



Information Session for Parents, Carers and School Staff

Child Exploitation by County Lines with Escapeline

- Date:** Wednesday, 15th January 2025
- Time:** Starting at 6pm with an estimated end time of 7:30pm
- Venue:** Room H1, Huish Sixth Form building, Huish Episcopi Academy, Langport, TA10 9SS

We are pleased to be able to offer this session again for parents, carers, governors and school staff. Please book your place online via the link found below.

Child Exploitation by County Lines - In the South West of the UK, including all areas of Somerset, there is a significant rise in county lines drug crime, whereby a large amount of young people as young as **6 years old**, are being criminally and sexually exploited by gangs. County lines are illegal business models, in which drug gangs expand their operations from their big city bases, such as London, Birmingham and Liverpool, to smaller cities, towns, coastal and rural areas across Britain. These gangs use their power and position to groom, recruit and exploit children and young people for the purpose of criminal gain.

These gangs proactively recruit young people to drug run in and around the South West, as well as outside the area. The gangs and criminal networks use extreme violence and intimidation towards these young people, which result in these young people feeling trapped and scared. Some of these gangs are forcing vulnerable children from their homes to be trafficked to other parts of the country. As well as criminal exploitation, young people, both girls and boys, are also being sexually exploited by these gangs.

This session will raise awareness of the signs of Child Exploitation by County Line gangs, how they operate in rural areas and how to keep children and young people safe.

To book a place to attend this session please complete this short Googleform:

<https://forms.gle/JJWv7g8KG2MxbJif6>