GRAVENEY SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Discrimination & online misogyny

*** Please note there is a glossary of the terms in bold at the end of this email*

I'm writing to provide you with an update on what we have been doing as a school to combat hate speech and discrimination.

Recent decades have seen a dramatically accelerating pace in the development of new technologies and social media applications, and with this has come an influx of online influencers such as Andrew Tate who are shaping many young people's understanding of **gender roles**.

Whilst we recognise that many of you will be having these very important conversations at home, we as a school have been and will continue working with students at all key stages to explore gender roles, and explore the prevalence of **misogyny** (both online and offline) in society and discuss what we can do as a community to combat this harmful behaviour.

We wanted to share what we have been doing as a school over the last year to support students in understanding how they can reduce the harm that comes from misogyny and improve students' relationships with each other to ensure they are safe, healthy and respectful. We have:

- Explored themes around masculinity, gender roles and stereotypes in timetabled lessons
- Provided online safety support for students
- Organised workshops with trained professionals to explore difficult themes
- Provided regular safeguarding training and professional development for staff
- Continuously reviewed the policies we have to promote diversity, inclusivity, mutual respect

Students explore a variety of topics both within their timetabled lessons and in form times which equip them with the tools to navigate the online and offline world with confidence. If you would like to find out more about some of the themes covered in our curricula, please see: https://www.graveney.org/Curriculum-Offer/ or click here to read more about what we have been doing at Graveney to combat **misogyny.**

It is now more important than ever for home and school to work in partnership to help students find their way through these difficult issues. We will keep you updated about our work so that you can continue to support your children at home in the context of our school provision.

Should you need any additional support to help your child to navigate their way through the online world and how to broach discussions about misogyny at home, please read: https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/online-hate/what-is-misogyny/

Yours faithfully,

Emine Vahib

Head of PSHE

Glossary

Gender roles: how we're expected to act, speak, dress, groom, and conduct ourselves based upon our assigned sex

Misogyny: misogyny is defined as the dislike of, contempt for, or ingrained prejudice against women or girls. This can manifest in various forms, such as physical intimidation, abuse and sexual violence.

Misogyny influencers': individuals who use the online world and social media platforms to radicalise people or promote harmful views against women and girls