Chellaston Junior School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

As part of the PSHE/Citizenship Curriculum, this half term's focus for Year 3 will be on Drugs Education. All drugs have the potential to harm; some drugs are more harmful than others. For a small number of people, drugs can have serious and far-reaching consequences not only for themselves, but their families, their community and society in general.

We cover the influence of the media, the effects of alcohol and smoking and drug related litter.

All children need to be able to make safe, healthy and responsible decisions about drugs, both legal and illegal. Therefore, during the term, the children will take part in a range of skills based activities that will:

- Enable them to identify and understand the risks and effects of drugs
- Develop their confidence and skills in order to manage situations involving drugs
- Become more aware of the dangers of Peer Pressure/other influences
- Know where they can get support if they have concerns or want information about drugs and related issues.

The lessons will be taught in an unbiased and child-friendly manner, appropriate to the age group. Activities will be practical and skills based, including lots of discussion, sharing and exploring different points of view, problem solving, drama and role-play, working with feelings and imagination, time for reflection, review and evaluation.

Clear ground rules and boundaries will be set, enabling children to feel safe and secure at all times. Sometimes an individual child will ask an explicit or difficult question in the classroom that may not be appropriate to answer immediately. Questions do not have to be answered directly and can be addressed later (as outlined in the School Drug Education Policy).

You may wish to discuss this topic further with your child (I'm sure they will be asking questions when they come home!). If you have any concerns about the Drug Education lessons or would like to see any of the schemes of work or resources, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Collins PSHE Co-ordinator