

STROUD VALLEY COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

3rd June 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

The NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme is visiting our school to make sure our pupils have the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse.

I'm pleased to tell you that we will be working with the NSPCC, the UK's leading children's charity, who'll be delivering their ***Speak out. Stay safe.*** programme on 7th June. This is a nationwide programme for every primary-school-aged child in the UK and Channel Islands. With the help of their friendly mascot Buddy, they'll be presenting age appropriate assemblies to the children in our school as well as a workshop for Years 5 and 6.

"The NSPCC has helped me to build the confidence to tell people about my worries and problems." Child's feedback

What is the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme?

Through child-friendly, interactive assemblies and workshops their specially trained staff and volunteers will give our children information about how to keep themselves safe from harm and how to get help if they have any worries, sensitively discussing issues like bullying and sexual abuse, without using scary words or adult language. We have studied the content of the materials and heard from other schools that have participated, and are absolutely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of the NSPCC's visit, we're convinced children will feel empowered by knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

"This has been an essential part of my PSHE teaching so far this year." Teacher, Bath and North East Somerset.

If you would like any more information about the NSPCC ***Speak out. Stay safe.*** programme, including frequently asked questions, you can find it on the NSPCC website nspcc.org.uk/schools or please speak to me so I can provide more information.

Talking about the Underwear Rule with your children

The NSPCC's work in schools will help encourage conversations about staying safe, and the charity provides a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation with your child afterwards. That includes 'The Underwear Rule', a simple way for parents to help keep children safe from sexual abuse – without using scary words or even mentioning sex. The guide uses the acronym **PANTS** to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can find out more and download the free resources at nspcc.org.uk/pants and nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/

Yours sincerely,

Debbie Sleep
Headteacher