

'Building Capacity' – Safeguarding Learning and Development

All staff, ITT trainees, volunteers and Governors are committed to the safeguarding and well-being of students in our care.

The 4 R's support the safeguarding culture that exists within our school.

- 1. Recognise** – All staff at TBGS question behaviours and can identify when and why a child may be at risk.
- 2. Respond** – All staff respond with a child centred approach. Staff focus on what is best for the child/young person, at all times. Staff feel comfortable approaching students and offering support - they know how to respond during a disclosure.
- 3. Record** - Staff always follow the correct procedures & are skilled at recording their concerns using CPOMS, or via the pink referral form. Staff provide the safeguarding team with important information including the 'child's voice'. Concerns are recorded at the earliest possible opportunity.
- 4. Refer** – All concerns referred to the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Staff feel confident their concerns are being addressed. They understand what support is available for students and would press for reconsideration if they feel the response has not been effective.

Online Safety Webinar – Guidance and Instructions

The webinar is hosted by the National College and, whilst the delivery is fairly bland, it will further enhance your understanding of online safety and how much responsibility is placed on staff to identify, intervene and escalate when concerns arise.

Module six is probably the most relevant to us at present, with many students assuming different identities online and suffering from mental health concerns due to the pressures of being online and not wanting to miss out on social interaction (FOMO- fear of missing out). Staff may recall an article I circulated earlier in the year, through one of my e-safety updates, which exposed the shocking reality and pressures children face whilst using social media platforms like Whatsapp and Instagram. Tutors discussed this article with their tutees and found that many were waking up each morning to find, on average, approximately 200- 300 messages/posts they felt pressurised to read and view! This module also covers device addiction and we have seen a significant increase in parents contacting us with their concerns. Often, we find a direct link between gaming addiction and those students who are not engaging with their homework and I anticipate this problem will have increased dramatically during lockdown!

Would you know how to respond if you suspected a student was involved with an incident of sexting, online identity theft or online grooming? Remember, our Safeguarding and Child Protection policy is a 'tool kit' for staff to refer to when these concerns arise, but this webinar will certainly enhance your understanding of the current risks our students face online and how we can help to support them.

Our Students Are At Risk Every Time They Go Online

Very recently, we had a year 11 student groomed whilst online and tricked into sending nude photos and explicit videos to a convicted pedophile. This student understood the safety messages surrounding online grooming, but he was convinced he had struck up a relationship with a girl, (despite never meeting her) and this, unfortunately, clouded his judgement. The National Crime

Agency contacted us with information, but this was the first we knew of the problem – could we have identified this concern sooner? Is there more we can be doing to educate our students?

Developing A Whole School Approach

This is a high priority for us - having featured heavily in the statutory guidance released in KCSIE (Sept 2019)

Year 7 students sign an ICT Acceptable Use Policy when first joining us, designed so that parents discuss the policy with their child and agree on safe and responsible behaviour, at all times.

Online safety is delivered within the curriculum and features heavily in computer science and within PSHE.

Parents are provided with online safety updates through our newsletter and are encouraged to read DITTO – an online safety magazine. We also send out safety alerts when we learn of potentially dangerous content being released online, or apps that are not safe to use.

Our SEND students and their parents receive online safety advice during each of their 3 annual reviews and potential concerns are identified through this process.

Webinar Objectives

All staff must understand the dangers young people face whilst online. They must be ready to respond to concerns and be able to advise students on how to stay safe.

Upon inspection, Ofsted will want to know that staff have been trained to **Identify, intervene** and **escalate** when concerns arise.

This training builds on the Prevent I learn module staff completed in the Autumn term which featured online radicalisation.

There are seven modules to complete and an assessment at the end (20 questions).

You will receive email confirmation every time you complete a module and, pleasingly, your progress is saved if you wish to complete the course in stages.

LVK has sent staff 'log in' details for accessing the National College training hub, but here is a direct link for your convenience.

<https://thenationalcollege.co.uk/hub/view/course/online-safety>

Once completed, please can you download your certificate, save and rename (with your name) and place on the **L Drive – Safeguarding – Online Safety Certification**

Thank you and good luck!