



Tuesday 12th September 2023

Dear Parent/ Carer,

At Leasowes we feel that it is important to support the wider community wherever opportunities arise. As you are aware, we were approached by the Crime and Operational Trainer working for Staffordshire Police, asking if we would be interested in helping them regarding part of the training of new recruits. The session that we ran in November was very successful and therefore we have agreed to set one for this week and one for the summer term.

As part of their training, the police need to practise techniques when interviewing children. The operational trainers have asked if we could free around 10 children for the new recruits to interview. The interviews will be very friendly and informal, for example based around being asked details about the last holiday they went on, or a day out that may have been exciting. These meetings will enable the police officers to practise asking open questions, such as which hotel they stayed at and what the rooms were like. In addition, the officers will discuss 'ground rules' for the conversation, that will include discussing their understanding of whether someone is telling the truth. These are valuable skills that the officers need to learn that in the past they have practised among themselves. However, this has not always felt to be a 'real' enough experience, and that interviewing children would make for a more realistic approach. All interviews will take place together in the hall, with our staff supervising at all times.

Of course, we will only allow the children to take part in this with your permission. If you are happy for your child to be a part of the experience, and therefore interact in this exciting project helping future officers in their training, please return the attached slip as soon as possible. Please note that there will only be an opportunity for around 10 children, and therefore your child might not be chosen on the day.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Kind regards,

Mr Coombs

I give permission for my child to take part in mock police training interviews.

Name of Child:	
Signed:	Date:

