



07 January 2026

Dear Families

Talk Consent Secondary School Parent Letter – Monday 12 January 2026

At Sackville we are dedicated to ensuring that all students receive high-quality, age-appropriate education on relationships, sex, and health to help them navigate their lives with confidence, respect, and care for others.

As part of our commitment, we have partnered with Talk Consent, a reputable organization with extensive experience delivering education on consent and preventing sexual violence to young people across the country.

About the Sessions

Talk Consent will provide assemblies for students in Years 7-10 on Monday 12 January 2026. These sessions are carefully tailored to be appropriate for the students' age. The content is grounded in the reality of students' lives and presented in a relatable and sensitive manner.

What will be covered?

The content of the sessions varies by year group to reflect age-appropriate learning objectives. Younger students will focus on understanding boundaries, respect, and the basics of consent, while older students will engage in more nuanced discussions about positive relationships, handling complex situations, and staying safe in both physical and online interactions.

Below is a brief summary of what will be delivered:

Year 7 Healthy Relationships Assembly

The workshop helps students explore how to ensure their relationships are positive and healthy.

In this session we discuss:

- What makes a relationship healthy, safe and positive.
- Recognising unhealthy and harmful behaviours in a relationship.
- How to manage difficult emotions and conflict in relationships.

Year 8 Consent Assembly

For year 8 the focus is mostly on helping students understand boundaries and how consent relates to that. There is some discussion of consent in age-relevant relationship scenarios and of sexual harassment.

The session covers:

- How to assertively uphold our boundaries, when it can be difficult to do so and how we can respect others' boundaries.
- The meaning of consent, both legally and in reality.
- Age-appropriate discussion of how to understand the presence of absence of consent through verbal and non-verbal communication.
- Understanding what sexual harassment means and what kind of language is acceptable versus unacceptable.

Year 9 Active Bystander Assembly

This specific workshop is focused on understanding and tackling the issue of sexual harassment.

The workshop will cover:

- The prevalence of sexual harassment amongst young people.
- The impact of sexual harassment on victims.
- The negative impact sexual harassment can have on cultures and friendship groups.
- How we can challenge it when we see it.

Year 10 Consent Assembly

At this age more people will be engaging in or thinking about relationships and around two thirds of students will have viewed pornography. It is important to go into more depth on consent and provide students the space to ask questions and discuss.

The session covers:

- The importance of aiming for positive and enthusiastic consent and what that means.
- A discussion of the impact sexual violence can have on victims.
- What causes grey areas and confusion in relationships or sexual situations and how to manage those to ensure everyone is safe, healthy and respected.

Addressing Common Concerns

We understand that some families may have questions or concerns about discussing these topics in school.

Evidence shows that high quality relationships and sex education does not encourage children to start sexual activity or become confused about their sexuality. It is more likely to keep young people safe from harm as well as increase the age at which they become sexually active.

Talk Consent works with students from diverse backgrounds and respects all perspectives, including those rooted in different cultural, religious, and personal beliefs. They do not promote any particular behaviours or have an agenda.

Their ethos is built on everyone having the right to safe and positive relationships. They want everyone to understand consent and respect others to prevent the serious, often devastating impact of sexual violence.

Supporting Your Child's learning

We know that conversations about relationships, consent, and boundaries can sometimes feel challenging, both for students and parents. Please consider discussing the material with your child to reinforce what they learn at school. You might find it helpful to ask them about what they learned or any questions they have.

If you have further questions or would like to view the presentation slides or materials in advance, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We're here to support your child's growth and ensure that they receive the best education in an environment that values safety, empathy, and mutual respect.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us prepare students for a safe, respectful future.

Yours sincerely

Miss Alison Vance
Leader of SMSC