Safeguarding Information

Parent and Carer booklet

SIR JOHN THURSBY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Our Climate for Learning ethos is:

Ready, Respectful, Safe.

Student safety is at the heart of everything that we do.

AMBITION | RESPECT | BELONGING

Introduction

Working Together to Safeguard Children states:

"Nothing is more important than children's welfare. Children who need help and protection deserve high quality and effective support as soon as a need is identified."

At Sir John Thursby we are passionate about keeping our students safe and looking after their wellbeing.

This booklet is designed to make sure that you as a parent/carer know what we can do to help both your as a family and your child(ren). We actively encourage our parents and carers to contact our Safeguarding Team or Family Support Team if support is required.

Our primary focus is to make sure that every young person in our school is safe and well. It is our responsibility to have support in place to ensure that their welfare is considered and supported at all stages throughout their time with us at Sir John Thursby.

Sometimes our young people are good at hiding their emotions and feelings, so it is hard for us to spot that they are struggling. As a parent / carer, it may be that you notice changes in them and are worried. We encourage you to call and discuss your concerns with us. By working together we are in a much better position to support your child(ren) and ensure that they are happy and successful.

Within this booklet there is advice and guidance on how to keep your child(ren) safe and what to do if you feel that they need help.

You can also go to our website for further advice:

www.sirjohnthursby.lancs.sch.uk

Who you can speak to if you are worried about your child(ren):

Depending on your concern and relationship with staff, it is important that you know we have several teams available to discuss your concerns.

The **Year Teams**, known as Achievement Leaders and Assistant Achievement Leaders work closely with the students in a pastoral capacity and will know your child(ren) well. It is often suitable for you as a parent/ carer to call them and discuss your concern. They will either be able to deal with the concern as they have had Level 3 Child Protection and Safeguarding training, or they will raise your concern with the Family Support Team or the Safeguarding Team.

Year Teams:

Year 7: Mr Hill and Mrs Thompson

Year 8: Mrs Talib and Miss Saleem

Year 9: Ms Cutts and Ms Nicette

Year 10: Miss Tierney, Mr Gibson and Mr Abassi

Year 11: Mrs Hanif, Mr Gott and Mrs Hindle

Our **Family Support Team** are always available to support students and their families during difficult circumstances. They have a wealth of knowledge and experience supporting families ranging for food bank parcels and housing issues to being Lead professionals for Level 2 – Universal Plus support (formally known as the CAF process). This is where they will arrange meetings called Team around the Family and work with other professionals to assist you as a family in whichever way is necessary.

The Family Support team will also complete referrals on your behalf for external services such as “We are with you”, ELCAS and Northern Community Network.

Family Support Team:

Mrs Tempest

Mrs Woods

We also have 5 members of staff trained to the highest level of safeguarding, who form our **Safeguarding Team**. They will be there to help you and your child(ren), to guide and support you should there be a serious concern about your families welfare or safety. As a parent / carer you are able to call in and discuss any serious safeguarding concern with our Safeguarding team with the confidence that you will be treated with respect and empathy. It is our aim to support every child and their families to ensure the best outcomes for all.

Safeguarding Team

Mrs Tregay

Mrs Tempest

Mr Renshaw

Mr Harwood

Mr Smith

To speak to any member of the Year Team, Family Support Team or Safeguarding Team, please call our main switchboard on: 01282 682313 and ask to speak to you team member you feel is appropriate.

If you would like to see our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, it can be found on the school website:

https://www.sirjohnthursby.lancs.sch.uk/Policies/

What we do to keep your child(ren) safe:

Our Climate for Learning policy uses Ready, Respectful and **Safe**, our key focus is always to promote safe behaviour and support your child(ren).

Our Child Protection and Safeguarding policy is updated annually and follows key government guidance to ensure that we are working to the highest standard. Additionally, we have other policies and procedures in place linked to student safety, such as Anti-bullying, Climate for Learning, On- line Safety policies. All of our key policies that assist with student safety can be found on our website:

https://www.sirjohnthursby.lancs.sch.uk/Policies/

All staff go through a rigorous checking process to ensure that they are appropriate adults to work with students. Any allegation against a member of staff is investigated to ensure all students are working with appropriate adults when at school and staff are following appropriate processes.

To keep our students safe online in school, our online monitoring and filtering system reports in real time any concerning searches, meaning we are in a position to support students immediately if they have searched anything concerning or written any worrying statements. This also allows us to monitor websites and ensure key websites used for grooming and exploitation can be blocked and reported immediately. We also have discussions with your child(ren) if their search engine creates a concern for staff. When a concern is raised, you as a parent / carer will also be informed where necessary.

We do not accept discrimination and have processes in place to deal with discriminatory language and behaviour.

Our Safeguarding team are available to speak with both students and their parents / carers so that concerns can be raised and plans created for support.

We train all of our staff annually to make sure that they know what to do if they are worried about a student and their welfare or safety, giving you as a parent / carer peace of mind that your child(ren) are in safe hands throughout the day.

Our Safeguarding team will work with other professionals to support you and your family. This means that if you are needing a little extra help and support, we will try and help you find it.

For students or parents / carers who are struggling in their home and may need additional services and support, we have staff trained to help both the students and their parents/ carers.

We are also an Operation Encompass registered school, this means we work closely with the police to ensure if a difficulty arises at home or in the community our liaison with other externals services means that we are ready to support the student and where appropriate and necessary the family.

What you can do to help keep your child(ren) safe:

1. Talk to them – learn about their friends and their hobbies so you know where they will be, who they will be with and what they hope to do.
2. Make sure you know where your child is and who they are with.
3. Give them a time to come home
4. Have regular "check ins" with them if they are out all day.
5. Do not let them go to places alone – especially late at night or when it is dark.
6. Show them safe routes to places (shops / friends' houses etc)
7. Do not let them meet people alone who they have met on line
8. Work with them to instil confidence in them. This will help to show predators they are strong and they could then leave you alone.
9. Set aside time each week to have a catch up – they are precious to you, let them know this so that if they are scared or in trouble they will come to you for help.
10. Understand that you and your family may know the person who is attempting to groom your child – predators who groom children and young people can often be family friends.
11. If you are worried – talk and seek advice.
12. Wherever possible allow your child to carry a mobile phone so that they can call for help if they get into trouble. Depending upon the phone – there are security features such as an instant alarm. Work with your child to show them these features.
13. If your child is using public transport – teach them to but a return ticket rather than a single – this way they can always get home.
14. Teach your child what to do if they think they are in danger – who to all, where to run.
15. Talk to your child about emotions and feelings, this way if they are feeling overwhelmed, they will know that it is not a bad thing and they can get help.

https://www.stopitnow.org.uk

What you can do to to keep your child(ren) safe online

1. Where possible try and put their computer in a family area so you are there to monitor what they are doing.
2. Have access to their passcodes and regularly check they messages and social media accounts.
3. Do not accept friend requests from people you do not know.
4. Do not meet in person anyone who you have only spoken to on line
5. Allow your parent / carer access to your accounts so that they can help to keep you safe.
6. Never use discriminatory language on social media forums or online communication
7. Do not take and / or share inappropriate images – this can be of yourself, of someone else or of extremist or illegal activity.
8. Have a safe and secure password and do not share it with any friends.
9. If you receive any form of abuse -do not respond, save the evidence and report it to an appropriate adult. Remember - - to respond often means that you are also in the wrong and it makes it harder to support you.
10. Be careful letting others use your mobile phone – it is yours and you are responsible for it – what they do and send will be linked to you.
11. If you are leaving your computer in school – make sure you lock the screen before walking off.
12. Consider what information you share on social media. Remember to over share allows predators to know who you are, what you look like and where to find you.
13. Do not get tricked or pressured into sharing an image of yourself that you are uncomfortable with everyone seeing. Once you have done this – a bad person can use it to force you to send more and you cannot control what happens to that image.
14. Block any users who make you feel uncomfortable or send you inappropriate or negative messages.
15. Do not use your real name in chat rooms, do not reveal where you live.

Remember once you have posted something on the internet – you no longer have full control over it. Only share what you are happy for EVERYONE to see. Do not ruin your present or your future with posts and images that will be there forever. You can find further information and support at:

https://www.internetmatters.org
https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/

Where to go for help when school is closed

NSPCC:

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/reporting-abuse/report/

0808 800 5000

Childline:

https://www.childline.org.uk/

0800 1111

Police:

https://doitonline.lancashire.police.uk/

999

Children's Social Care:

0300 123 6720

Out of hours 0300 123 6722.