

How can students support each other?

Young people are most likely to confide in their friends. It is really important that students encourage each other to report this behaviour or report it directly themselves.

It is really important not to be a bystander and allow this behaviour to continue. Reporting this behaviour is not 'snitching'. It is a positive step to tackling this unacceptable culture and shows that you have integrity and are a good friend.

What happens after it's been reported?

One of the school safeguarding team will deal with the situation. They will:

- Support the victim
- Listen to their wishes and feelings
- Help to speak with parents/carers
- May pass the information on if needed. This could be to the police or social care.
- Offer ongoing support

What preventative work do we do?

We highlight this issue with all students through:

- PSHE lessons
- Collective worship in tutor time
- Promoting this leaflet
- Promotion of the safeguarding team around school

This issue is also highlighted regularly with staff and forms part of their regular safeguarding training.

Who to contact at school

You can contact any member of staff to report incidents or concerns of sexual harassment. However, the safeguarding and pastoral team are best placed to support.

They are:

- Form tutors
- Heads of Year
- Behaviour support officers
- Designated Safeguarding Leads

All staff are listed on our website.

The quickest way to contact them is by emailing

info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk

If you need to discuss a sensitive or difficult topic, please just ask for one of the safeguarding team to get in touch with you.

Further information

The full government report can be found at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-sexual-abuse-in-schools-and-colleges>

Tackling Sexual Harassment in Schools

Information for parents/carers and students

Derby Cathedral School
Midland House, Nelson Street, Derby DE1 2SA
Tel: 01332 325710
info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk
www.derbycathedralschool.org.uk



What is peer-on-peer sexual abuse/harassment?

Peer-on-peer sexual abuse/harassment includes the following incidents between students:

- sexist name-calling
- rumours about their sexual activity
- unwanted or inappropriate comments of a sexual nature
- being sent pictures or videos they did not want to see
- being put under pressure to provide sexual images of themselves
- having pictures or videos that they sent being shared more widely without their knowledge or consent
- being photographed or videoed without their knowledge or consent
- having pictures or videos of themselves that they did not know about being circulated
- sexual assault of any kind
- feeling pressured to do sexual things that they did not want to
- unwanted touching

Who does this happen to?

These behaviours are more commonly experienced by girls but are experienced by boys to a lesser extent.

It tends to be more common in older teenagers but is reported by children of primary-school age.

It's not normal and it's not ok

Sexual harassment is not ok and should not be tolerated by anyone.

Sadly, these behaviours are becoming more common and often go unreported. Young people report that this behaviour is becoming normalised.

However, **it is not normal and should never go unreported**. No one should ever see this behaviour as 'banter' or 'just jokes'.

It is everyone's responsibility to tackle this unacceptable behaviour by:

- Having an open and honest culture
- Educating young people as to what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour
- Ensuring all involved understand the importance of reporting this behaviour and how to do so.

How to report this

It is important that we have a culture where students feel confident to report this behaviour to any adult in school or at home.

Sexual harassment can, and should be reported to school, preferably to a member of the safeguarding team, but students can report this to any adult they feel comfortable to talk to.

Students can speak to staff in school, email a member of staff directly or email safeguarding@derbycathedralschool.org.uk

What can parents/carers do to support?

As well as in school, sexual harassment also often occurs online and as reported in a recent report:

'When we asked children and young people where sexual violence occurred, they typically talked about unsupervised spaces outside of school, such as parties or parks without adults present'

It is really important for you as parents/carers to:

- Talk to your child about this topic in an open and honest way
- Ensure they know any form of sexual harassment should not be tolerated and must be tackled
- Tell them how to report this and who to report it to
- Inform school of any concerns, no matter how small
- Regularly check your child's online activity: who they are communicating with and the content and language in their online conversations
- Check what online groups they are part of – WhatsApp and Snapchat tend to be the platforms where most issues occur
- Be aware of your child's activity out of school

Please see information on the reverse for how parents/carers can inform school.