



Welcome to our termly Safeguarding Newsletter for parents/carers.

I hope that this will give you some indication of current and local safeguarding issues and serve to reassure you that the safeguarding of all of our students is of the utmost priority. This term there has been a key focus on British Values – what they are and how the College reinforces them.

County Lines VIDEO SERIES (LGfL)

LGfL has released a series of videos featuring a recently retired London police officer, Peter Wilson. Peter was a member of the Metropolitan Police's Trident unit where he worked to combat child criminal exploitation (CCE) and the grooming of young people into drug gangs. There are 14 videos in total, some for schools and some for parents, that aim to help people understand the nature of County Lines, including:

- What is county lines?
- Why are even 8-10 year olds at risk?
- My borough doesn't have much crime and there aren't any gangs
- Top tips for parents
- What can parents do to make their children less vulnerable, and what have parents' phones got to do with it?

You can find the videos here: <https://www.lgfl.net/digisafe/countylines>

Young people and mental health support

On My Mind is a free website to help young people find the mental health support they need, when they need it. They have recently launched their latest resource on Shared Decision Making. The resource features top tip videos for young people, parents and carers and professionals all developed through consultation and workshops with the Centre's Young and Parent Champions.

To find out more information, please see the links below:

<https://www.annafreud.org/sdm/>

TikTok

More than 500 million people around the world – many of them children – regularly use the app TikTok to create, view and share 60-second videos. TikTok can be a great tool for self-expression and connect users around the world, so it's important that children are aware of the potential risks and learn how to use it in a safe way.



Parent Zone have a brilliant Parent Guide, which is full of sensible advice about how families can make the most of the settings and tools available to them.

https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok-everything-you-need-know-about-video-production-app?utm_source=Parent+Zone+Newsletter&utm_campaign=589105154e-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_10_15_08_56&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1ee27d9000-589105154e-179317317

Gambling-like risks in games this Christmas

During the holidays, many children enjoy immersing themselves in games - and some will even get new ones in their stockings. But did you know that lots of games include features such as loot boxes which can introduce children to gambling-like behaviours?

The Gaming or Gambling resource pack from Parent Zone and GambleAware is full of info and expert advice that parents and carers can use to help children be safer and have fun over the Winter months.

<https://parentzone.org.uk/gaming-or-gambling?>

Safer Internet Day

'Safer Internet Day' will be on Tuesday 11 February 2019 - The Spring Term newsletter will contain more information on this issue.

What to do if you have a concern about a Wymondham College student during the holiday:

The Safeguarding Team at Wymondham College, who would normally deal with a Safeguarding issue during Term Time, are not available during College holidays. Therefore, if you have a concern about a College student, please see below:

If your concern is urgent, please call 999.

If you have a safeguarding concern for a child living in Norfolk you can do this through the Children's Advice and Duty Service (CADS). The Customer Service Centre can be contacted on: 0344 800 8020.

If you have a safeguarding concern for a child living out of Norfolk, please contact their local MASH (the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub). Information on this can be found online.



12 Smartphone Online Safety Tips FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

The Christmas season has finally arrived and soon many of you will be opening your presents in the hope that Santa has listened to your request for the latest mobile phone or smart device.

Owning a mobile phone can be fun, but it's important to use it safely and responsibly. By following our safety tips below, you can make sure that you set up your phone securely, keep your personal information private and enjoy using your phone in the healthiest way possible.

1 ALWAYS SECURE YOUR PHONE WITH A PASSWORD

This will help to keep your private information safe and won't allow others to access your phone without your permission. Make sure your password is memorable and personal to you but something which other people can't guess, and always share it with your parents just in case you forget it.

2 DISABLE LOCATION SETTINGS

This can usually be done from the device's privacy control settings. Disabling location settings means that your phone can't be tracked by others and strangers can't tell where you are when you're using it. It also helps to save battery.

3 ALWAYS USE A SECURE WIFI NETWORK

When you use your WIFI at home usually it is a secure network that only you and your family know the password to. Public networks, like those in coffee shops, can be accessed by anyone which means that people could potentially hack into your device and access your personal information without you realising.

4 ONLY PAIR WITH BLUETOOTH DEVICES YOU KNOW

A Bluetooth connection with another device means that you can send and receive data wirelessly. For example, you could listen to music wirelessly or receive pictures and videos from your friends. However, pairing your phone with a device you don't know means that you could be sharing personal information with a stranger or could leave your device open to receiving viruses.

5 ONLY USE APPS WHICH YOU ARE OLD ENOUGH TO USE

Before downloading any new apps, always check the age-rating of the app. If you need help, ask your parent or carer to make sure that the app is safe for you to use and never download anything which you are too young for as it may contain things that aren't safe for you to see.

6 BEWARE OF BECOMING ADDICTED TO YOUR PHONE

Before downloading any new apps, always check the age-rating of the app. If you need help, ask your parent or carer to make sure that the app is safe for you to use and never download anything which you are too young for as it may contain things that aren't safe for you to see.

7 LIMIT YOUR SCREEN TIME

Using your phone for too long, particularly in the evenings, can make you feel tired at school, affect your concentration and make you lose interest in other things in life. Only use your phone at certain times of the day and don't use it close to bedtime. You can set a 'screen time limit' via the settings on your phone. This will help you stay fit and healthy and means that you will still be able to focus and perform well at school.

8 THINK OF OTHERS WHEN TAKING PHOTOS

Don't take embarrassing photos of other people on your phone. If other people get access to the photo and share it with more people, it could make that person really upset and treated as a form of bullying. Always be mindful of the photos you take using your camera and who you share them with.

9 MAKE SURE YOUR PARENTS SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'

This means that you will be able to use your phone safely and securely and won't accidentally do things you shouldn't do. The best time to do this is when you get a new phone or device so that you're protected from the very beginning.

10 ALWAYS TALK TO YOUR PARENTS IF YOU DON'T FEEL SAFE

Sometimes, even though your phone is really secure, you might see something you don't like, or someone might contact you who you don't know. If this happens, always tell your trusted adult like your parents, carers, other adult family members or a teacher, all of whom will be able to support you and advise you on what you should do next.

11 DON'T TEXT AND WALK

This might seem like a strange thing to say but it can be dangerous to stare at your mobile phone whilst walking outside alongside busy roads or bicycle paths. In some cases, children have been knocked over by cars or cyclists because they haven't been aware of their surroundings whilst texting or playing games on their mobile devices.

12 DON'T SHARE YOUR NUMBER OR YOUR DEVICE WITH PEOPLE YOU DON'T KNOW.

Never feel pressured into sharing your phone number with people you don't know and don't lend your phone to strangers or keep it where others could get hold of it. Look after your device and always keep it hidden from sight to avoid it being stolen or broken into.

