



EGO/ELO

10<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Dear Parent / Carer,

### **Performance of Chelsea's Choice**

Between 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> November 2014, Bedford Borough Safeguarding Children Board have commissioned applied theatre specialists **AlterEgo Creative Solutions** to tour to schools in Bedford Borough with their highly innovative production 'Chelsea's Choice'.

The play - which has now been seen by over 100,000 young people around the UK - tells the story of a group of three students who discover the diary of a girl called Chelsea.

The 35 minute production and post-show Question & Answer session have proven highly effective in raising awareness of:

- Healthy relationships
- Safe Internet use
- Risky behaviour
- The grooming process
- Child sexual exploitation
- Where young people can go for help and advice

Child sexual exploitation is a highly sensitive subject and every care has been taken to ensure that the production is hard-hitting and relevant, without being graphic or offensive. The issues are raised and discussed in a manner entirely relevant and suitable for the target age group.

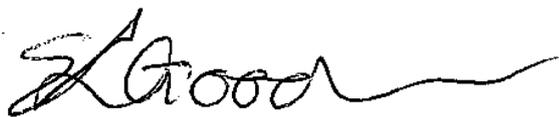
**"The Government believes that local initiatives like 'Chelsea's Choice' have a key role to play in preventing grooming and exploitation and in helping keep children safe from this heinous crime."** - Rohini Krishnamurthy, *Child Safeguarding Division, Department for Education.*

With high profile cases around the country currently making the news on a regular basis, it is all of our duties to raise awareness of this subject. Councils, charities, support agencies, schools, parents and carers all need to engage with and acknowledge this issue in order to give young people the tools and knowledge that they need to keep themselves and their friends safe.

The production will take place at Bedford Free School on **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November**, during the school day. This performance is for all year 10 students. We will ensure the appropriate care is in place should any students wish to discuss the issues in the play afterwards. If you do not want your student to watch the performance please contact Miss Goodman and alternative arrangements can be made.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the production please contact Miss Goodman – [egoodman@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk](mailto:egoodman@bedfordfreeschool.co.uk) or 01234 332299. ...//

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E Goodman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Miss E. Goodman  
Head of Year 10