



Safeguarding Bulletin

Respect

Aspiration

Independence

Success

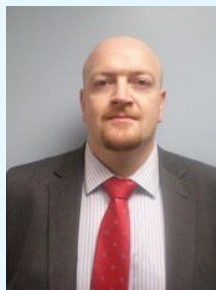
Engagement

Welcome to the first issue of our new, monthly Safeguarding Bulletin. The aim of this newsletter is to keep you updated on what we are doing as a school to keep your child safe; aware of the dangers beyond the school and listened too.

The consultation on our new PSHE curriculum is open. Scan the QR code now to have your say!



We have recently refreshed **The Safeguarding Team** who are responsible for ensuring that all young people at The Bridge are free from harm and are given the opportunity to flourish.



Mr. J Morris



Mr. E Payne



Ms. D Lewsley



Mrs. A Punnett



Mr. J Spicer



Mr. L Baker

Mr Morris is the Senior Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for both The Bridge Secondary Centre & Little Bridge. **Mr Payne is the Designated Safeguarding Lead for Secondary** and **Ms Lewsley is the Designated Safeguarding Lead for Primary**. They are supported by Mrs Punnett and Mr Spicer as Deputy DSLs. **Mr Baker is the Designated Teacher for Looked After Children.**

They can be contacted by phone on 01543 255872; by email office@bridge.staffs.sch.uk or in person by dropping into the Centre.



This issue's topic...

VAPING



VAPING APPEARS TO BE EVERYWHERE NOWADAYS!


It seems you can't walk anywhere without seeing colourful advertising or catching a sickly-sweet smell in the air. While vapes (e-cigarettes) are meant to be used as a 'quit-tool' for smokers rather than a new method for non-smokers, one trend has been slowly on the rise in the last few years – **youth vaping**. The Local Policing Team have received reports that across the community that children as young as **8** years old have been found vaping at school. It also follows concerns from healthcare officials that youth vaping is gradually on the rise in the UK, despite selling vapes to under 18s is illegal. Online safety experts have taken a more in depth look at youth vaping and you can find more information on the potential risks and helpful tips that will help you to better understand the issue and how it might impact your child.

VAPING RED FLAGS

- Vapes come in many shapes and sizes. Some might look like everyday items such as pens or flash drives or even hoody drawstrings!
- These 'e-cigarettes' use a heated metal coil within a covering to create inhalable vapour from a liquid form of nicotine called 'e-liquid'.
- E-liquid ('e-juice' or 'vape juice') is a formula composed of nicotine and other chemical ingredients. **The results showed children using them could be inhaling more than twice the daily safe amount of lead, and nine times the safe amount of nickel the same ingredients found in a battery!!**



Vapes are banned from The Bridge! Students vapes will be confiscated if brought onto site.

Defective vapes  have caused fires, explosions & even death

VAPING FAST FACTS

- Vaping can be a lot more discreet than smoking, and may be happening without a parent, carer, or teacher noticing it.
- There are various signs to be aware of with youth vaping, such as:
 - An unexplained cough, wheeze, or shortness of breath.
 - Empty disposable vapes, plastic cartridges, containers, or bottles.
 - Irritable behaviour if unable to go outside or have a break.
 - Sudden mood swings, frustrations, paranoia, or anxiety.
 - Lingering scents that are fruity or sweet smelling.



"Nurturing and empowering young people to be School Ready, Work Ready & Life Ready"