

GM/PB/NB

November 2009

To: Parents/Guardians of Students in Years 10 and 11

Dear Parent/Guardian

**PSHE Day – Years 10 and 11
Thursday, 26th November 2009**

I am pleased to advise you that plans are in place to hold our PSHE day. You will be aware that PSHE does not appear on the fortnightly timetable and has been replaced with a themed day in each of the autumn and spring terms.

We are providing a range of external specialist speakers, supported by a dedicated team of staff. The sessions will run within the normal timetabled day.

Year 10 will focus on Drugs and Alcohol Misuse, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Young Addiction, Self Esteem and Essex Girls.

Year 11 will focus on Stress Management and Chlamydia Testing. Year 11 parents, please refer to the attached letter from the Chlamydia Screening Office.

If you have any questions please contact Miss Barnes.

Yours sincerely

G Mayoh
Head Master

November 2009

To: Parents/Guardians of Students in Year 11

NHS Havering
Chlamydia Screening Office
Ingrebourne Centre
St George's Hospital
Suttons Lane
Hornchurch
RM12 6RS

Tel: 01708 465733
Fax: 01708 465106

Dear Parent,

In September 2008 Havering NHS started a Chlamydia Screening Programme aimed at 15-24 year olds who live within the borough. This is part of the National Chlamydia Screening Programme which is running throughout the UK (details of which can be found at www.chlamydia-screening.nhs.uk).

Chlamydia affects both men and women. If left untreated it can lead to pelvic inflammatory disease, ectopic pregnancy, Reiter's syndrome (reactive arthritis) and infertility. Luckily, Chlamydia is very easily detected by a simple urine sample and can be treated effectively with a single dose of antibiotics if caught early enough.

The programme aims to screen young people in order to raise awareness of sexually transmitted infections and to normalise screening amongst those who are sexually active. We do however appreciate that sexual health is a sensitive subject and as such we are working with schools to educate young people about their sexual health in an appropriate manner.

We would like to work with Abbs Cross School and Arts College to educate those of an appropriate age about their sexual health by giving a presentation. Many will not yet be sexually active; however, we feel it is important to let young people know about the dangers of unsafe sex and how to look after their health if they decide to have a sexual relationship in the future.

As this is a sensitive subject we appreciate some parents may not wish their child to participate in the session. If this is the case then please inform Miss Barnes.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Copley
Chlamydia Screening Coordinator