March 2020,

Dear Parent/Carer,

Our school recognises that the welfare of our students is paramount. We take our responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of our students seriously and the protection of our students is given the highest priority.

Along with other schools in South Tyneside we are offering our students an opportunity to watch a drama performance this Friday 6th March designed to provide them with information about County Lines and advice as to how to keep safe.

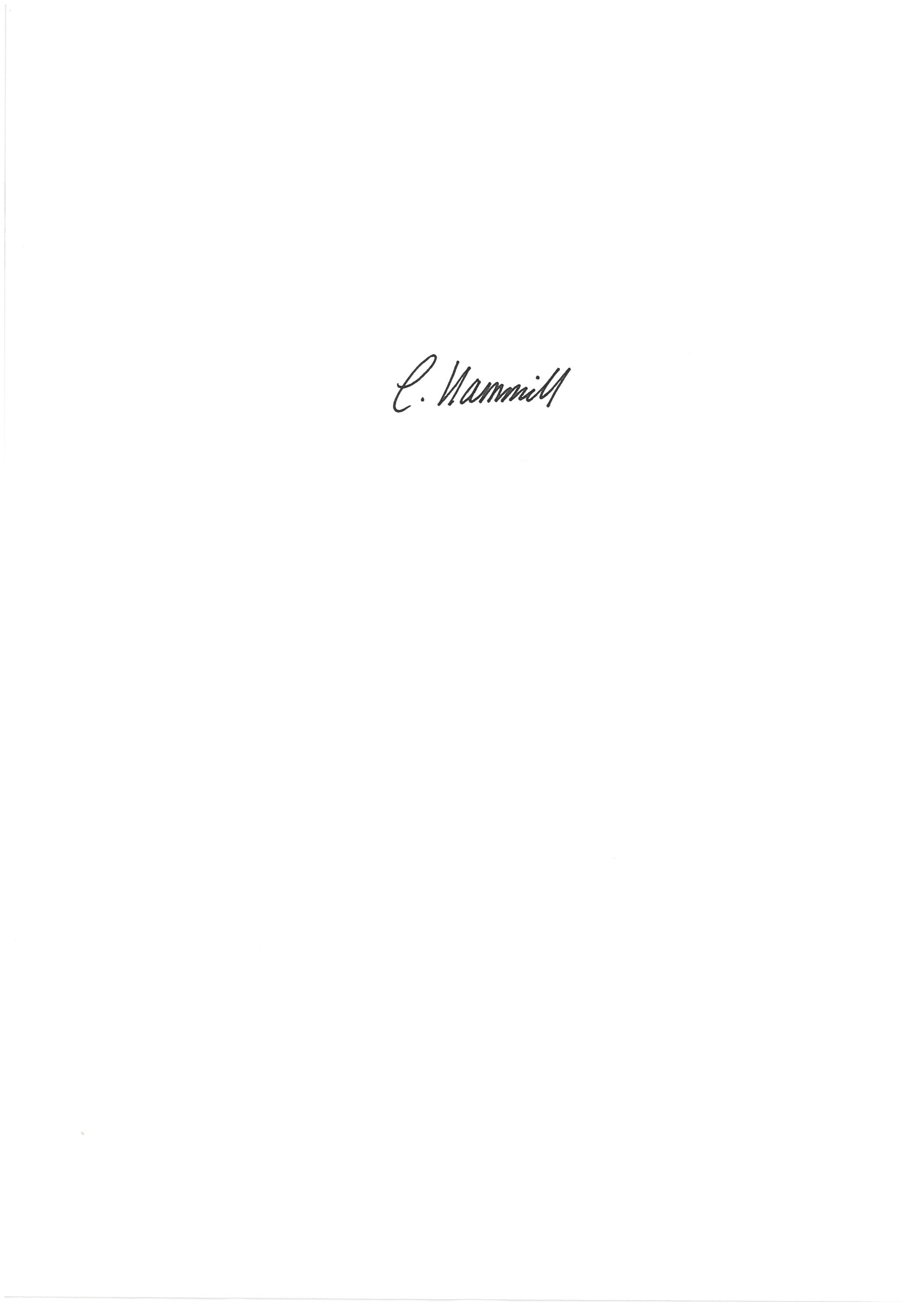
The drama seeks to raise awareness of the warning signs of criminal exploitation and give an insight into the coercive process that young people and adults may have been through, a process that can all too easily make it seem as though they have 'made their own choices'.

It will explore:

* What County Lines is and how it can affect anyone;
* The grooming process and how it can apply to County Lines;
* The similarities and potential crossover between Criminal Exploitation and Sexual Exploitation.

If you would like to find out more information about County Lines or need advice please visit: <https://www.fearless.org/en/campaigns/county-lines>.

Thank you for your ongoing support



Yours faithfully,

Mrs C. Hammill

Deputy Headteacher Pastoral