Invitation for young people to sign up to Hampshire Alert

Dear Parents and Carers

Hampshire Constabulary is currently implementing their new Children and Young Persons Strategy; one of the key areas of focus is to improve the way we communicate with young people.

As a result of consulting with groups of young people, taking on board their ideas and suggestions, we are introducing them to a scheme run by Hampshire Constabulary called Hampshire Alert. The scheme is already in place but is generally used by adults; however we are adapting this tool in order to provide information which is bespoke to young people, and invite your child to take part in the pilot stage of this concept.

Hampshire Alerts will enable young people to benefit from real-time information to raise their awareness of incidents, crimes and advice relevant to their area as an approach to help keep them **informed**, **vigilant**, **and safe**; this will include sending them a regular 'youth newsletter' from the crime prevention and education team giving them additional information and links to advice.

Written parent permission to sign up is not required; however, it is important that parents are made aware of the invitation being offered to their child, and urge you support and encourage your child to sign up to the pilot to enable them to benefit from the support Hampshire Alert will offer them to staying safe. Your child can opt out at anytime after registering if they feel the alerts do not meet their needs or expectations

If you are happy for your child to join Hampshire Alert, click <u>here</u> to register; they/you will be required to fill out several pages of information during the registration process; **for the purpose of this pilot see the 2 crucial points below:**

- 1. In the personal details section on page 3 of the registration process; children will be asked their age, they will need to choose 'prefer not to say' as there is not currently an option for U16, this is what the pilot seeks to achieve from the evidence gathered.
- 2. In the Community Memberships section on page 4; children must opt for the SECONDARY SCHOOLS category in the Education Contacts section this enables us to capture them for the relevant correspondence to be sent from the Education and Crime Prevention Teams in addition to any alerts they can opt for any other groups too

If you need any assistance or have any problems, please contact: schoolyouthengagement@hampshire.pnn.police.uk For more information about Hampshire Alerts, a detailed summary can be found at the bottom of this letter Maybe register yourself too; you can tailor your own alerts bespoke to your locality and communities of interest.

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation

Kind regards

PC Maria Carrick School and Youth Engagement Coordinator

Sent on behalf of Inspector Lisa Stevens - Strategic Partnerships Inspector

More about Hampshire Alerts

Hampshire Alert is a community messaging system which enables us to send you messages about incidents that are happening in your area. It is a free web based system which you can sign up to and choose what information you want to receive and in what format i.e. email, text or phone message – the 'alert' is then personal to you.

The alert system is straightforward; you will receive alerts relevant to your area, plus the option to request alerts on specific topics of interest which may have previously been unavailable to you.

By using Hampshire Alert you will be one step ahead. You will be notified of information-warnings-crimes more quickly, ensuring you won't miss out on important updates on incidents in your locality.

Hampshire Alert is unique to other internet communities such as Facebook, Twitter or any other social media site; your information is kept secure and private and does not require you to set up a social page or add pictures.

Once registered, you will instantly receive alerts to your chosen email or phone; you only ever need to log-in to update your details or preferences.