

## SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility

### Haydon Safeguarding Team:

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#### **Useful Numbers:**

Hillingdon Children's Services: 01895 556633

Harrow Children & Family services:

0208 901 2690

Hertfordshire Children's: Services:

0300 123 4043

Ealing Children & families social care:

0208 825 8000

Brent Children's Services: 0208 937 4300

# KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION: NOVEMBER 2020

Welcome to Haydon's half-termly Newsletter for Parents. The Safeguarding of students and all members of the Haydon community is something that is taken very seriously, and here at Haydon I am pleased to say that we have a dedicated team of staff whose primary focus is that of Safeguarding:







MR GOSLING
OFFICE -ST NICK'S
SECOND FLOOR

Should any student, staff or visitor have any concerns or disclosures that they wish to make in regards to safeguarding, please speak to any member of the safeguarding team.





I would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents that as a school Haydon are part of Operation Encompass: (now a nationwide initiative).

Operation Encompass directly connects the police with schools to ensure support for children living with domestic abuse in their homes. The purpose of Operation Encompass is to ensure that a specially trained member of the school staff, known as a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is informed that an incident of Domestic Abuse has occurred. The DSL can then use the information to ensure that the child(ren) are better safeguarded against the short, medium and long-term effects of domestic abuse. The school may then be able to make provisions or adjustments to assist both the child and their family.

#### How can we support with issues of Domestic Violence?

Since March 2020 when lockdown started, you will no doubt remember the national concerns of an increase in Domestic Violence. IDVA is a service that specifically supports those survivors of Domestic Abuse. For those of you who may not be too familiar with this service, IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy) services operate all over the UK. IDVAs specialise in high risk cases, so their service really is vital in ensuring the safety and protection of parents and children living at risk of harm.

#### When we assess high risk, we are primarily considering:

- a) The date of the most recent incident
- b) The severity of this incident
- c) Additional vulnerabilities of the victim (pregnant, mental illness of physical impairment, immigration status etc.)
- d) A systemic pattern of incidents demonstrating power and control and the time scale in which they happen- the consequences they have for the primary victim and children
- e) Threats of harm /to kill / strangulation
- f) External influences ('so called' honour based violence or people in the wider family circle or community who pose a risk)





An IDVA will initially conduct a comprehensive risk assessment (a tool used nationally by key agencies such as police and social care)

Following this assessment- if the client is considered high risk, the IDVA and client will devise a support plan collaboratively. This will outline the actions to be taken to ensure the client's safety. This may include a plan to move, to obtain civil injunction order, to secure the property, to report an incident to the police, to be referred for counselling ect.

The IDVA will then complete a safety plan with the client which will cover ideas for how to keep safe in the home and when outside. The plan overall will look at safe exit strategies and introduce ways of minimising risk. Once this has all been agreed- The IDVA will coordinate the actions needed to execute the plan/plans. IDVAS will therefore work closely with key services such as police, social care, housing, health, probation, legal and education.

If either you yourself, or you know of any parents who you believe to be at high risk of harm, please do not hesitate to contact the schools Safeguarding team who will be able to offer further advice and support.





Please see the below information from National Rail which has been forwarded to the school for the attention of both parents and students. I would be very grateful if you could take the opportunity to discuss the safety concerns highlighted and raise with your child(ren).

Due to the very high level of trespassing on the tracks by young people in your local area, Network Rail in partnership with Learn Live are working to help raise awareness to students across the UK educating them about the dangers of the train tracks through interactive digital delivery.

Network rail ask you to share the relevant safety video with your child(ren) before the next school/college break, as this is when Network Rail consistently see a spike in trespassing.

We have made things easier for you to watch the safety videos by just entering the email railsafety@learnliveuk.com

Please click on the link below to view the relevant safety video:

Secondary school version: Age 11-16

https://learnliveuk.com/network-rail-secondary-school-safety-talk/

College version: Age 17 plus

https://learnliveuk.com/network-rail-college-safety-talk-lnw/

Please note these are the recommended age ranges, we would always advise you to view the clips first to gauge suitability for your child(ren).

The session is less than 15 minutes and explains why it is important to stay safe near the tracks.

Over 1 million students, parents and teachers from across the UK have significantly decreased the number of trespasses in their area through watching the safety clip.

Thank you for supporting this message and for helping raise awareness to keep your young people safe.



#### Peer on Peer Abuse

Every student is entitled to feel safe and happy whilst at Haydon. As a school we always try to ensure that each student has this entitlement. However we are aware that there will be times when this isn't the case. We have therefore shared with students some of the key points below. However I would also like to take this opportunity to share with you what is meant by Peer-on-Peer abuse:

#### What is peer-on peer abuse?

Abuse is something which usually physically or emotionally hurts another person by using behaviour that is meant to scare, hurt or upset that person.

Sometimes, it can be hard to know when abuse is happening, because not all abuse will hurt, scare or upset people, and children might not know it is happening. There are lots of different types of abuse.

#### Types of Bullying

- Emotional bullying is hurting someone's feelings, leaving them out or bossing them about.
- Physical bullying is punching, kicking, spitting, hitting or pushing someone.
- Verbal bullying is teasing someone, calling them names or using rude hand signs. People can also use verbal bullying to be racist or homophobic.
- Racist means bullying someone because of their skin colour, race or what they believe
  in.
- Homophobic means bullying someone because of their gender or sexuality; calling someone gay or lesbian to hurt their feelings would be homophobic.
- Sexist means bullying someone because of their sex.
- Cyber bullying involves sending nasty messages over the internet or by text message.

#### Sexting

This is sending inappropriate pictures, videos or messages – they can sometimes be called 'nude pics', 'rude pics' or 'nude selfies'.

Pressuring someone into sending these pictures, videos and messages is abuse.

Even if your child is not the person who is sending them, it is illegal to have these kind of pictures or videos of a person if they are under 18 years old.



#### Sexual harassment

Sometimes, people can act sexually towards others and it might make them feel uncomfortable. This can happen online, on social media, through messages and face-to-face. It might make someone feel scared, embarrassed, uncomfortable or upset.

#### It could be:

- Someone making sexual comments, like telling sexual stories, saying rude things or saying sexual things about someone's appearance or clothes.
- Sexual jokes or teasing.
- Being physical, like touching which makes people feel uncomfortable,

#### What do I do if someone else is being abused?

If you see someone else being abused, it is important that you help that person. You should never walk way and ignore the problem if you see someone else being abused.

Sometimes, you might not see someone being abused, but you might be worried about them. Or, you might think they are being abused by someone you don't know, or someone they have told you about. It's really important you tell someone even if you are worried, but haven't seen any abuse.

#### What do I do if I am being abused?

The first thing you should do is tell someone you trust. Always remember that if you are being abused, it is not your fault and you are never alone.

#### How can I help stop abuse from happening?

We can all help stop abuse at our school by:

Making sure we understand how we should act towards others.

Helping others when they are in need.

Talking to someone when we are worried.

You should know that abuse is never OK and it is serious. It is not funny, or part of growing up.





#### Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing

See, Hear, Respond is a service provided across England by Barnardo's and other national and local community-based organisations in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

See, Hear, Respond, provides support to children, young people and their families who aren't currently seeing a social worker or other agency, and who are struggling to cope with the emotional impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19). See, Hear, Respond will support from pre-birth up to 18 years of age and those with special educational needs under the age of 25.

See, Hear, Respond will contact every referral made, so no child is missed. Help is available in one or more of four ways:

- an online hub of support and information
- online counselling and therapy
- face-to-face support for those most affected and at risk of some of today's most pertinent issues, such as criminal exploitation, and
- helping children and young people reintegrate back into school

https://www.barnardos.org.uk/see-hear-respond

Should you need to contact your local children social care services - please see the numbers listed below for your convenience:

Hillingdon Children's Services: 01895 556633
Harrow Children & Family services: 0208 9012690
Hertfordshire Children's Services 0300 123 4043
Ealing Children & families social care: 0208 825 8000
Brent Children's Services: 0208 937 4300

Remember: Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility.

Mrs M Wall
Designated Safeguarding Lead & Assistant Head teacher