non-stereotypical online gaming groomer. Who/what is a groomer? What are the signs of grooming?
- Advice on how to have that awkward parent-child conversation, gaining trust and sharing your concerns about online safety
- Where to find helpful resources, awareness and supporting each other if you have concerns about grooming.

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If you would like to attend the workshop, please ask your child to return the reply slip below to **Student Services** by **Friday 7 February**. Your child is welcome to attend the workshop with you, however, please note that the content of the event will be aimed at parents and guardians.

Yours faithfully

M Ejueyitchie

Mr M Ejueyitchie
Online Safety Coordinator

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Breck Foundation Workshop, Thursday 13 February 2020

Please complete and return to Student Services by Friday 7 February.

I will be attending the Breck Foundation Workshop on Thursday 13 February 2020.

Name: _____ Parent/Guardian of: _____

Number of people who will be attending: _____



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