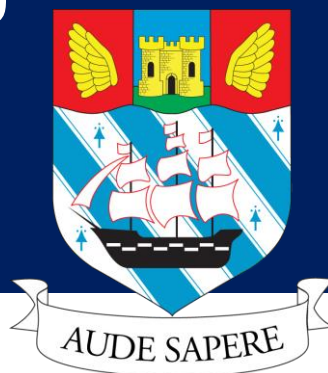


Safeguarding Newsletter

Spring Term 1 2024



Our half termly newsletter gives advice and updates on all safeguarding matters, to support keeping our whole community safe.

The Safeguarding Leadership Team.



Mrs Wilkinson



Ms Stacey



Mrs West

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2024.

We constantly focus on promoting positive Mental health amongst our students. This week, we took part in this annual event to further raise awareness. Ms Saunders delivered an assembly to all students and in their tutor time activity students explored both the positive and negative impacts of the internet on mental health.

SELF – HARM parental workshop.

Sarah and Helen, our two school counsellors led a workshop for parents on the topic of self - harm. This was well received and we will be looking to repeat this later in the Year during the evening at the request of parents. We will send correspondence out once a date has been confirmed.

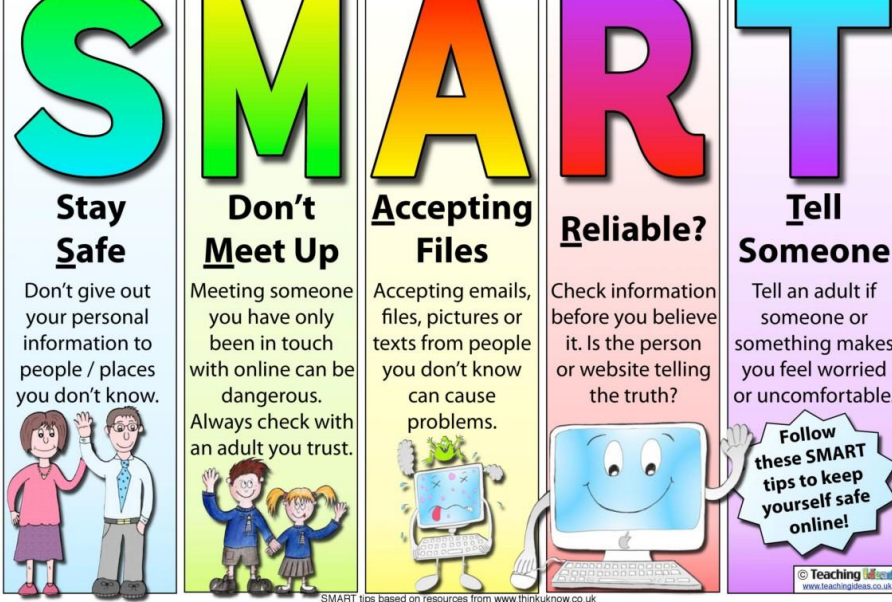
Mental Health Schools Team

We are delighted to share that TGGs has been accepted to work alongside this NHS based team. Practitioners will be working alongside our school counsellors and staff to further strengthen our support for student's well – being.

Do you really know what your child is viewing online? You may have seen recently in the news that two teenagers were convicted of the murder of Brianna Ghey. A review is being undertaken into this, inclusive of the amount of time that the convicted teenagers spent on their mobile phones, using whats app to plan this awful attack. There was also evidence that they had viewed inappropriate content on the Dark Web. The mother of Brianna Ghey is campaigning to create separate mobile phones for children and adults, due to the impact of social media on children. We continually remind parents of the importance of checking their children's phone, restricting screen time and not allowing them to have their phones in their bedrooms overnight. This incident is a stark reminder of how crucial this is. There is more guidance on the next page of this newsletter.



Safer Internet day 2024. This year the focus of safer internet day is inspiring change, making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online. This is to encourage the next generation to use the internet in the most positive way. Students have been discussing this in tutor time and are thinking of ways we can promote this here at TGGs. We know that it is increasingly difficult to live without the internet, and therefore we must embrace the positivity it brings, whilst stamping out the negatives.



Online Safety We constantly remind our students of their digital footprint. The average teenager spends up to 3 hours a day on their phone accessing social media. It is so important that parents take an active role in ensuring children access the internet safely. We continue to publish advice during through our website for our whole community. There is advice on our parent specific online safety page through our website [Online Safety - Parents | Torquay Girls' Grammar School \(tggsacademy.org\)](http://www.teachingonline.org.uk/parents). The most recent publication be

It is highly recommended that you do not allow your child to have access to their mobile phone overnight in their bedrooms.

Please encourage your children to be **SMART online**. If you have any concerns with any content your child has received you can report this through the following sites:

www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre <https://reportharmfulcontent.com/>

Transgender / Gender questioning DFE Guidance.



You may be aware that the government have recently issued draft guidance regarding how schools should support students and families. We are committed to supporting all students in the LGBTQ+ community and their well-being is our priority. Students can attend our Gender, Sexuality and Allie's (GSA) club if they require any support.

Contacts if you are concerned about a child during the Half term break. If you are worried about a child, or if you are a child worried about your own safety, or your query is of a safeguarding nature please call the MASH (Multi agency Safeguarding hub):

For Torbay residents call **01803 208100** or email mash@torbay.gov.uk For out of office hours please call 0300 4564 876.

For Devon residents call **0345 155 1071** or email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk

If you or a child is at immediate risk, please call **999**. If you need support there is lots of helpful information such as websites available [here](#).

County Lines Gangs

We continue to remind our students of our contextual safeguarding risks through PSHE and safeguarding assemblies. County lines is when drug gangs use children to transport drugs and money around the country. This tends to start off on a local basis but can then lead to children being sent all over the country. One of the main strategies of the gangs is to break the relationships between home and the child. Research has shown that gangs have broadened their 'targeted' children to females, who come from more affluent backgrounds. Unfortunately, all children are at risk of exploitation, so it is important that parents know the signs to look out for, which are -

- **Coming home with an extra mobile phone**
- **New clothes such as trainers / watches and jewellery that you have not purchased**
- **Coming home with unexplained injuries that cannot be accounted for**
- **A change in behaviour, detaching from the family unit and becoming more aggressive in their tone / behaviour.**
- **Spending more time away from the family home.**

You can find more information here [What is county lines and child criminal exploitation? - Missing People](#)

COUNTY LINES TERMS



DEAL LINE:
DEDICATED PHONE
LINE USED IN THE
DISTRIBUTION OF
DRUGS



**BANK / PLUG
DRUGS:** TO 'BANK'
OR 'PLUG' DRUGS,
MEANS TO
CONCEAL THEM
INTERNALLY

CUCKOOING:
WHEN THE HOME
OF A VULNERABLE
PERSON IS TAKEN
OVER BY DRUG
GANGS - THROUGH
VIOLENCE AND
INTIMIDATION -
AND USED AS A
BASE TO SELL
MANUFACTURE
DRUGS



**TRAP HOUSE OR
BANDS:** A
BUILDING
USED AS A BASE
FROM WHERE
DRUGS ARE SOLD
AND SOMETIMES
MANUFACTURED,
AND YOUNG
PEOPLE CAN BE
FORCED TO STAY

DEBT BONDAGE:
WHEN VICTIMS
ARE IN DEBT TO
THOSE
EXPLOITATION
THEM, SO THEY
FEEL THEY HAVE
TO PAY THEM
BACK IN VARIOUS
WAYS, AND
THEREFORE
CONTINUE TO BE
EXPLOITED

