



Safeguarding at Sandwell Academy

Latest advice for parents and carers

Issue 3 – April 2024

The Safeguarding Team are continuing to work hard to support all students at Sandwell Academy. We have been working hard on raising awareness of positive mental health this term. Here are some updates below.

The Safeguarding Team

Who are we?



Miss Pincher : Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Adams : Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss Breen : Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Povey: Senior Deputy Head Responsible for Behaviour, Safeguarding & Inclusion Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

If you have any concerns for a child or wish to gain some advice from the team, please contact: Safeguarding@sandwellacademy.com

Brook

On **Thursday 11 April at 3:30pm**, Brook, a sexual health service, will be coming in to hold our first Parent/Carer information session.

This session will involve providing parents with techniques and resources on how to approach difficult conversations with children. Brook will also show parents how to navigate their website to find useful resources.

If you wish to access more information about this session please email the Safeguarding Team.

Please use the link below to register your attendance.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=CAhSz1MVvkirIORFrB4NEopP0vT8GJhGsTnn19Ox-AIUMIRZVII3SVhWRUY2NEpVNDVETkhDSDdGRC4u>

Parent/Carer Contact Details

If your contact details have changed, please email your child's Personal Tutor with the updated information.

Staff Training Day update

On Friday 1 March, staff received fresher training on child exploitation facilitated by Horizons and Domestic Abuse Training facilitated by Black Country Women's Aid. This training was well received by staff and will support future practice.

Social Media

The Safeguarding Team have received an increasing number of concerns regarding social media this term. As a school we cannot police social media. This is sole responsibility of parents and carers. We will investigate any concerns that occur between students who attend Sandwell Academy and notify parents; however, in order to reduce the number of concerns and students being exposed to online bullying, please check your child's social media accounts and interactions across these platforms.

Safeguarding Champions

Our Year 7 and 8 Safeguarding Champions held their first drop in session with students this term. This was a great success and students across Year 7 and 8 are aware of who their champions are.

The local authority Prevent lead also came to meet the Safeguarding Champions to complete a workshop around ways to engage students. The Champions are working together towards a fund raising event, more information will be shared on this.

Citizenship / PSHE Topics for Summer Term

KS3:

Disability Awareness

Social media use/ Sexting

Environment/Climate Change

Y7- Water Safety, Rail Safety, Learning from Failure, Leadership/initiative

Y8- Alcohol, The importance of Homework, Road Safety, Resilience/Perseverance

Y9- Cannabis, Blackmail and Fake news, Values, Organisation/Communication

Citizenship Session 5- Managing Money and Personal Finance

Gender Equality

Sexual Harassment

Trafficking and Modern day Slavery

Careers Session 3

Domestic abuse/Child abuse

LGBTQ+ Awareness

KS4/5:

Online Sexual Content

Disability Awareness

Environment/Climate Change

Revision Planning

Citizenship Session 5- Managing Money and Personal Finance

Sexual Harassment

Gender Equality

Careers Session 4- Work Experience

LGBTQ+ Awareness

Domestic abuse/Child Abuse

Smoking/Vaping

Learning from Failure

Police Cadets

An exciting opportunity has been launched for students across Year 8 and 9.

West Midlands Police are recruiting students aged between 13-17yrs from a variety of different backgrounds.

The Cadet Scheme provides young people with opportunities to develop their skills, better their understanding of policing and become Active Citizens within their communities, alongside attending and supporting local events.

On Tuesday 5 March students in Year 8 who registered an interest in being a volunteer Police Cadet attended an introduction session with the Police Cadet Engagement Officer.

On Tuesday 9 April, Year 9 students who have registered an interest will have the opportunity to meet the Police Cadet Engagement Officer and ask any further questions. After both initial sessions have taken place students will then be recruited.

Parents - The Police Cadets are also looking to recruit parents to be Cadet Leaders to volunteer also! If this is something that you would like to know more about please email cadets@westmidlands.police.uk to register your interest.

Uniform and training is provided. A DBS and police vetting will also need to be undertaken.

Papyrus

PAPYRUS- Is a suicide prevention charity that offers support to parents on how to have difficult conversations with their children around their mental health and wellbeing.

A virtual session will be held on **Wednesday 15 May at 6pm**. Parents will be invited to attend with a link emailed once a register of interest has been completed.

Please completed the form link to register your interest:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=CAhSz1MVvkiRlORFrB4NEopP0vT8GJhGsTnn19Ox-AIUOERMQUUxMjE1WDBNMEZDR0tYVE81N0JSRi4u>

If you wish to look through there website before training please use the link: [Papyrus UK Suicide Prevention | Prevention of Young Suicide \(papyrus-uk.org\)](https://www.papyrus-uk.org/)

Upcoming Events

Thursday 11 April at 3:30pm in the Conference Room at Sandwell Academy – BROOK
Wednesday 15 May at 6pm, Parents can join virtually.- PAPYRUS