



Magna Academy

Poole

an Aspirations Academy

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Dear Parent/Carer

RE: Year 9 Drama Devising Unit based on 'Cookie's The Performance'

For students to thrive in an increasingly complex and diverse world, they require the confidence, knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about their lives. An effective personal development curriculum enables our students to develop the attributes they need to stay healthy, be safe, prepare them for life and work as productive citizens in modern day Britain.

After consultation with the Parents Forum earlier this academic year, I am writing to you to make you aware of a newly proposed unit of work that I have chosen to undertake with Year 9 for their final key stage 3 drama assessment. This unit will focus primarily on the performance of 'Cookies' by The Theatre Royal Haymarket Masterclass Trust. Cookies was commissioned as part of The Cyberscene Initiative, as a way of using theatre to help explore, understand and raise awareness of the intricate complexities of growing up in a digital world. Cookies was written with young people for young people with the aim of giving a group of 16-19 year olds a unique platform to share their thoughts and experiences of cyberbullying and the effects the wider online world is having on their lives. Inspired by the true, heartfelt stories of students, Cookies follows seven teenagers dealing with the effects of sexting, radicalisation, cyberbullying and our wider digital world. This performance does however use crude language in the form of texting and online conversations, which is why I am appealing for parental consent due to the nature of the topics discussed and language used.

Watching the film Cookies with a focus on personal development, will help enrich the student learning experience of social media in a safe environment. By the end of this unit, students will be able to analyse a live piece of theatre. Along with this, students will learn new skills in a variety of dramatic conventions and genres. Student's will then use knowledge and skills gained through exploration, to create their own scene for their final Year 9 assessment, focusing on social media and the issues teenagers may face online. This, in turn, will challenge them to reflect upon their views on social media.

If you would like to respond with your views on the unit content, please complete this [Google Form](#) which will ask you to view moments of the live production via this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WMH77gzqd88> and comment on appropriateness for the last unit of Year 9.

Yours sincerely,



Lynsey Bennett
Head of Drama



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