

Headteacher: Mr Ben Riggott

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Message regarding safeguarding arrangements during school closure

Dear Parents and Carers

We would like to remind all parents and carers of the safeguarding procedures and support that will remain in place whilst pupils are at home. It is important for you to have confidence that the safeguarding team will remain available at all times and are here to support our children however we can during this challenging time.

During the school closure there will be a member of the Senior Leadership available at all times. The three members of staff to direct all safeguarding concerns to are:

Geoff Dearman, Designated Safeguard Lead
David Mills, Designated Safeguard Lead
Sarah Hodson, Deputy Designated Safeguard Lead

These members of staff will be available to answer any safeguarding or well-being concerns that arise during school closures, and the whole safeguarding team can also be contacted by emailing safeguarding@parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk, or the school reception can be reached between 9-3pm on 01246 273458.

Details of the wider local safeguarding services and procedures to follow in the event of a concern regarding a child can all be accessed on the school website by following this link:

<http://www.parkside.derbyshire.sch.uk/index.php/parents/support-for-families>

If your concern about a child falls outside of regular school hours, then we would encourage you to contact Call Derbyshire on 01629 533109 for further advice and support or call 999 if it is an emergency.

Reminder to pupils and parents on the school's Online safety policy

We would like to remind pupils and parents that as a school we consider Online safety a priority. The school policy can be found on the website and we would encourage parents to be familiar with this due to pupils being online for longer periods of time.

Parental/carer involvement

It is important for us to remind parents to keep an eye on pupils' internet usage and ensure that you have sufficient parental controls and filters with your network provider to keep your children safe online. Please talk to your children about what they are looking at or who they are talking to, especially as potential isolation from peers can adversely affect mental health. Sexting has been an area of concern for young people's online behaviour. It is important that parents and carers monitor mobile devices and online activity for such behaviour.

Online bullying can also be an issue and we would advise parents and carers to ensure any offenders' numbers are blocked and if appropriate screen shots are taken relating to any offensive material. Responding to such situations can often cause an escalation so should be avoided.

Please contact the safeguarding team should you have any concerns relating to the issues outlined above.

Regular Contact

Our safeguarding and pastoral teams have identified students that we feel may need specific support at this time. A member of the Senior Leadership Team and the Pastoral team will be in regular contact with these students and their families and we encourage students to maintain communication with key staff in school to both support both academic and pastoral care.

We will remain a collective community and will always be here to support you and your children through this difficult time. If you have any concerns, no matter how big or small please do not hesitate to contact the safeguarding team and allow us to support you.

Take care and best wishes

Geoff Dearman