



Safeguarding Update Term 1.2 2023

Anti-Bullying

The safeguarding focus for this half-term has been anti-bullying. In November, we marked Anti-Bullying Week with dedicated assemblies and time for students to reflect on how we can 'Make a noise about bullying'. The key message shared was that everyone is responsible for helping to prevent bullying, both within our school and in the wider community. We have seen a positive response to this, with some lovely examples of students supporting others, and high levels of engagement with the newly-launched Tellmi app.



Social Media

Very much linked to the theme of anti-bullying, we have continued to work hard as a school in order to protect our students from the dangers of using social media. We recognise that apps such as Whatsapp and Snapchat are an integral part of many students' social lives, and therefore we aim to ensure that students are as well-informed as possible when it comes to protecting themselves and avoiding unnecessary risks.

At the end of this bulletin, you will find some detailed information designed to inform parents and carers about how you can support and protect your children.

Vaping

The rise in popularity of vaping amongst young people remains an area of concern for schools across the country. In addition to our ongoing educational and preventative work, it is imperative that both students and parents/carers are armed with the facts when it comes to vaping. Here are some key pieces of information that you may wish to discuss with your child:

- It's illegal to sell e-cigarettes containing nicotine to under-18s
- 20.5% of children have tried vaping
- Children who vape could be at risk of becoming addicted to nicotine; experiencing side effects such as headache and feeling sick; experiencing other, as-yet unknown health effects; being exploited by people who provide them with vapes.

If you would like any more information about any of the issues covered in this bulletin, or have any other queries related to safeguarding, please email safeguarding@emmbrook.wokingham.sch.uk.