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Safeguarding Newsletter

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Hello and welcome back to our monthly safeguarding newsletter. This month, we are focussing on domestic abuse and the impact this can have on children's lives. If you are worried about a child, school staff along with external support agencies such as the NSPCC have advice and support to help you keep them safe.

Domestic abuse is any type of controlling, bullying, threatening or violent behaviour between people who are or have been in a relationship. It can also happen between adults related to one another. It can seriously harm children and young people, and it is important to recognise that witnessing and experiencing domestic abuse is child abuse. It's important to remember that domestic abuse:

- Can happen inside and outside the home
- Can happen over the phone, on the internet and on social networking sites
- Can happen in any relationship and can continue even after the relationship has ended
- Both men and women can be victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse.

Our adults in school are trained in recognising and responding to the signs of abuse. If you have any concerns about a child, please ask to speak to a DSL, or request a 'Dragonfly meeting'.

For more information, please refer to the NSPCC domestic abuse page here or visit our safeguarding webpage on our website here.

We want to hear from you! If ever you have any questions, concerns or updates in relation to safeguarding, please reach out to a Designated Safeguarding Lead in school either by using the email above or popping into the office.



Miss Westron Lead DSL



Mrs Phillips Deputy DSL



Mrs Street Deputy DSL



Mrs Furby Deputy DSL



Spotlight Support:

Each issue we signpost a different support area for you or your child to go to if needing to access a particular type of help or signposting.

This month, we highlight Childline's 'Report, Remove' tool to help children to confidentially report sexual images and videos of themselves and remove them from the internet.

Click the image for information or use some of the tools for advice and help to support you and your child in keeping safe online:



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College's #WakeUpWednesday aims to equip every trusted adult with the knowledge and skills they need to keep up with the latest information, implement best practice and heighten their awareness of issues around the core topics of online safety and mental health & wellbeing.

WakeUp

This month, we are highlighting #WakeUpWednesday's free E-guide for parents and carers for support and tips for supporting children in understanding Al Generated videos. This free guide explores Al-generated videos, and the dangers they pose to young people, including deepfakes, misinformation, and manipulation.

Al can now generate realistic looking videos that are almost impossible to distinguish from genuine content. From hoax news to abusive deepfakes, these synthetic clips can mislead, manipulate and even harm. As Al tools become more advanced, and more accessible, young people are increasingly at risk of encountering fake but convincing footage online. This #WakeUpWednesday guide unpacks the dangers of Al-generated videos, from the emotional impact of fake distressing content to the potential for impersonation and bullying. With practical tips to help young users spot deepfakes and navigate online spaces with confidence, this guide is an essential read for parents and educators navigating this rapidly evolving digital landscape. Click the link to find out more!

Are you up to date on Memes?

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida (Senior lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London) has created this online safety guide which explores how meme culture affects young people - from misinformation to inappropriate content and digital footprints.

Memes are everywhere - quick, witty, and wildly shareable. For many young people they are more than jokes, they're a way to connect, express themselves and interpret the world. But behind the humour, there can be risks.

<u>This guide</u> helps adults understand how memes work and why they matter to young people today.

From misinformation to insensitive jokes and permanent digital footprints, this guide highlights the potential pitfalls of meme culture.

With practical tips on digital literacy, empathy and open conversations, it empowers parents and educators to help children navigate online



humour in a thoughtful, safe, and respectful way.



Whether you want to report child abuse and neglect or are worried about a child and not sure what to, we have advice for you. Don't wait until you're certain: if you have any concerns or suspicions, contact us or <u>use the NSPCC website</u> as soon as possible.



