



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our termly safeguarding newsletter. We want you to know that the welfare and safety of your children continues to be our main priority.

If you think a child is in immediate danger, please dial 999 and contact the Police.

Domestic Abuse

Each year there is a reported spike in domestic violence with fears that this year will be further impacted by the pandemic leading to an estimated 15,000 children exposed to domestic abuse over the 2 week festive season. **Christmas 2021 saw the number of domestic violence incidents nearly doubling nationally, from 200,000 reports in 2020 to 369,000 in 2021.**

The Christmas period often brings with it a reported increase in police call-outs for incidents of domestic abuse. Financial pressures, alcohol on tap, trying to create the 'perfect' Christmas and being cooped up together for long periods all contribute to a regular rise in domestic abuse. However, organisations that support victims have warned that pressures brought about by the cost of living crisis are expected to exacerbate the impact on those who are already at risk.

If you are concerned about someone who is at risk or suffering from domestic abuse please call one of the helpline numbers below; In an emergency always dial 999.

National Domestic Violence Helpline – 0808 2000 247

The Men's Advice Line, for male domestic abuse survivors – 0808 801

0327 National LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Helpline – 0800 999 5428 Action on

Elder Abuse helpline: 0808 808 8141

The Academy, is part of Oasis Community Learning (OCL). OCL collects and processes personal data. Personal data is any information that can lead to the identification of a specific individual. Data we collect relates to various groups of data subjects (i.e. individuals) including parents, carers, students, siblings, our employees, volunteers and others involved in the life of the Academy. Data is collected for a variety of purposes including our legal and educational obligations, as well as statistical reporting. Some personal information we process is required to meet these obligations, whilst other information we process requires the specific consent of the individual and is optional and these circumstances are clearly indicated where relevant. The data is retained and managed in accordance with the OCL Data Protection and associated policies. More information about the processing of data within OCL can be found on the Academy and OCL websites within the Privacy Notice or can be obtained by contacting the Academy directly.

E-Safety – Inappropriate Content

“Inappropriate” means different things to different people. What’s acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various way – from pop-up ads to TikTok videos.

The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they’re exposed to age-inappropriate content.

There is a **guide from National Online Safety**, which you can get from the internet and lots of amazing tips from **The Safer Schools App** you will find many tips on a number of potential risks such as social media, gaming and adverts.

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Mental Health

Christmas may be something you look forward to, or it may be a time of year you find a bit tough. What a Christmas period brings will be individual to each of us. Christmas can be a joyful time of year for some people, through connecting people they love and joining in with celebrations. And it can be a hard time of year for others, through feelings of obligation and over-commitments to social plans, disruption in routine or an increase in feelings of loneliness and isolation. Please consider the following:

Balance your sense of social obligations against your need of self-care.

Prioritise and tackle things one at a time.

Find time for yourself- it may be taking a long bath but 5 minutes for yourself can be really helpful.

If you are in distress this Christmas and want someone to talk to, please call Samaritans on 116 123- their phone lines are open all day every day over the festive period and they're free to contact.

Finally, thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter, we hope that you have a great Christmas and look forward to seeing you again in 2023.

Mrs Vadukul

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