



# The Henry Cort Community College

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Dear Parents

## Joining forces to keep our young people safe

We are writing to you about a new collaboration between Fareham and Gosport Headteachers and Principals. We have joined forces to raise the profile of drugs education and prevention in our schools and colleges.

As Headteachers and Principals, we all want the same for our children. We want them to be safe and fully prepared for adult life.

Today, young people face a number of pressures. One area of concern is access to drugs and the range of substances now available.

We are determined to educate children about the dangers of drug abuse and prevent them from exposure to these substances when in our care. Our schools and colleges are safe places, and we will do everything we can to maintain this. We believe that prevention is always the best policy.

By working together, we believe that we can raise awareness of the impact of substance misuse and put measures in place to prevent it from happening at our schools and colleges.

As part of this strategy, specially trained dogs will visit our schools, colleges and pupil referral units, without notice, to detect any substances that have been brought onto our sites.

For any young people identified by the dogs, our primary approach will be to provide support by offering counselling services to help them make sensible lifestyle choices. This initiative is launched with the awareness and support of local police who will be involved if deemed appropriate. Fareham's Community Safety Partnership is also a supporter of this new initiative.

We will also work with their families and signpost them to support services. However each individual situation will be formally dealt with on a case by case basis by the specific school or college in accordance with their policies and procedures.

For your information, the schools and colleges working together are:

Bay House School and Sixth Form, Brookfield School, Brune Park School, Cams Hill School, Crofton School, Fareham Academy, Henry Cort Community College, Portchester Community School, The Key Education Centre, Fareham College, St Vincent Sixth Form College and Lord Wilson Academy.

We hope that you will support us by taking a strong stance against substance misuse.

Thank you in anticipation for your support for this Fareham and Gosport wide initiative.

Yours faithfully

Gwennan Harrison-Jones

**Headteacher – on behalf of the Fareham and Gosport collaboration of schools and colleges.**

