

Ref: U:\HOY\9\Drugs 14 October 2014

Dear Parent,

On Thursday 6 November Year 9 and 10 students will receive a talk on drugs and addiction by Simon Leigh. Simon qualified with a Masters Degree in Addiction Counselling and runs private practices in Central and North West London. Simon's expertise has led to regular work with the BBC (both television and radio), and is a regular contributor to broadsheet newspapers and medical journals.

Simon is very skilled at providing interactive talks to classes of all ages on the real dangers of addiction. In addition to talking to students, he will also be delivering an evening talk to parents of Year 9 and 10 students in the Old School from 5.00pm – 7.00pm. This will allow parents to keep abreast of what their child is learning and offer guidance and advice on how to talk with your son about drugs. Simon has received positive student and parent feedback from schools he has visited:

"I thought your talk was great it was interesting and gave everyone the facts ... I think you're really inspirational ... if that doesn't make people twice I'm not sure what will!" Student, Trent College

"I found Simon's talk authentic, touching, and informative. Simon shares his vast professional and technical knowledge with his audience in a very approachable way, making his talk very suited to engaging young minds and very useful for parents too. I strongly recommend it" Parent, City of London School

"I was in the audience last night when you spoke to Year 7 and 8 parents and wanted to say a warm thank you for your very useful and frank talk. It clearly impressed my son, who is in Year 7, and gave us as parents a real boost in knowing that we need to prepare for some real conversations on the drugs issue, and some very helpful pointers on how to do so. I very much hope the Headmaster will bring you back next year to give the boys the follow-up talk." Parent, Harrow School

I would be grateful if you could return the reply slip to the school office by Monday 20 October if you would like to attend the evening talk to parents. I should also point out that the evening session is designed for parents and your son should not attend. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding the workshops.