



West Midlands Police Headquarters
Lloyd House
PO Box 52
Colmore Circus Queensway
Birmingham
B4 6NQ

Sandwell Partnerships

15th September 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

These may seem like strange questions but do you know who your child's friends are? Do you know where they are when they're out? Do you ever wonder where they get their money from, their new clothes or their latest phone?

For the majority of our young people they are with who they say they are with, they are where they say they are and their money, clothes and phones are all bought with their own money. However for some that's not the case.

West Midlands Police are working hard with schools and partners to raise awareness of 'County Lines' amongst our young people. County Lines is simply a term used to describe drug dealing out of town. Your child should have seen some Youtube videos in school this week which we have prepared. These videos will help them understand County Lines and how dangerous getting involved with them can be. I hope you have also seen the short video that we have prepared for parents. I have attached the link to this at the bottom of this letter.

I would encourage you to talk to your child about this subject and ask them what they have learned. Take the time to find out if they've ever been offered gifts 'for nothing' or trips around the country. These can all be signs of County Lines recruitment.

Thankfully in Sandwell this won't be an issue for the majority of our young people however we want to make sure we do all that we can to make sure it isn't an issue for any of them.

If you or your child have any concerns about what they've seen this week then please encourage them to speak with the Police, a trusted staff member at school or report it via www.fearless.org.

I hope you and your child are adjusting to life back at school and look forward to continuing our work as a partnership to make Sandwell a safe place for all.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Hewett

PC 1330

Education Partnerships Officer

Sandwell Police

Parents & guardians information - <https://youtu.be/beY-cAGdGjg>

NSPCC - www.nspcc.org.uk

Childline - www.childline.org.uk

Barnardos - www.barnardos.org.uk

Sign up for Police updates - www.wmnow.co.uk