



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of our Year 7 English unit on *Romeo and Juliet*, we would like to show children a film adaptation to help consolidate their understanding of the play's themes, characters and plot.

The film we plan to show is **Baz Luhrmann's 1996 adaptation, *William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet***. This modern interpretation closely follows Shakespeare's original language while presenting the story in a contemporary setting, which many students find engaging and accessible.

The film is rated **12A** by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC). A 12A rating means that children under the age of 12 may watch the film **only with adult supervision**. In a school setting, this means we must seek parental consent before showing the film.

The BBFC has given the film a 12A rating for the following reasons:

Violence

There are several fight scenes between two rival families. In some scenes, characters are stabbed or shot and a small amount of blood is visible, although this is not dwelt upon. There are also heavy punches, kicks and a headbutt during hand-to-hand fighting.

Additional issues

- *The film includes a sex scene in which the main characters undress, kiss and embrace, and are later seen entwined on a bed. However, there is no clear nudity or visual depiction of sex.*
- *At one point, a character is given a "love pill", which results in a psychedelic experience. The substance is not clearly identified as a real drug.*
- *There is a scene depicting suicide, which reflects events from the original Shakespeare play.*

If you would like to read more detailed guidance, the BBFC information can be found here:

<https://www.bbfc.co.uk/release/william-shakespeares-romeo-juliet-q29sbgvjdgvlbjpwwc0yodc2mjc>

We plan to watch the film during lessons on **Friday 13th February**. Please provide consent via Arbor by **Monday 9th February**.

If consent is not given, your child will be provided with an alternative *Romeo and Juliet*-based activity and will not watch the film.

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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the content further, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Page

Head of Year 7

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