

Senior Girls

Merchant Taylors' Schools
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Headmistress: **Mrs LA Robinson MEd BA(Hons) NPQH**
Headmistress's PA: **Mrs J Baccino**



8th September 2017

Dear Parent(s), Guardian(s),

We are delighted to be welcoming Deana Puccio and Allison Havey to school on Tuesday 12th September as part of our Merchant Taylors' Speaker Series. Deana and Allison co-founded the **Raising Awareness and Prevention (RAP) Project** to raise awareness to pre-teens, teenagers, young adults, teachers and parents about personal safety issues on and off line. Please follow this link to find out more about the RAP Project: <http://theraproject.co.uk>.

Your sons and daughters in Years 10, 11 and 12 will be attending a 50 minute presentation by Deana and Allison about Body Image/Social Skills. This presentation defines rape, sexual assault and consent. Real cases, prosecuted by Deana, will be used to illustrate scenarios, as well the sharing of quotes from young men and women about what makes them uncomfortable. Online pornography will be touched upon, and looking at how the former is filtering into mainstream media. Sexting and the law is a large part of this presentation. Using acronyms, Allison and Deana will highlight issues surrounding personal safety in terms of early dating, parties, independent travel, the use of social media and the Internet.

They will strongly suggest the concept of discretion online, and the importance of personal boundaries as well as discussing how the future consumption of alcohol and drugs can diminish one's radar and ability to clearly communicate. In terms of Body Image, how does 24/7 access to social media, advertising and the Internet affect their Self-Esteem and Body image? Why is this generation compelled to send Selfies? How 'real' is this communication?

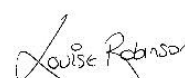
Deana and Allison will analyze TV shows and adverts the pupils see every day and explore the subliminal messages they are communicating. How does celebrity culture, pornography and social media influence their personal body image and the pressure this unfairly puts on individuals? How does the quest for perfection give rise to eating disorders and a desire for cosmetic surgery amongst teens? Deana and Allison share personal experiences, as well as advice shared by professionals and resources with the pupils. Please be assured that this content reflects the age group however, if you would not like your son or daughter to take part, please email s.maitland@merchanttaylorsschools.com to let us know.

Please join us in the evening for Deana and Allison's presentation to all our Parents when they will talk about what they have discussed with the pupils during the day as well giving guidance on how to support our digital natives with 'E-safety'. For your complimentary places, please follow this link: www.trybooking.co.uk/CIH to download tickets.

Yours sincerely,



Mr D Williams
Headmaster



Mrs L Robinson
Headmistress