

SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

July/August 2023

Welcome to the final safeguarding newsletter of the academic year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents/carers for all you have done this year to work together with us when it comes to keeping the children safe. We very much value our collaborative relationship and look forward to continuing this in the new academic year.

We know that summer can be difficult for a lot of families, as the routines change and there is lots of time to fill. This newsletter contains some information regarding summer activities for children who are eligible for free school meals and support available over the summer.

We wish you all a wonderful summer.

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.

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

Early Help

Holiday Activities & Food

School holidays can be difficult for some families. The cost of extra food, childcare, and activities to keep children active and entertained can be challenging.

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is a scheme funded by the

Department for Education. It gives children who are eligible for free school meals the

opportunity to take part in fun, enriching activities and receive a healthy meal. For a full list of activities/support on offer, please click the following link: [HAF Summer 2023 info sheet.pdf](#)



Uniform Donations

In the last newsletter, we appealed to parents of year 11 students who no longer require their uniform and would be in a position to donate it to the school so that we can provide it to students who may need it next academic year. We have received many donations, which we are extremely grateful for. We are always in need of uniform donations, so we would like to extend this appeal in the final weeks of the terms. If your child is not in year 11 but has grown out of their uniform and no longer has a use for it, we would gratefully receive any donations. If you have anything to donate, please leave the items in reception for the attention of Ms McKittrick. We greatly appreciate your support in this matter.

Mental Health Support Team



We are very lucky to be one of the schools in the area who have access to the Mental Health Support Team (MHST), which is a service which provides evidence-based interventions to students who may be experiencing difficulties with issues such as anxiety and low mood.

In order for children to access the service, they must be referred by school. There is a consultation once every half-term, at which school explains the child's needs. The MHST will then either accept the child for assessment, or suggest a more appropriate service.

Once accepted, the MHST will be in touch with parents/carers and will invite you to contribute towards the assessment. Once assessed, a care plan is agreed, and

most follow-up appointments for intervention will be held in school.

For more information about this service, please visit the following link:

<https://www.merseycare.nhs.uk/our-services/warrington/mental-health-support-teams-1>

Support over Summer

Kooth

With summer just around the corner, now is a great time to remind parents/carers of the wonderful service that is Kooth.

Kooth offer free, safe & anonymous support to young people in Warrington. This includes live text-based counselling, peer-to-peer support, and self-help resources. There is no waiting list, no minimum criteria to access support and no referral needed. We encourage any young person who may be finding things difficult, to make the most of the free mental health support available to them through this service; particularly for those who may find the holidays hard.

In the next few weeks, Kooth are hosting a number of webinars for students and parents/carers, to inform them of all the support they can provide over the summer and throughout the year. This includes topics such as male mental health, self-harm and eating disorders. Follow this [link](#) to see the dates/times of the sessions, as well as recorded videos of previous webinars which may also be of interest.

To start using Kooth, children just need to visit www.kooth.com and create a username. Support is available 365 days of the year.



REACH

REACH is a free, confidential text service for children, young people and adults. The text message support is available 24/7 for anyone who is feeling overwhelmed or is struggling to cope. The service is staffed by trained volunteers who will work with you to take your next steps towards feeling better. They can help with issues such as stress, anxiety and depression and are able to talk via text at any time of day or night. Simply text the code and number for the area you live in for immediate support.

To access the service, text REACH to 85258 for immediate support. For more information, visit: <https://giveusashout.org/>

Crisis Line

If your child is experiencing a mental health crisis and you require urgent support or advice, you can phone the crisis line on 0800 051 1508. This number is open 24/7.

Alternatively, you can contact the CAMHS Response Team every day until 9pm, on 01744 627 618.

SAFEGUARDING

If you are worried about the safety of a child over summer, please contact the MASH team on 01925 443322.

STAY SAFE ONLINE THIS SUMMER

