



Biddulph High School: Safeguarding Bulletin

Issue No: 2 March 2021

Useful telephone numbers and websites:

If you have serious concerns about a child:

- Staffordshire First Response Safeguarding: 0800 1313 126
- Stoke on Trent Safeguarding: 01782 235100
- If a child is in immediate danger ring 999

NSPCC:

- Information for students and parents
- 0808 800 5000 if you are worried about a child
- email help@nspcc.org.uk
- www.nspcc.org.uk

Childline:

- 0800 1111 helpline for students 18 years of age or under
- www.childline.org.uk

MIND:

- Mental health information and support
- <https://www.mind.org.uk/>

Samaritans:

- Call 116 123

New Era:

- Free and confidential support to all those affected by domestic abuse
- Call 0300 303 3778
- <https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/help-and-support/get-help/support-near-you/west-midlands/new-era-staffordshire-and-stoke-trent>

NEWS

Wellbeing

We were delighted to welcome students back to school and we have spent much of the past week working on rebuilding relationships. We know that whilst many students have had a positive experience of lockdown and the return to school, some students will be experiencing different emotions. It is therefore important that both parents and students know who to speak to at school if they need to.

In the first instance we suggest students speak to or email their form tutor. Alternatively, each year group's pastoral team can be contacted by email or by ringing the school.

- Year 9: Miss Harte and Miss Foster
- Year 10: Miss Davies and Mr Wiggins-Thomas
- Year 11: Mrs Hatch and Mrs Brough
- Sixth Form: Mrs Taylor and Mrs Homer
- Safeguarding: Mrs Moss and Mrs Marks

Operation Encompass

The school has been given the opportunity to take part in a project that will run jointly between schools and Staffordshire Police. Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced any domestic abuse.

Operation Encompass will ensure that members of the school staff - the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy DSL - are trained to allow them to liaise with the Police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have been experienced a domestic abuse incident. We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our students and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved.

Healthy Relationships

Last week, Mrs Hatch delivered an assembly to Years 9-11 on "Healthy Relationships" and she began by discussing communication and boundaries, including consent, as important aspects of any good relationship. She then covered the differences between different types of relationship, using the graphic below. Students were signposted to people they could talk to if needed.



Bereavement support



The Dove Service are a grief support charity in Stoke-on-Trent & North Staffordshire, providing services to people within the community from the age of 4+ who are experiencing issues relating to bereavement, loss, or life-changing illness.

As part of the Winter Wellness project they are currently running a 'Dove Buddies' weekly drop-in group which will provide help and support for children and young people experiencing grief and loss of a loved one. In addition, they also run 1-2-1 Grief Counselling delivered via zoom or telephone, providing up to 6 sessions for those young people effected by grief and/or loss.

For more information go to <https://www.thedoveservice.org.uk/> or contact the school.

Useful Documentaries

In the past few weeks there have been two interesting documentaries – both available on BBC iPlayer - that relate to situations that some of our young adults may experience, that parents and carers may want to watch.

Zara McDermott – Revenge Porn

Zara McDermott shot to fame on Love Island in 2018. But as soon as she left the villa, Zara was told that naked photos she had shared with an ex were now circulating worldwide. The incident left Zara devastated, ashamed and looking for answers. She isn't alone. Revenge porn - the sharing of explicit or sexual images or videos without consent - is raging in the UK, with cases reported to police doubling in four years.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p096h12v/zara-mcdermott-revenge-porn>

Roman Kemp – Our Silent Emergency

Roman Kemp explores the mental health and suicide crisis affecting young men. When Roman lost his best friend, he had no idea he was struggling. Now, Roman is searching for answers.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p098hsv6/roman-kemp-our-silent-emergency>

County Lines– preventing vulnerable exploitation

County lines is the name given to drug dealing where organised criminal groups (OCGs) use phone lines to move and supply drugs, usually from cities into smaller towns and rural areas. They exploit vulnerable people, including children and those with mental health or addiction issues, by recruiting them to distribute the drugs, often referred to as 'drug running'. OCGs often use high levels of violence and intimidation to protect the 'county line' and control them. Please see the poster below, to help you spot the signs that may indicate someone is involved in county lines. For more information about County Lines, please visit the Staffordshire Police website here: <https://www.staffordshire.police.uk/countyines>

Children are being exploited by gangs involved in drug crime. Know the signs to spot.

County lines gangs use children and vulnerable people to courier drugs and money. A young person who is involved in county lines activity might exhibit some of these signs:

<p>Persistently going missing from school or home, or being found out-of-area</p>	<p>Unexplained acquisition of money, clothes or mobile phones</p>	<p>excessive receipt of texts or phone calls</p>	<p>Relationships with controlling, older individuals or gang association</p>	<p>Leaving home or care without explanation</p>
<p>Suspicion of self-harm, physical assault or unexplained injuries</p>	<p>Parental concerns</p>	<p>Significant decline in school performance</p>	<p>Significant changes in emotional well-being</p>	

If you have concerns, follow your safeguarding procedures and share your concerns with local authority social care services.

Home Office

Making reports work with CrimeStoppers.