

June 2021

Dear Parent or Carer,

I know that many of you will have heard about the national response to the Everyone's Invited website in recent weeks. This led to an Ofsted Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges. The findings of this review were published on 10th June 2021.

It is clear that the Ofsted Findings raise a significant national and societal issue and in that context, I wish to remind parents and carers of the safeguards that we have in place to make sure that our pupils are not placed at risk:

- All staff have updated safeguarding training in line with the latest government guidance. Our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy has guidance within it around peer on peer abuse and harmful sexual behaviour along with our response procedures. Further information on peer on peer abuse, including prevention and procedures we follow, sits within our Anti-bullying policy. These policies are available on our school website. (Add links) We also follow the guidance in Keeping Children Safe in Education.
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/954314/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2020_-_Update_-_January_2021.pdf
- All pupils are taught the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) curriculum. This programme is well taught, comprehensive in nature and age-appropriate. Our RSE Policy is available on school website. (add link)
- The use of technology has become a significant component of many safeguarding issues. We understand the responsibility to educate our pupils on Online Safety Issues; teaching them the appropriate behaviours and critical thinking skills to enable them to remain both safe and legal when using the internet and related technologies, in and beyond the context of the classroom. Our Online Safety and Data Security Policy is available on the school website. <http://www.parc-eglos.cornwall.sch.uk>
- All pupils benefit from working in a calm, safe school underpinned by a clear behaviour policy and subsequent expectations. Our Behaviour Policy is available on our school website. <http://www.parc-eglos.cornwall.sch.uk>
- We have high expectations of conduct from all members of our community including respect, honesty, kindness, tolerance and courtesy. We communicate these values every day through high expectations of behaviour and this is further supplemented by our PSHE curriculum that is delivered through class sessions and as part of our assemblies.
- All pupils know who they can speak to if they have a concern. We have posters around the school with photographs of key members of staff who are on the Safeguarding team to ensure that pupils know who they can go to for this support. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mr Christopher Powley and the Deputy Safeguarding Lead is Mr Tony Flint.

- Pupils are well supported throughout the day including during break and lunchtimes. There is a high level of supervision to ensure that all pupils are safe and have access to trusted adults should they need to report any concern. There are members of the leadership team on-call at all times of every day and available to support pupils with any concerns or matters.

We benefit from the strong governance of the Southerly Point Co-operative Multi-Academy Trust and our school's Local Governing Body. In practice, this involves regular visits to the school and regular, detailed monitoring of safeguarding processes alongside quality training and developmental support.

Our position as a trust and school is clear: **sexual violence and sexual harassment are never acceptable, will never be tolerated and are not an inevitable part of growing up.** I can assure you that we will never permit such behaviour to become accepted and we remain committed to working openly and transparently with our pupils to promote mutual respect.

What should I do if I have concerns?

To continue to keep everyone safe, we must keep lines of communication open. The appropriate means for disclosing an allegation of abuse relating to another pupil is always to inform a member of the safeguarding team directly. In the event that an allegation is made against a member of staff, this must be sent to the Headteacher. If the allegation is against the Headteacher, this must be sent to Donna Bryant, Trust Executive Leader. Details of this are in our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. We will always act on concerns raised.

External support is always available from:

- The Multi-Agency Referral Unit (MARU) 0300 1231 116
- Cornwall Children's Social Care - out of hours 01208 251300
- Childline on 0800 1111
- NSPCC on 0800 136663 or help@nspcc.org.uk

Many thanks for your continued support

Kind regards



Headteacher

