Safeguarding Update Issue 11

The Hollybrook School's Safeguarding Team


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Domestic Abuse

www.childline.org.uk

Southampton Safeguarding Partnership

If you have concerns about a child or wish to receive some form of support, please come and talk to a member of the safeguarding team.

What is Domestic Abuse?

Domestic Abuse is any type of controlling, bullying, threatening or violent behaviour between people in a relationship. It can seriously harm children and young people. Experiencing domestic abuse is child abuse. It is important to remember 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 abused or abusers.

Signs of Domestic Abuse

It can be difficult to tell if domestic abuse is happening and those carrying out the abuse can act very different when other people are around as they may trying to be cover up what is really happening. Children and young people might also feel frightened and confused, keeping the abuse to themselves.

Signs that a child has experienced domestic abuse can include:

- aggression or bullying
- anti-social behaviour, like vandalism
- anxiety, depression or suicidal thoughts
- attention seeking
- bed-wetting, nightmares or insomnia
- constant or regular sickness, like colds, headaches and mouth ulcers
- drug or alcohol use
- eating disorders
- problems in school or trouble learning
- tantrums
- withdrawal.

Living in a home where domestic abuse happens can have a serious impact on a child or young person's mental and physical wellbeing, as well as their behaviour. And this can last into adulthood.

What's important is to make sure the abuse stops and that children have a safe and stable environment to grow up in.

If you have a concern about a child, please report it to the DSL or complete an online concern form which are available on the school website

If you have any other safeguarding concerns that you would like information on, please email:
head@hollybrookinfant.co.uk or
head@hollybrookjunior.co.uk
Issues that have been covered in the Safeguarding Updates so far are:
Issue 1 – Online Safety
Issue 2 – Extremism and Radicalisation
Issue 3 – Gangs
Issue 4 – Keeping Children Safe 2023/2024
Issue 5 – Anti-Bullying
Issue 6 – Child on Child Abuse
Issue 7 – Upskirting and Sexual Violence
Issue 8 – Children Missing in Education
Issue 9 – Child Sexual Exploitation
Issue 10 – Child Criminal Exploitation: County Lines

Further Help and Useful Websites:

https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/

Refuge Help Number: 0808 2000 247

Victim Support Number: 0808 1689 111

NHS support website

NSPCC information on helping children witnessing domestic abuse

Relate: 0300 003 0396