

9th February 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Year 8 Building a Safer Community (BASC) Education Day – Thursday 26th February 2026

On **Thursday 26th February 2026** we are hosting a 'Building a Safer Community Day' (BASC) at Victoria College for our Year 8 students who will be off timetable until lunchtime. This has been organised in collaboration with the Justice and Home Affairs Department, Government of Jersey.

The BASC day brings together professionals from across our island emergency services including St John's Ambulance, Probation, Prison and Jersey Youth Service to educate on Community Safety. The BASC team aims to foster positive relationships between our young people and these services, improve their understanding of services and address key community safety issues which are relevant to young people. In doing so we hope to equip them with knowledge and skills to empower them to keep themselves and those around them safe.

They will not be in academic lessons in Periods 1-4 but instead will, in tutor groups, attend a carousel of x 6 40-minute sessions with professionals from the organisations above including:

- *Your actions versus impacts – an interactive session delivered by Probation and Prison using scenarios based upon real life examples for young people to discuss their responses and the potential impacts of their decisions.*
- *Substance Use and the Importation of illegal substances – Jersey Customs and immigration.*
- *Fire safety – States of Jersey Fire Service*
- *Exploitation – what it is and how to avoid it – States of Jersey Police and Jersey Youth Service*
- *How to keep yourself and your friends safe if they become unwell including the simulation of 999 calls – St John's Ambulance & States of Jersey Ambulance Service*
- *An opportunity to look at various Emergency Services appliances and ask the staff questions.*

In addition to the above session there will also be a fun optional session running during afternoon tutor time in the HDT when interested students will have the opportunity to witness the Jersey Customs & Immigration dogs (and puppies!) undertaking a simulated exercise.

Whilst the topics on the day are serious in nature, the day will be delivered in an interactive and light-hearted way with the aim of developing healthy relationships between young people and the emergency services and providing young people with information to empower them to keep themselves safe.

Throughout the day, Victoria College staff will be accompanying students in the sessions, and there will be opportunities for students to ask questions and raise any concerns that may arise out of the content of the day in a safe and supportive way.

These sessions promise to be valuable & powerful in supporting our students to feel confident with regards to community safety and we hope that our students will take away some life changing advice and messages which will shape happier and safer lives.

Please let your child's Head of Year or tutor know if you feel that any of the topics during the day may cause upset to them, or if you have any concerns that you would like us to be aware of. Please also alert us if you do not wish Mrs

Lavigne to photograph your child or for the BASC team to use any imagery of your child on the day to publicise their work. Additionally, if you have concerns re. your child's attendance in any of the sessions, please contact g.silver@vcj.sch.je

Yours sincerely,

Ms Gillian Silver
Head of PSHE

Our World of Opportunity

Victoria College, Mont Millais, St Helier, Jersey JE1 4HT | 01534 638 200 | admin@vcj.sch.je | www.victoriacollege.je
LinkedIn: Victoria College Jersey | Twitter: @VictoriaCollege | Facebook: VictoriaCollegeJersey