C4L Parent Guide: How can I support my child with peer influence?

All students attend a Curriculum for Life (C4L) lesson once a week, every Wednesday. One of the topics delivered to all students is focused on living in the wider world. This includes peer influence at an age appropriate level. At Trinity Academy Halifax, we believe that supporting our students to understand what peer influence is and what it may lead too is of the upmost importance . This document is designed to offer guidance to parents and carers, to support meaningful conversations around peer influence.

When will my child be learning about peer influence?

Year 7	**Term 6—How can I keep myself safe outside of school?** How can I keep safe near railway tracks? How can I keep safe around fire? How can I keep safe around water? What should I do if I or someone else is in danger?
Year 9	**Term 1– What is gang culture?** What is a gang and how do I manage the risks of gang culture? What are the implications of carrying a knife? What are the dangers of taking illegal drugs? What are the laws surrounding possession of illegal drugs?
Year 10	**Term 4– How do I keep safe around external pressures?** What can the impacts of peer pressure be on individuals, person safety and the community? What can the impact of drugs be on individuals, personal safety and the community? What can the impact of alcohol be on individuals, personal safety and the community? What can the impact of vaping be on individuals, personal safety and the community?

What key terms should I use when discussing peer influence?

Joint Enterprise	One or more person commits an offence, and others encourage or assist them in committing this.
Addiction	A disease in which substance or behaviour seeking is compulsive or difficult to control, despite the harmful consequences.
Possession	Something that you own.
Distribution	The action of sharing something out among people.
Substance Abuse	Also known as drug abuse, is the use of a drug in amounts or by methods that are harmful to the individual or others.

What questions could I discuss with my child to support their understanding of healthy relationships?

Q1. What are the legal implication of carrying a knife?

- Sections 139 and 139A of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 apply to any article which has a blade or point except a folding pocketknife unless the cutting edge of its blade exceeds 7.62 centimetres (3 inches).
- Pocketknives and tools are classified as a weapon in schools.

Q2: What are the legal implications of possessing and disturbing illegal drugs?

	Possession	Distribution
Class A	Up to seven years in prison and / or an unlimited fine.	Up to life in prison or an unlimited fine (or both)
Class B	Up to five years in prison and / or an unlimited fine.	Up to 14 years in prison or an unlimited fine (or both)
Class C	Up to two years in prison and / or an unlimited fine.	Up to 14 years in prison or an unlimited fine (or both)

Q3: How does the drug classification system work?

Drugs are put into one of three categories, according to how dangerous they are and the impact they have on society - not necessarily the individual. It's worth remembering that different drugs affect people in different ways. Drugs in all classes, not just those in 'Class A', are very dangerous.

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This page contains information regarding how Trinity Academy Halifax supports students with their questions around peer influence This topic will be discuss ed within the academy, but we feel it will strengthen their understanding of where they can seek support if this is also discussed at home.

Where can my child seek support within the academy?	
College Tutor	All students have a college group, in which they will see their college tutor every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
C4L Teacher	All students have at least two adults in the room during their weekly C4L lessons. If students are concerned for their safety or want to discuss their mental health, students may seek support from these adults. It may be that a topic is a concern for a student and this can be discussed with the C4L teacher.
College Managers	All students are assigned to a college when they join us at Trinity Academy Halifax. Students will be in one of the following colleges: Titus, Attenborough. Hockney, Priestley, Redgrave, Stewart or Whiteley. Each college has its own College Manager and these are the first point of contact for students and parents.
Phase Leaders	Our Phase Leader team are available to support students: Years 7 & 8 – Miss Parkinson Years 9 & 10 – Miss Gaukrodger Year 11 – Mr Bennett
Student Wellbeing Team	This team of Student Wellbeing Managers deal with safeguarding and child protection issues. If you have any concerns about the safety or wellbeing of your child, or another student, please contact this team.
Medical Welfare	The Medical Welfare team are there to support students with any medical need. If you have concerns regarding the medical welfare of your child, please contact this team.
Any other staff member	Your child may feel more comfortable speaking to a specific teacher. All our staff members are trained in safeguarding pupils & supporting with any concerns they may have.

What other websites could I recommend to my child understand their options for further education?

Trinity Academy Halifax has its very own website designed to safeguard all students. The website covers all topics taught in Curriculum for Life including healthy relationships. The website also contains links to websites that you may find beneficial to view with your child. All students have anonymous access to this website and can log on using their academy email address and password.

https://tah.our-safety.net

FRANK

Talk to Frank is website that contains a wealth of information about different drugs. It details the effects, the appearance and the law of the different illegal drugs in the UK. It also provides information regarding helping and supporting someone who is frequently using or addicted to drugs. There is also a confidential call and text message helpline.

NSPCC

The NSPPC is a charity designed to protect children. Their have a section of their website dedicated towards how to speak to young people regarding dug abuse and what to do if you are concerned. They also have a free and confidential helpline for young people to ring as well as a separate line for adults to use.

At Trinity Academy Halifax, we believe students' personal development is at the heart of everything we do. The Curriculum for Life programme will only strengthen the support we put in place to ensure your child develops into a well-rounded young person that is prepared for their future. We will be sending out further editions of these parent guides to ensure that you are aware of the topics students are learning about and to support you with conversations at home.

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