



Ivybridge Community College Parent and Carer Bulletin

Spring Term II 2024

Safeguarding and E-Safety

Thank you to Sharon Girling OBE for working with staff, students and parents/carers during our National Safer Internet Week. Sharon provided a wealth of knowledge and support to families in our community. We are pleased to share the links to our previous newsletter [here](#) as a reminder of how to establish parental controls on phones to support our students and their online safety. It became clear that whilst physically at home a number of students are 'talking to strangers online (often from their bedrooms) at night'. If your child asked you if they could go out between 9.00 and 11.00pm with a number of strangers what would you say? No? Please help us to keep our children safe and set 'downtime' and to 'know in real life' those they talk to online.

Sharon also shared how employers and colleges run checks prior to taking students on at College, for apprenticeships and for other employment opportunities. Students were reminded to set privacy settings, to share professional email addresses with appropriate names and to link these to social media which reflect the professional people they are i.e. sharing links to research, journals, interests and hobbies but not inappropriate photos of them on social occasions with friends.

If you would like any further support with any of this please reach out to your child's Tutor, Pastoral Leader or a member of the Safeguarding Team who would be happy to support you.

At Ivybridge Community College we take E-Safety seriously and have a proactive approach to looking after our students online. The filtering and monitoring systems that we use at College allow us to ensure that we can intercept any harmful material that is accessed via our College system. This includes any devices that are linked to our College wi-fi. Having this in place means that we do not just stop students accessing harmful material but also allows us to have educational discussions with our students about E-Safety. We have a staff E-Safety working group who meet regularly to discuss trends of harmful content being searched so that we can identify areas of E-Safety that need to be covered in our curriculum through the PSHE lessons and assemblies.

We strongly advise all parents/carers to consider your own filtering and monitoring systems at home in order to keep all young people within your home safe online. For more information on this please visit our website [here](#)

The College wishes to highlight the importance of the Online Safety Act, this legislation came into effect on 31 January 2024 and criminalises the act of sending unsolicited sexual images with the intent to cause distress or alarm.

Remember to urge our young people to [report here](#) any unwanted receipt of Child Sexual Abuse Material.

In our last bulletin we included information on vaping. Please click [here](#) for more information on vaping and e-cigarettes.

Keep Safe this Spring.

Please give us feedback on the usefulness of this Parent and Carer Bulletin and let us know if there are topics you would like to see in the future. [Click here](#)

Visit our website for more information [here](#).



Amy Pearce
Senior Lead Safeguarding
and Attendance

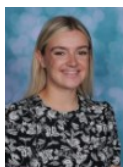


Matt Anniss
Designated Safeguarding
Lead

PSHE

The theme for PSHE this half term is 'Relationships'.
Following feedback from ParentMeet please find extra detail regarding the PSHE themes for this half term [here](#)

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| Year 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-esteem Positive Relationships Unhealthy Relationships |
| Year 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protected Characteristics Discrimination Diversity |
| Year 9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Diversity Positive Relationships Managing Conflict and Change |
| Year 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respecting Diversity Extremism Managing Online Influence |
| Year 11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Types Fertility and Contraception Pregnancy and Parenthood |
| Year 12 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consent Workshops Coercive and Controlling Relationships Finance |
| Year 13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mentoring sessions to be organised with PSHE teachers, to focus on three areas: academic, well-being and future pathways Tutor to support with study skills |



Eleanor Burston
PSHE Lead

Equality and Diversity

Equality and Diversity Notices

Looking back at Spring Term I:

- Student Equality Ambassadors continued to promote compassion at Ivybridge Community College by running a Well-being Hub for Children's Mental Health Week.
- Assemblies conducted for all Year Groups with a focus on respect and anti-discrimination.
- Kadus Smith from Plymouth Argyle Community Trust began working with our Rugby and Football Academy players to promote equality and diversity.

Looking forward to Spring Term II:

- LGBT+ History Month will be celebrated in the month of February to support awareness, respect and inclusion.
- The Literary Canon Tutor Programme is to be reviewed in relation to books that include racial and discriminatory language in response to student feedback.
- Student Voice Group of Youth Culture Champions will continue to meet to feedback and discuss action points in promoting multiculturalism and anti-racism within our school.
- We would like to invite parents/carers in to College for the Equality and Diversity ParentMeet on Thursday, 14 March 2024. We will be exploring equality, diversity and inclusion at Ivybridge Community College with a focus on promoting anti-racism and multiculturalism.



Darby Ball
Equality and Diversity Lead