



# SWB Academy

Autumn 2016  
Issue 4

## SAFEGUARDING BULLETIN

### Message from Mrs Dickens— Deputy Vice Principal (Safeguarding)

Welcome to another Safeguarding Update. I am sure you have seen some of the messages on SWBTV regarding Safeguarding. This month the Academy has supported anti-bullying week, the focus being “power to the good”.

Through assemblies and form time activities students have been considering the effect on themselves, others and families when young people and adults experience bullying. Students watched powerful drama scenes acted by students and listened to thought-provoking poetry. The Year 7s particularly liked the SWB Anti-Bullying Charter—Be a buddy not a bully.

We have received extremely positive parental feedback, regarding our Safeguarding Bulletin, if you have any suggestions for future editions please let me know by contacting Reception.

### Winter Nights

Cold, dark nights and early mornings are now upon us. We are encouraging students to wrap up warm with outdoor coats, hats and gloves for their journey to and from school. In addition, we are encouraging students to ‘STAY SAFE’ by sticking to well-lit routes to and from school and preferably not walking alone. Icy pavements can also be a hazard so please discuss safe travel with your child.



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In a recent poll of 100 students across the Academy, 98% of students reported that they feel safe at the Academy. This is fantastic news! The area which caused concern is that students reported they don't always feel safe in their local community in the evenings/at the weekends. Keeping Children Safe in Education Department of Education 2016 - [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/550511/Keeping\\_children\\_safe\\_in\\_education.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/550511/Keeping_children_safe_in_education.pdf) gives indicators that young people could display should they be unsafe or drawn into unsafe activities within their communities. As parents you may notice changes in your child's behaviour such as those listed opposite, you may question what has caused the change. Should you need any support, the Academy would be able to speak to you and offer guidance to ensure your child is keeping themselves safe outside of school.

## Great News

The Academy has been recognised for its E-Safety filters ensuring students are safe online. All staff have been training and received certification in Safeguarding, E-Safety and Prevent (the Government's Anti-Extremism initiative)

## E-Safety at Christmas

At Christmas time students may receive electronic media devices as gifts. Although students are taught how to stay safe online, please remind them how to stay safe, check/monitor how they are using the technology and if they are on Facebook add them as a friend! Remember, the minimum age to hold a Facebook account is 13 years old!

In the New Year, there will be an E-Safety training event for parents. If you are interested please contact Reception on 01902 493797.

## Some of the indicators of concern are:

- ◇ Self esteem and moral has become very low
- ◇ Disengaged from learning/sports activities
- ◇ Absent/truanting school
- ◇ Angry outbursts
- ◇ Physical injuries
- ◇ Returning home late with no explanation
- ◇ Unexplained money or gifts
- ◇ Unexplained mobile phone(s)
- ◇ Associating with older people
- ◇ Involvement in offending
- ◇ Vulnerable behaviour on the internet and/or social networking sites
- ◇ Change in physical appearance
- ◇ Fear to go to certain areas of the community

## Meet the Team

**Mrs Jane Dickens**—Designated Safeguarding and Child Protection Officer

**Mr Chris Simpson**—Deputy Safeguarding and Child Protection Officer

**Mrs Julie Jones**—Deputy Safeguarding and Student Services Pastoral Leader

## Medical Updates

Your child's health /medical needs are of great importance. Please update the Academy of any medical changes for your child.