

Sexual Harassment Statement

Ivybridge Community College is addressing the topic of sexual harassment and abuse in schools through its study of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) in CPSHE lessons.

The new 2021 statutory guidelines have been created in response to the increasingly complex world our children and young people are growing up in. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way. All of the new statutory RSE requirements support the wider work of the College in helping to foster student wellbeing and develop resilience and character which we know are fundamental to our students being happy, successful and productive members of society.

Statutory guidelines for respectful relationships including friendships:

- The characteristics of positive and healthy friendships (in all contexts, including online) including: trust, respect, honesty, kindness, generosity, boundaries, privacy, consent and the management of conflict, reconciliation and ending relationships. This includes different (non-sexual) types of relationship.
- Practical steps they can take in a range of different contexts to improve or support respectful relationships.
- How stereotypes, in particular stereotypes based on sex, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or disability, can cause damage (e.g. how they might normalise non-consensual behaviour or encourage prejudice).
- That in school and in wider society they can expect to be treated with respect by others, and that in turn they should show due respect to others, including people in positions of authority and due tolerance of other people's beliefs.
- About different types of bullying (including cyberbullying), the impact of bullying, responsibilities of bystanders to report bullying and how and where to get help.
- That some types of behaviour within relationships are criminal, including violent behaviour and coercive control.
- What constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable?
- The legal rights and responsibilities regarding equality, particularly with reference to the protected characteristics of:
 - Age
 - Disability
 - Gender reassignment
 - Marriage and civil partnership
 - Pregnancy and maternity
 - Race
 - Religion or belief
 - Sex
- Their rights, responsibilities and opportunities online, including that the same expectations of behaviour apply in all contexts, including online.
- Indecent images of children (including those created by children) is a criminal offence which carries severe penalties including jail.