

TEACHING AND LEARNING GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS

Welcome to our monthly Learning Newsletter where we seek to share some of the initiatives and strategies we use in school so you might best support your child in their education, in order to benefit your child and further enhance their educational experiences in the long term.

Peer on Peer Abuse in Schools: A Parent's Guide

At school at the moment, we are educating the pupils about peer on peer abuse, what it is and what it is not. We offer this guidance to support you in how to approach this sensitive topic with your child.

Peer on Peer Abuse : What is peer on peer abuse?

Peer-on-peer abuse is any form of physical, sexual, emotional and financial abuse, and coercive control, exercised between children, and within children's relationships (both intimate and nonintimate), friendships and wider peers. Peer on peer abuse can and does happen in a whole range of settings that children attend, however it often goes unseen. It might take place online, for example, or away from school.



What peer on peer behaviours are not OK? (this includes, but is not limited to)

- It is **not OK** to bully someone (including cyber bullying)
- It is **not OK** to physically abuse someone such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting or otherwise causing physical harm
- It is **not OK** to sexually harass someone such as sexual comments, remarks, jokes and online sexual harassment
- It is **not OK** to create images or videos (known as youth produced imagery) and share them with others



What signs should I look out for as a parent?

- absence from school or disengagement from school activities
- physical injuries
- mental or emotional health issues
- becoming withdrawn – lack of self esteem
- lack of sleep
- alcohol or substance misuse
- changes in behaviour
- inappropriate behaviour for age
- abusive towards others

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Issue Focus: Peer on Peer Abuse

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if you wish to discuss anything
covered in this newsletter

