



Tomlinscote School

May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the final half-term of the summer term, I am writing to inform you about a key part of the Year 10 tutorial programme that will run during this time. Year 10 tutor groups will take part in a structured video-based project centred on the theme of **Trust**, with a particular focus on **online safety, digital relationships and decision-making**. This project forms an important element of our wider personal development and safeguarding curriculum.

As part of this programme, students will watch and discuss the feature-length film *Trust* (2010), which carries a 15 certificate. We appreciate that this classification, and some of the issues explored in the film, may understandably prompt questions from parents and carers, and we therefore wanted to outline clearly the purpose, content and educational rationale behind its use.

Purpose of the project

Adolescence is a stage at which young people are increasingly independent online, navigating social media, messaging platforms and digital relationships—often with far-reaching consequences. The *Trust* project is designed to:

- Develop students' understanding of **online grooming, exploitation and consent**
- Encourage critical thinking around **trust, deception and digital identity**
- Explore the **impact of online decisions** on individuals, families and friendships
- Reinforce the importance of **seeking help, speaking up and making safe choices online**

These themes link directly to current safeguarding priorities and are highly relevant to young people's lived experiences.

How the film is used

The film is not shown passively or in one sitting. Instead, it is delivered over several tutorial sessions, with tutors pausing at key moments to guide age-appropriate discussion, reflection and short activities. These discussions focus on choices made by characters, warning signs, consequences, and how situations could have been handled differently.

Tutors are provided with a workbook that carefully structures these discussions and supports staff in managing sensitive topics in a controlled, professional and supportive manner. Students are never asked to share personal experiences.

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Sensitive content

The film includes themes relating to:

- Online grooming and manipulation
- Sexual exploitation
- Family relationships following trauma
- Emotional wellbeing and recovery

Whilst these issues are serious, they are addressed sensitively, within clear educational boundaries, and always with student welfare as the priority. Pastoral staff and safeguarding systems remain in place throughout, and students are reminded of how and where to seek support should they need it.

Why video projects?

We have found that film-based projects can be a powerful way to engage students in meaningful discussion around complex moral and social issues. Students may recall last year's Year 9 project using *Remember the Titans*, which explored character values such as respect, leadership and teamwork. The *Trust* project builds on this approach, using a different theme that reflects the realities of the modern digital world and is one of our core themes for tutorial each year - online safety.

Final reassurance

Please be assured that this project has been carefully planned, aligns with national safeguarding guidance, and is delivered with professionalism and care. Our aim is not to shock or alarm, but to educate, equip and protect young people by giving them the knowledge and confidence to make safer choices and to know when to seek help. We also recognise that, despite the educational purpose and careful delivery of this project, some parents and carers may feel that the content is not appropriate for their child. If you do **not** wish your child to take part in viewing the film *Trust*, please contact HoY10@tomlinscoteschool.com directly by **Monday, 1st June**.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs P Buckland-Speller and Mr S Young
Joint Head of Year 10