



# Ivybridge Community College Parent and Carer Bulletin

## Summer Term I 2025 - Safeguarding and E-Safety

**Summer Term I** - We were delighted to welcome our students back after the Easter break as we all look forward to a busy Summer Term. We all look forward to the warmer weather, but we would like to remind you to talk to children about water safety in our area and being safe in our community and at the beach.

Please encourage your children to read the latest RNLI advice [here](#) on beach safety, rip currents found locally [here](#) and river safety [here](#).

Examinations are underway and we want to wish all of our students the best of luck, but also remind you again of the support and advice around examination stress and anxiety that is available on the Devon Mind website by clicking this [link](#).

### Telling Culture – A Stance Against Bullying

Many young people feel that the issue of bullying is something they have to deal with themselves. They can often feel that adults will not take them seriously and that talking to someone will just make things worse. However, we know that bullying has an enduring impact on young people all the way through to their adult life, and it should be taken as seriously as other allegations of abuse.

At Ivybridge Community College we promote our Telling Culture. Our Telling Culture promotes our College Values of Respect, Aspiration, Integrity and Compassion. We want students to come and speak to staff at the College should they feel they, or someone else, are suffering from the effects of bullying.

Our Telling Culture also reaches out to our community and if you as a parent/carer have concerns about your child, or someone else, being subjected to bullying, please do not hesitate to let us know.

We encourage our students to STOP, SPEAK and SUPPORT.

**STOP!** - Take time out before getting involved, this includes online. Do not share or like negative comments.

**SPEAK!** - Tell an adult or friend that you can trust for advice.

**SUPPORT!** - Give the person being bullied a supportive message to let them know they are not alone. Try to encourage them to tell an adult or friend that they can trust. There are also external support channels that can be accessed for young people.

### E-Safety

#### Stay Safe with Social Media

Do you know what your child is accessing online? Are they safe online? There was a 25% rise in child abuse image offences recorded by UK Police in 2022 and 2023, this continues to grow. Snapchat was involved in almost half (44%) of instances where an online platform was identified by Police. Meta-owned platforms Instagram, Facebook and WhatsApp were used in a quarter of offences where the online platform was identified by Police. Anyone can be added on Snapchat by someone they do not know via the Quick Add function. This could be simply by viewing a story that the user was mentioned in. Once they follow you, they can access your profile which will have information such as your birthday, snap score, birth sign, possible school or university and where they are on your best friends list and photos you share. 90% of Quick Adds are random people. However, if you do not want your child to appear in anyone's Quick Add tab, you can remove them from the feature by following these steps: Tap their profile in the top left-hand side of Snapchat > click the setting icon in the top right > go to Privacy Controls > tap, See Me in Quick Add > switch the slider to the off position.

For more social media advice and how to guides follow this [link](#)

## PSHE

All students are now on the final two units of learning in PSHE.

These are the 'Living in the Wider World' units and focuses on employability, future pathways, financial education and online safety.

Please find extra detail regarding the PSHE themes for this half term [here](#)

Eleanor Burston  
PSHE Lead



**The Netflix show Adolescence opened a lot of parents eyes to the digital pressures young people face every day, with many wondering how to make sense of it all.**

To help, please visit a useful resource page by clicking this [link](#). It is packed with practical advice, conversation starters, and useful insights to help parents/carers navigate the various challenges the series brings to light.

From setting boundaries around screen time to processing upsetting online content, the resources are designed to empower parents/carers to effectively support and nurture their child's digital wellbeing.

ChildLine: [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk) Phone Number: 0800 1111

Young Minds: [www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)

Samaritans: [www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org) Phone: 116 123



Matt Anniss  
Designated Safeguarding Lead

## Equality and Diversity

### Equality and Diversity Notices

#### Looking back at Spring Term II:

- International Women's Day was celebrated with a Pop-Up stall run by our student Equality Ambassadors on Thursday, 6 March. This celebrated influential women alongside handing out free sanitary products to help raise awareness and combat period poverty and stigma.
- Education surrounding Ramadan took place in assemblies in the week of Monday, 3 March and a student group was held on Monday, 10 March where Muslim students were invited to connect with one another, share their experiences and feedback to Miss Ball about College support.
- Our Youth Culture Champions student group met with Kadus Smith from Plymouth Argyle Community Trust and member of Plymouth and Devon Racial Equality Council (PDREC) to begin to support the planning of Culture Fest which is planned to take place in the week commencing Monday, 19 May.

#### Looking forward to Summer Term I:

- SENDCo Abi Newman will be leading on Deaf Awareness Week to support inclusion and awareness regarding hearing impairments in assemblies and staff briefings in the week commencing Monday, 5 May.
- Our annual 'Culture Fest' will take place in the week commencing Monday, 19 May for the third year. Throughout the week there will be competitions and educational opportunities surrounding multiculturalism. Wednesday, 21 May will be the highlight of the week for World Day for Cultural Diversity. We will be welcoming in guest speakers to run workshops, talks and a guest panel alongside welcoming Mama Rita's Kitchen back to the College for all students to purchase authentic Afro-Caribbean style food during Break 2. The day of workshops will be a free sign-up opportunity for students in Years 7 – 10 with places being reserved on a first come first served basis.



Darby Ball  
Equality and Diversity Lead