



The English Martyrs Catholic
School and Sixth Form College

SAFEGUARDING & WELLBEING NEWSLETTER

Spring Term | April 2025

The Safeguarding Team

at The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College

At The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College everyone is responsible for the safeguarding of students. All staff have had safeguarding training and are familiar with Keeping Children Safe in Education. We all work to ensure our school is a place where students are and feel safe.

We have four staff designated to deal with your questions, concerns or safeguarding issues.



Nicholas Lindsay
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Rebecca Corcoran
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Tracey Torka
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Kelly Anderson
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead

Safeguarding is
EVERYONE'S Responsibility



INFORMATION

At The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College we know how important Safeguarding is. Safeguarding is a vital aspect of any school setting, as it ensures the safety and wellbeing of all students, staff and visitors.

We foster a culture and practice of safeguarding. All staff have annual safeguarding training and all school policies and practices are fully compliant with Keeping Children Safe in Education. We work with professionals to ensure students can thrive and be safe. We take action to enable all children have the best outcomes, as we want our students to have the best start to life.

We have a Safeguarding and Welfare Office in school. Students are welcome to drop in before and after school, during break and lunchtime if they need any support.

If at any time our young people need to speak to a safeguarding officer, they just need to let their teacher know and a safeguarding officer will collect them and speak to the young person.

CPOMS & Class Charts

We use an outline platform called Child Protection Online Management System (CPOMS). CPOMS is used to record relevant information so that documentation and communication are carefully logged in order to ensure children are safe. Class Charts is an online platform used to record achievement and behaviour.

LANYARDS



Staff and Sixth Form Students wear lanyards so that they can be identified as having the correct checks and have permission to be on site.

- Navy – Safeguarding Team
- Red – EMS Staff
- Yellow – Visitors without a DBS
- Green – Visitors with a DBS
- Black – EMS6 students



Parent Online Safety Support

Young people are spending a lot more time online doing their schoolwork, gaming, and socialising. However, it's important we all consider how we can help keep young people safer online. Here's some information about what your child may enjoy online and what you can do to help keep them safer!

Online gaming

Online games are social activities, and most have features that allow young people to chat with others whilst they play. Make sure your child knows who they are chatting to, and they are a person known to them.

Sharing Images and videos

Young people often share images or 'selfies' and there is potential for some of those to be nude or nearly nude images. Young people share 'nudes' for a number of different reasons, and some situations are riskier than others. For information about the contexts in which images are shared and how best to respond, take a look at [Nude selfies: a parents' guide](#)

Steps you can take to help keep your child safer online

Have an ongoing conversation: Continue to talk about the apps, games, and sites they like to use, and what they like and don't like and any concerns about being online. Discuss with them when to unfollow, block or report. [TALK Checklist by Internet Watch Foundation | Home](#)

Make sure they know where to go for support: Remind your child they can always speak to you or an adult they trust if anything happens online that makes them feel worried or upset. Remind them that they won't be in trouble and that you are there to help.

For a breakdown of report services, visit: Supporting your child with reporting unwanted content online Make sure they know about NCA CEOP: Young people can report a concern about grooming or sexual abuse to NCA CEOP at <https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/> and get support from a specialist Child Protection Advisor

'Add Everyone' Whatsapp Alert

Recent concerns have been highlighted regarding a WhatsApp group known as 'Add Everyone.' Schools and regional police forces across the UK have warned that this group exposes children and young people to explicit and harmful material. 'Add Everyone' group chats can go by many names, but their purpose is often the same. These WhatsApp groups are spaces where children and young people are invited to join a chat that contains content such as sexual images, material promoting self-harm, sexual violence, racism and other inappropriate content. The chats may be created by adults seeking to connect with younger users or by young people themselves as a seemingly fun activity. However, it is difficult to control who becomes a member of these groups, in some cases, the group owners ask for children to add their contacts to the group, 'except their parents'. As WhatsApp has lowered its minimum age from 16 to 13 this year, the risk of young users encountering inappropriate content and adults may increase. Reports indicate that these groups have targeted children as young as 9. Please be vigilant on your child's phone.

Rail Safety

Young people often make responsible choices around rail safety but there can be times when their decision making can be blurred. Network Rail and Living Switched On looks at a range of themes such as peer pressure, the dangers of group mindset and the impact of decisions. When surrounded by peers, usual rational thinking can sometimes slip from being their main focus. Dangers can include the misuse of train station escalators to sitting on the platform edge. With school holidays upon us and lighter evenings, it is important to be aware. The links below has lots of advice, highlights potential dangers together with thought provoking videos that will help support conversations with your children around rail safety. [Network Rail secondary school safety talk – Learn Live](#)
[12-16 Years - Switched On!](#)

#NeverOk

Bullying | Harassment | Racism | Discrimination



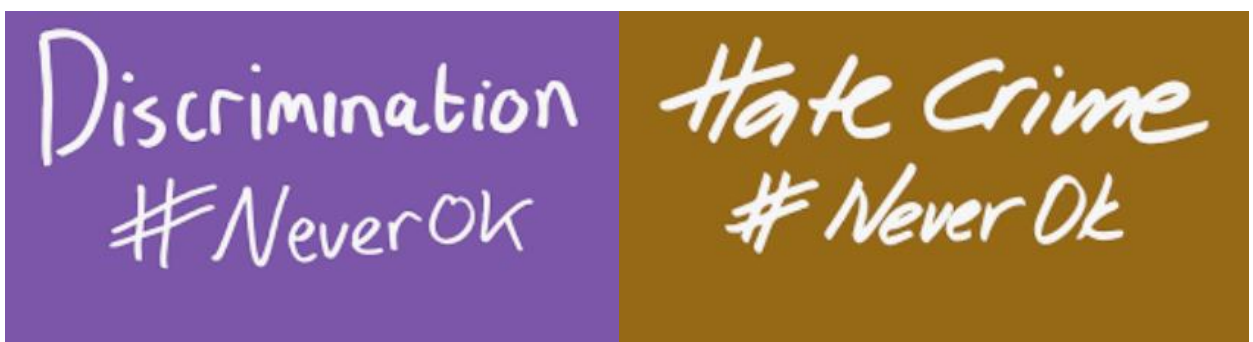
As a school, we have a zero-tolerance attitude towards bullying, harassment and discrimination. We make it clear that it is never ok to portray this behaviour and encourage all students to report anything they see or hear.

Campaigns across the year explore ways in which students can report any forms of bullying or discrimination and identifies who they can speak to if they require support. However, some students may not feel confident enough to speak to someone and that's where our #NeverOK campaign comes in.

The #NeverOK campaign aims to reinforce this message and provides students with the ability to report any incidents of bullying or discrimination that they see, hear or are subjected to. Students can click on the link below to submit any concerns and this will be investigated by the Pastoral and Safeguarding teams.

To report a concern please go to:

<https://ems.bhcet.org.uk/neverok/>



Supportive Organisations



[Visiting a foodbank | Hartlepool Foodbank](#)

Use this link for support and advice on Foodbank access.

HartlepoolNow

Telephone: **01429 272905** (Mon - Thurs 8.30am - 5pm and Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm)

Speak to somebody in person at the Community Hub Central, York Road or Community Hub South, Wynyard Road - Mon - Fri 10am - 4pm.

The Children's Hub (01429 284284) can provide information, advice and guidance on services and support for children, young people and families.



**HARTLEPOOL
COMMUNITY HUBS**

York Road
Hartlepool
TS26 9DE

The Hubs bring together a range of services from different organisations under one roof to help you.

Follow on Facebook for up to date information and timetables.

Monday-Friday 10:00 - 16:00

Saturday 10:00 - 12:00

Gingerbread

Single parents, equal families

Provides single parents with advice and practical support. You can call the helpline on 0808 802 0925.

SAFEGUARDING STAFF AND VISITORS

In addition to protecting and supporting young people, it is vital as a school we protect staff and visitors. When you visit the school site between the hours of 7:00am and 4:30pm, we ask for all visitors to sign in at the main office, in the Sixth Form Block. No visitors should enter the site without reporting here first. Visitors are inducted with the relevant safeguarding policies and procedures (these can also be found on the school website).



We want to ensure that our staff are safe from abuse. As a school we do not tolerate any aggression or abuse directed towards our staff. We work to ensure school and parents/carers have good relationships to support our children. There may be a situation where you need to talk to a member of staff. Please make an appointment as we can not accommodate meetings that are not pre-arranged.

me, you, us
safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

School Site

Safeguarding in schools is important to ensure that the school environment is safe and secure for all. This includes ensuring that emergency procedures are in place in case of an emergency. We have annual fire drills and lock down drills.

SAFEGUARDING YOUR CHILD

NSPCC
'Learning'

YOUNG MiNDS
fighting for young people's mental health

Steps we can complete together to keep your child safe;

- Ensure they know that they can speak to all staff about how they feel and if there is anything worrying about them.
- Staff will inform a relevant member of staff who can help and assist your child.
- We will communicate with home. To ensure we can contact home, please make sure we have at School App is linked to your device. We communicate regularly on here, this ensures you gain information for your child.
- Parents/carers can contact the school via the safeguarding email address, if they wish to meet with one of the team.

kooth

Kooth is an online **mental wellbeing** community for young people

For ages: **11-18**

Sign up for free at **Kooth.com**

Qwell

Community support means everything to us

Explore our supportive and anonymous mental wellbeing community for adults.



Chat online to qualified counsellors



Read and write articles



Get online support from the Qwell community



Set personal goals and record how you feel

qwell.io



EASTER SUPPORT



PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) EASTER HOLIDAYS 2025

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free



BURGER KING

From Monday 7th - Sunday 20th April 2025, Kids Eat Free with every adult meal, via the app.

BILLS

Kids eat free Mondays - Fridays, from Monday 7th - Friday 25th April 2025.

FARMHOUSE INNS

2 kids eat FREE with one paying adult, Monday 7th - Friday 25th of April. Sign Up Required

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase any adult meal (Via App)

ZIZZI

Sunday 6th - Sunday 27th April 2025 kids eat free with every adult main. (excludes Saturdays)

YO! SUSHI

Kids eat free all day (monday - friday) during all school holidays, when dining with an adult

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids eat for £1 with every adult meal.

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 every, with no adult spend.

TRAVELodge & PREMIER INN

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day

WHITBREAD INNS

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

PREZZO

Kids receive a free, 3 course kids meal, everyday at Prezzo between 31st March - 27th April 2025

COCONUT TREE

One child (under 10) eats free every day, 12pm - 6pm from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April 2025

PIZZA HUT

Kids eat free buffet from Monday 7th - Sunday 27th April, after 3pm daily with a £10 spend

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Sun to Weds. All Day Thursdays

MORRISONS

Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend

LAS IGUANAS

Kids under 12 eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App

TABLE TABLE

2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult!

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend

SA BRAINS PUBS

Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.

HELP IN THE COMMUNITY

In addition to the support within The English Martyrs Catholic School and Sixth Form College, there is also assistance within the community via the NHS.



Hartlepool Health Social Prescribing

The aim of Social Prescribing is to help people live their lives as well as possible, with a focus on supporting them to take control of and to improve their health, well being and social welfare by linking patients up with community organisations.

Sometimes your GP may not be the best person to help you. You may want to consider speaking to one of your Social Prescribing link workers who can help you with a range of issues.

These Include:

- ☐ Housing issues
- ☐ Bereavement support
- ☐ community signposting info
- ☐ Educational support
- ☐ Employment support
- ☐ Exercise
- ☐ Financial support
- ☐ Health promotion
- ☐ Social isolation
- ☐ Support for carers
- ☐ Low-level mental health (mild anxiety & depression caused by social factors)

Referral process

You can self refer to one of our Social Prescribers by contacting your GP practice or alternatively completing an E-consult via your GP practice website. One of our Social Prescribers will contact you to chat more in detail about what is affecting you.

McKenzie House Surgery
Victoria Medical Practice
Throston Medical Centre
Headland Medical Centre
Hartfields Medical Centre
Wynyard Road Medical Centre

NHS



CONTACT

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us via email. This email address will be monitored everyday over the Easter period for emergency contact.

safeguarding@ems.bhcet.org.uk



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