



# South Dartmoor Community College

Principal Kevin Dyke

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Dear Parent/Carer

We are writing with details of an exciting literacy development that we are piloting across the secondary schools in the Westcountry Schools Trust.

The programme is called **Forensic Reading** and involves exploring a range of fiction and non-fiction texts on an array of current, informative and mature topics such as Women, Suffrage and Misogyny. As we are sure you will agree, developing a broad and academic vocabulary base is fundamental in a child's success – both in school and beyond in their future educational and career pathways.

This programme has expanding vocabulary at its core, empowering students to confidently use newly learnt academic language both verbally and in written form. Additionally, the topics being explored encourage debate and allow students to explore wider moral, social and cultural issues in support of their character education. Texts have all been selected and adapted to be suitable for the age of the class involved.

The pilot programme will run from **Monday 24 February for five weeks (one lesson per week)**. Your son/daughter will have a Forensic Reading lesson once a week. Their usual teacher for this lesson will be delivering the programme and will ensure that their curriculum progress in the subject area is not disadvantaged.

We encourage you to engage in a dialogue with your son/daughter about the texts they are reading and the new language they are learning. We hope that this pilot will lead to a roll out across our WeST schools from September 2020 and I hope that your child is excited to be part of this initiative.

If you have any further questions or concerns about the involvement of your son/daughter in this programme, please contact: Mrs Jenny French ([jfrench@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk](mailto:jfrench@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk))

Yours faithfully

Mr Kevin Dyke  
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