

SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER



April 2023

Welcome to the April edition of the safeguarding newsletter. As we end the spring term, we are acutely aware of the additional financial pressures that the holidays can bring. In this newsletter, there is a reminder of the Warrington Foodbank and also details of a holiday programme aimed at children entitled to Free School Meals.

We have also been raising awareness of the important topic of sexual harassment in school, and there is more information below.

If your child requires mental health support over the holidays, please visit <u>www.kooth.com</u> or phone the crisis line on 01925 275309.

We wish you all a happy and safe holidays, and look forward to seeing the children when we return.

Kind regards,

Ms Jones and the Keep Kids Safe team.

KEY NUMBERS

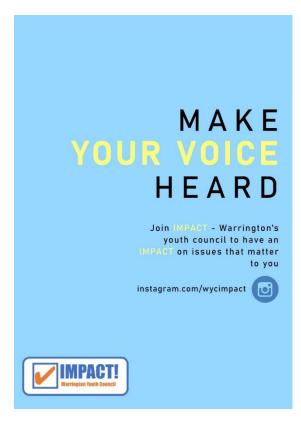
Anyone can contact the services below directly, regardless of whether you are a child, parent, carer or a member of staff. If you have a safeguarding concern, please ensure you pass it on: safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

01925 443322 (Option one, followed by option one)	01925 443322 (Option two)	0808 800 5000
Warrington Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)	Out of Office Emergency Duty Team	NSPCC
For urgent safeguarding concerns about a child	For urgent safeguarding concerns about a child outside of office hours	For adults who are worried about a child
0800 1111	101	999
Childline	Police Non-Emergency	Emergency Services
For children who are worried about their own safety or need some advice	For reporting any crimes or concerns	For anyone in immediate danger (including if you are worried about the immediate risk to a child)



Holidays & Enrichment





Impact

Impact, Warrington's youth council are currently looking for new members. Any young person who lives or goes to school in Warrington aged 11-19, is eligible to join. They do work campaigning on issues important to Warrington's young people. The group is great for young people who want to make a difference and make new friends: they can do that through public speaking, creative work, or supporting their peers. They also have trips to meet other youth councils throughout the year and take part in regional events which are free to take part in.

Their Instagram is run by the young people in the group and includes examples of recent projects they have been working on, such as International Woman's Day, Warrington Foodbank and environmental issues: IMPACT! (@wycimpact)

If you have any questions or would like to find out more, please contact kpierce@warrington.gov.uk. There is no formal referral process, just a chat!

Warrington Foodbank

A reminder that Warrington Foodbank will provide three days worth of nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to them in crisis. Referrals need to be submitted by a referring agency such as Citizen's Advice. Visit their website to find out more information. https://warrington.foodbank.org.uk/

We also have a foodbank at school and are more than happy to provide food parcels to families who need them. To arrange collection of a food parcel, please email: info@padgateacademy.co.uk

Holiday Activities & Food Programme

Warrington's holiday club programme is available for all children who are eligible for free school meals. They can take part in fun, enriching activities and receive a healthy meal. For more details, please email HAF@warrington.gov.uk or visit

https://www.warrington.gov.uk/haf.





Keeping Kids Safe



Sexual Harassment

A subject that has been receiving increasing attention in recent years is the issue of sexual harassment. It is important that as a school, our students feel safe and respected at all times, which is why we have been working hard to raise the awareness of this important topic. All staff, students and governors have now received education on this subject, and we would also like parents and carers to have the same awareness.

Sexual harassment is defined as any unwanted or unwelcome sexual behaviour, whether verbal, non-verbal or physical, that is either intended or unintended. It can take many forms, from inappropriate touching or groping, comments or jokes of a sexual nature, to sharing explicit images or videos without consent. Sexual harassment can occur anywhere, including online through social media.

In 2021, Ofsted published a report into sexual harassment in schools. The report 'revealed how prevalent sexual harassment and online sexual abuse are for children and young people.' The report also stated: 'It is concerning that for some children, incidents are so commonplace that they see no point in reporting them.'

Historically, some forms of sexual harassment have become so normalized in society, that it often goes unchallenged and victims do not see the point in reporting it. At Padgate Academy, we want to buck this trend and we are therefore constantly working to educate students to ensure that they behave appropriately at all times, so that it does not become an issue in the first place.

It is important to note that sexual harassment is not only a problem that affects girls or women; it can happen to anyone, regardless of their gender, and can have serious consequences for the victim's mental health and academic performance.

We encourage students to speak up if they experience or witness sexual harassment. Students can report incidents to any member of staff they feel comfortable talking to, who can then inform the Keep Kids Safe team.

We aim to create a safe and respectful environment for all our students, and we believe that addressing sexual harassment is an important step towards achieving this goal. We appreciate your support in helping us to educate our students about the importance of consent, respect, and boundaries, and in promoting a culture of zero tolerance towards sexual harassment.

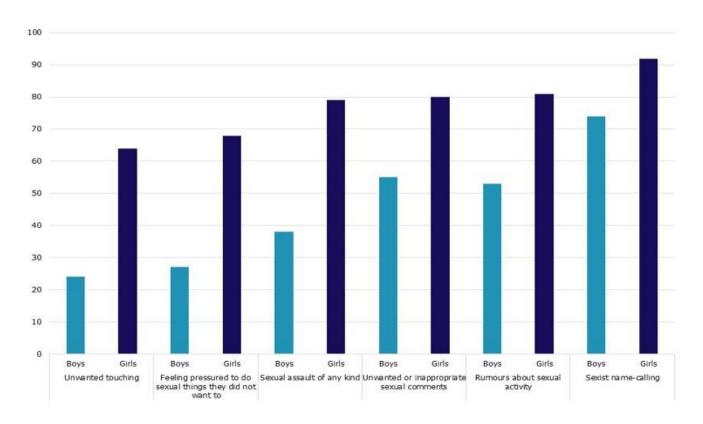
We take all reports of sexual harassment seriously. Any student who is found to have engaged in sexual harassment will be dealt according to our school's behaviour policy and also educated to try and prevent further instances from happening in the future. For more information on our approach to sexual harassment, please see the following section of our website: Sexual Harassment & Abuse | Padgate Academy

Below are some statistics provided in the Ofsted report, which shows the types of sexual harassment children are facing across all areas of society:

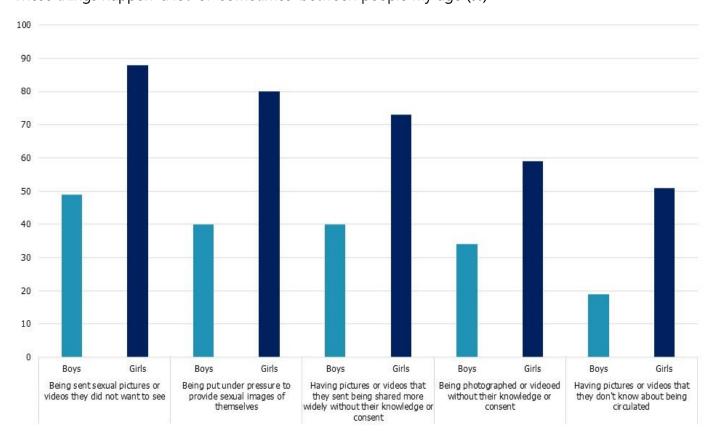




These things happen 'a lot' or 'sometimes' between people my age (%)



'These things happen 'a lot' or 'sometimes' between people my age (%)'



We hope you have found this newsletter useful. For further safeguarding information, please visit the school website: https://padgateacademy.co.uk/safeguarding