



SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

SAFEGUARDING EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY AUTUMN 1

Designated safeguarding Leads **Useful numbers**

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Online Bullying

Last week ITV This morning ran a heart breaking and poignant story about children taking their own lives due to on line bullying.

The show highlighted the consequences and long term effects of any type of bullying. However, particularly on line. The story was covered in many newspapers following the programme. Below is just one link.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/tv/2017/02/23/philip-schofield-driven-tears-morning-suicide-bullied-teen/>

Letter X

After the programme aired, a vlogger who uses on line to chat about the trials and tribulations of bringing up children in a blended family, alerted the nation to a craze called Letter X. It's a worrying new craze sweeping the country's classrooms that every parent needs to know about.

The sick 'Letter X' Snapchat phenomenon is a new bullying game that encourages children to hurl the vilest insults possible at a chosen victim.

Mum Rachael Hambleton and daughter Betsy Chamberlain join us today to alert others to the dangers of the game after Betsy stood up to the bullies, while Liam Hackett, CEO of anti-bullying charity Ditch The Label, says online platforms such as Snapchat should be under much more scrutiny.

It would be amazing if the school could start a campaign called "It's Cool To be kind". This can highlight the impact of standing up to bullies and being kind to everyone.. Any ideas will be gratefully received.

Drug Education

Pupils are gaining more access to all types of drugs. Pupils need to be aware of what they maybe exposed to. At present there is still a huge danger of what was referred to as "Legal Highs". These readily available substances are no longer legal. Children attempt to access these highs from a number of sources. One of the most common and readily available are the capsules of Nitrous Oxide placed in many aerosols such as whipped cream in a can.. These are extremely harmful.



Anti Social Behaviour

The police and ourselves are getting increasingly concerned about the number of anti social behaviour incidents in and around Golborne and Lowton. Our pupils are unfortunately involved and they are being challenged by the police. Occasionally the school will be asked to provide contact details. We will always endeavour to contact parents when this is the case. However, as long as the information is requested in writing, we are duty bound to provide information under the Crime and Prevention Act. Please can you have a word with the pupils about the effect Anti-social behaviour has on the local community and the reputation of the school.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

Pupil on line activity can lead us to believe that they are at risk of child exploitation. The current story line involving Bethany Platt makes for uncomfortable viewing. We can see the level of manipulation used by the perpetrator in getting Bethany to follow his instructions and cheat and lie. A discussion with pupil about this storyline would be beneficial. Tutor time is the ideal opportunity to have meaningful discussions regarding Sexual Exploitation and who they can go to for help and support.

Mental Health

Mrs Griffiths and the school councillor are about to commence a course assisting young people in dealing with stress and anxiety associated with the demands of school and exams. The roll out of the first course is just about to take place. If you know of anyone who would benefit from this CBT based help and advice, please let their relevant Head of House know.

Mrs Griffiths has herself completed a course on Mental Health First Aid and if any of the young people are showing signs of low mood or any other mental health concerns, please let us know. The government are currently becoming very aware of the effects of poor mental health on our young people.. If you have any concerns regarding a young person's mental health please contact **Mrs Griffiths** or **Mrs Bolton**

FGM

Please remember it is our statutory duty to report concerns regarding FGM

Attendance

Attendance has improved. Thanks to everyone for their efforts. Our focus needs to be regarding the pupils we send home. Can they remain in school with some support. We are currently at 96% which is better than last year.

TOOTOOT

Tootoot will be changing to Impero Confidential. This will be launched to the pupils through assemblies and do exactly the same job as Tootoot does.

Operation Encompass

This has now been launched. The police will now communicate any incidents of domestic Violence. School can then ensure the children are safe and the required support can be put in place. The school has had 5 encompass referrals since its launch 2 weeks ago.

Training

A reminder that if you have not already done so please return your completed safeguarding declaration to Alison Bolton. If you are new to the school you also have to complete your online training. (See Carol Brockbank) and the Channel General Awareness Course using the following link. http://course.ncalt.com/Channel_General_Awareness/01/index.html