

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

**BEAMINSTER
DORSET DT8 3EP**

**Tel: 01308 862633
Absences: 01308 861917**

Email: office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk



**HEADTEACHER
MR K HALES NPQH**

**DEPUTY HEADTEACHER
MR D WITHERS NPQH**

Website: www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

December 2022

Dear Year 7 and 8 Parents and Carers

County Lines Assembly

This morning Ms Smith ran an informative and engaging assembly for Years 7 and 8 on the topic of Child Criminal Exploitation and specifically on what is known as 'County Lines'.

Children as young as 8 are being 'befriended' and then groomed to engage in criminal activity – usually moving drugs about, but also carrying weapons and engaging in criminal acts.

In using children, dealers and other gang members from cities such as London, Liverpool and Manchester can reduce the risk of being caught themselves and it allows them to open up drug supply chains outside of their cities.

It is particularly prevalent in catchments such as ours i.e. rural and coastal towns/villages, so it is really important that our youngsters are made aware of the potential threat and associated risks.

Please do ask your son/daughter about the assembly this morning and click on the link below to learn more about Child Exploitation and what you should do if you suspect your child, or any youngster, might be involved, or at risk of involvement.

[PARENTS AND CARERS \(escapeline.org.uk\)](https://www.escapeline.org.uk)

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with any of the Safeguarding Team at school, and/or the police to share any concerns.

Kind regards

Mr David Withers
Deputy Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

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