



House of Commons
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SW1A 0AA

Sarah Champion
Member of Parliament for Rotherham

Immediate release
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Sarah Champion MP hosts her second Girls Safety Summit in Rotherham

To coincide with International Women's Day, Sarah Champion, Member of Parliament for Rotherham, has held her second Girls Safety Summit. Sarah sat with a group of students from Brinsworth Comprehensive School to discuss how safe they feel in modern society.

Sarah plans to hear the views of teenagers across Rotherham as part of her work to better understand the pressures young women face.

Around 15 pupils from Brinsworth Comprehensive School took part in the summit with Sarah. During the hour long meeting they discussed the many potential dangers in modern society facing young women and how they felt society should tackle them.

Topics included how vulnerable they felt using public transport, how they felt uneasy being alone in town and the increased bullying and psychological pressure from social media.

Education was clearly key to address some of the girls anxieties. Sarah continues to push for PHSE to be compulsory within schools from key stage 1 so that young people are taught about healthy relationships. This view is echoed by the majority of parents; close to 90% say they want SRE (Sexual and Relationship Education) to be made mandatory.

Reflecting on the summit, Sarah said:

"I am incredibly grateful to the students of Brinsworth Comprehensive School for taking part in this summit and being so open and honest. I have once again been taken aback by some of the experiences of young people in Rotherham. It is vital that their voice is heard so we can address the pressure society places upon them.

"For me, this is all about creating a more equal and respectful society. The Young women were clear that from a young age, boys and girls should be taught about healthy relationships and to value and respect others. If we don't provide our young people with a firm foundation, they will use the Internet to research relationships with all the potential horrors that contains".

"The saddest comment came at the end when a girl said, "It's too late for us, but not too late for children younger than us" - she was 16!"

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

- 88% of parents want SRE to be compulsory to tackle the dangers of pornography (NAHT)

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If you would like to receive Sarah's E-newsletter to learn more about her work representing Rotherham - please click [here](#) to subscribe