



29 September 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Safeguarding Update

By the end of this week all students would have received the safeguarding assembly, which is delivered at the start of every year. I wanted to write to inform you of what is discussed in this assembly, and some signposting should you require further information or support in any of the areas mentioned.

The Safeguarding assembly delivered to students consists of the following:

Safeguarding Information

This includes the four areas of abuse and what to do if they are a victim of this, appropriate use of social media and the internet, what sexual assault and sexual harassment is, including appropriate behaviour. This is to ensure that students fully understand what is acceptable and not. Nationally, there has been a rise in reported harassment and it is important that we address this issue in schools. The detail about how we address this, if and when it happens falls under our 'peer on peer abuse' policy which can be found on the school website [here](#).

There are some great resources for parents to be aware of regarding social media, mental health and many other guides for young people can be found on the National Online Safety [website](#).

British Values and Protected Groups

This assembly also included information about [British Values](#) and the [nine protected groups](#). We are a diverse school community, and wish to ensure all people, no matter their background or identity feel a valued and accepted part of not only the school community, but the wider community. Further information on the British Values can be found on the Government website [here](#).

Anti-Bullying

This is an area of school life that we continue to develop to ensure all students feel safe at school, and there is zero tolerance of bullying. We are pleased to announce we now have a new confidential student friendly way of reporting bullying via the Class Charts student app, under 'report a concern'. Students can type any worries regarding bullying into here, which will be seen by their Head of Year. We appreciate reporting bullying can be one of the most worrying elements in resolving bullying, and we hope this platform allows access for students to feel comfortable in expressing their concerns in this area. As a school, we are then able to action this accordingly, and sensitively.

We continue to work alongside the [Diana Award](#), where Peer Mediators (older students who are fully trained by this award, to support other students) continue to link with younger students and host drop in sessions for them. This website also has support and advice for both parents and students regarding a variety of areas relating to bullying. Peer mediators also offer another way of students being able to report any concerns regarding bullying.

At the end of the assembly pupils were also shown websites and helplines which may help them should they need further advice on any of the above, or need support with mental health concerns. Mental health will be an assembly delivered at a later date, but also covered as part of the PSMSC website. Please be reminded students can report how they feel on the Class Charts app, under 'Wellbeing'. This again, will trigger an alert to their Head of Year.

Please find below a selection of websites should you wish to find out more, or have some advice. These websites are also shared with our students:

- Kooth – an online mental wellbeing community for young people where students can access support, blogs and counselling via the online platform.
- Anna Freud website – support for children and families, showing local outreach work, key terms, crisis messenger service and self-care strategies.
- Young Minds, is a website that supports young people, parents and practitioners with mental health, and supporting others who struggle with mental health.
- Child Line – offer a range of support to both young people and parents regarding a variety of issues including bullying, low mood, friendships, stress and other issues that young people face growing up.

Finally, should you wish to look at our policies regarding the areas mentioned above, please find them on our website [here](#).

Should you have any further queries or concerns relating to any of the above, please contact me via the school reception on 01189 668 065.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'CB' followed by a long horizontal line that ends in a small loop.

Miss C Burns
Senior Assistant Headteacher