



25 May 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

**Paul Hannaford**

Today we have been fortunate enough to have been given the opportunity to welcome Paul Hannaford. Paul is passionate about educating young people and raising awareness of knife crime, gangs, prison, drugs and all that comes with this lifestyle.

Most of you will be aware of many incidents reported in the news regarding young people and knife crime and we hope that this talk supports educating the students at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading. To read more about Paul, and the work that he does with young people, please see his website [Paul Hannaford - Community & School Talks - Paul Hannaford](#). Paul is on a variety of social media platforms and is active in sharing his experiences to support the education of young people.

Paul has now educated almost half a million young people around the UK. This stems from his personal experience, where Paul gives an honest and harrowing account of how easily this happened to him from a very young age. He spoke truthfully about the effects this had on his physical and mental health, the damage he caused to friends and family and the immense danger in which he put himself. He explained how he escaped this world, but of the lasting damage caused by his choices. A raw, honest and hard-hitting tale that will provoke even the most recalcitrant.

We hope that this experience supports all of our students at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading.

Yours sincerely

**Miss C Burns**

Senior Assistant Headteacher