



Brine Leas School

An Academy

Believe, Learn, Succeed

November, 2016

Re: Something Every Parent Should Know - Legal Highs

Dear Parent, Guardian, Carer,

In conjunction with the charity 'Evolve', I would like to invite you to an Information Evening that is taking place in school on Thursday 8th December at 4.30pm regarding the dangers of legal highs.

The presentation will be delivered by the charity 'Evolve' and the aim of the evening is to educate young people and adults regarding the issues surrounding the dangers of legal highs and to hopefully prevent or reduce such abuse by young people.

Evolve is a local charity that provides a unique and specialist service tackling issues in relation to the abuse of legal highs and especially volatile substances.

As the number of new legal highs coming into the country is now up to about seventy five a year, compared with one or two five years ago, I have detailed below facts relating to legal highs:

- Volatile substance abuse (VSA) kills on average one person every week in the UK.
- 10% of 15 to 24 year-olds in Britain have used former legal highs, twice the European average of 5%.
- More than forty deaths were linked to a group of now-banned legal highs in 2010, eight times as many as the previous year.
- Drug takers, especially young ones, truly believe that these substances are harmless because they hide behind the label of legal highs.
- Around seven hundred websites will happily supply different types of legal highs to anyone without giving health warnings.

As a Parent, Guardian or Carer, we fully appreciate that you would like to do your utmost to keep your child safe, therefore by knowing and understanding the facts of both the law and the effects that legal highs can have on young people, we would highly recommend that you attend the presentation.

If you would like to attend, please complete the reply slip attached and return to the Drop Box outside Student Reception no later than Friday 25th November, 2016.

Finally, your child is also welcome to attend the Information Evening, but please be aware that some of the presentation is quite hard hitting.

Yours faithfully,

Headteacher:

Mr Andrew Cliff

Audley Park, Northwich

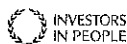
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