

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE - JUNE 2024

Dear Families,

As we will quickly start to approach the much awaited Summer holidays, we wanted to take the opportunity to share with you any key information around students support and safeguarding. We endeavor for these termly updates to ensure that we reach the right balance between sharing information but avoiding email overload. We hope we are getting this balance right, but I would welcome any feedback if you thought otherwise.

Community Update about Guildford Town Centre

Surrey Police have recently shared with schools their on going work to support young people. They raised a concern that there is an increasing amount of young people unsupervised in town on Fridays afternoons afterschool and then on Sundays. This has led to increased amounts of anti social behaviour. We are fortunate to have a lovely town centre with many things for young people to be doing but it is important you are aware of where your children are and what they are doing. Due to the transport links increasing amounts of county lines is known to be operating through Guildford so it is important to be aware of the potential risks that are also present in the town.



Key Dates for the diary

26th June - Matilda Production

27th June - Matilda Production

28th June - Year 10 Thorpe Park maths trip

28th June - Year 11 Prom

1st July - 5th July - Year 10 work
experience week

2nd July - Year 6 transition day

3rd July - Year 6 transition day

4th July - Science in schools event

10th July - Sports day

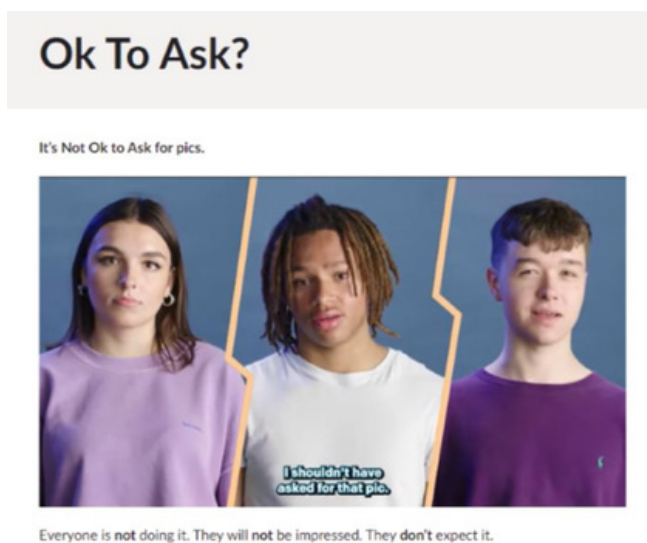
11th July - Celebration evening

14th July - 18th July - Silver & Gold
final Duke of Edinburgh expedition

19th July - Last day of term

Everyone is Not Doing It Campaign

Surrey Police have launched a recent campaign as young people told them that being asked for or sending nudes was an important issue in their lives. Asking, or being asked for an image is seen as common, but our research showed that often people do not want to ask, or be asked, and most people aren't doing it. There is a parent video to watch if you follow the link [here](#) and children focused videos here



Parents and carers have an important role to play in helping young people to navigate the pressure to ask for and send images. There are many things you can do to help support them with this topic:

1. Talk to them. You can use the Ok To Ask? videos and resources as a conversation starter.
2. Ask open questions and remind them they can share as little or as much as they like. It doesn't have to be about their experience and can just be about the practice of asking for or sharing inappropriate images online more generally.
3. Remind young people of the risks associated with asking for or sharing an image. You can discuss appropriate ways to engage with other young people online or talk to someone they like.
4. Recognise the pressure that they might feel to ask for or send a nude and remind them they should never do anything they don't feel comfortable with.
5. When having those conversations, avoid using shaming language, judgment or blame, whether talking about them directly, or the people around them.
6. If you find out they have asked for or sent an inappropriate image, stay calm and create a safe environment. Reacting negatively could shut the conversation down.
7. If they have already sent a message or image, refer to the services here to help them get the image removed. You can also report any messages or images if that is something they want to do.

Support Services

If someone you know is in a situation where they are under pressure to ask or send, or may have sent or shared a nude, this can be reported directly to Surrey Police.

For further support access the website [here](#)

Phones

You will be aware that there is an increase in parents choosing not to give their children Smart Phones. For more information on a Smartphone Free Childhood use this [link](#)



We remain clear that as a school our advice is that social media should not be given prior to age restrictions and closely monitored and limited. It is crucial that everyone completes sufficient checks of their child's online activity. The reasons for this are widely known and linked to safeguarding but worth a reminder:

- Unlimited and unchecked online access puts children at an increased risk of being groomed, or recruited to County Lines activity.
- Evidence continues to build outlining the harmful physical and emotional effects of giving children too much access to screens, games and social media.
- Evidence also suggests that the distractions of smartphones cause poorer performance in school.

Road traffic accidents involving children are now invariably linked directly to, or involve, the use of technology on or around roads.

- Smartphones are not needed in school. If families choose to let their child have a smartphone, this must be off-and-in-a-bag when on the school site. A "brick" phone and location tag are more than enough for most children.

Thank you to those families who have acted on this advice:

- Swapping smartphones for "brick" phones and location tags.
- Strictly limiting screentime.
- Ensuring effective filtering and monitoring programmes are used to control online access.
- Conducting regular, thorough searches of their child's online activity.

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/alternatives>

Young Carers at Kings

Young carers are those under 18 who help to look after someone with a long-term physical or mental health problem, disability, or a problem with drugs or alcohol. This may involve domestic chores, personal care, supervision, emotional support, or another type of assistance. If a young person looks after someone, we know that they may need additional support to help them get the most out of their education.

Support offered

- Trained staff
- 1-1 drop ins with Young Carer Champions (Kate / Holly)
- Respecting of privacy
- Raising awareness in school - Assemblies & PSHE lessons - Young Carers notice board - Young Carers page & statement on school website
- Clubs - Monday after school with Guildford Shakespeare Company - Wednesday after school with Kate & Holly
- Trips & Events
- Signposting to further support in the community

School contact

If your child is a young carer, please contact one of our Young Carer Champions (contact details below) and provide the below information:

- Child's name
- Child's form
- Please provide brief details of young carer responsibilities
- Is your child registered with Surrey Young Carers? i.e Yes / No

Kate Palmer, Eikon Youth Worker
k.palmer@kingscollegeguildford.com

Holly Bird, Home School Link Worker
h.bird@kingscollegeguildford.com



If you need support now, here's what to do

**If you're in immediate danger:
call 999**

**If you have an urgent need, call our
crisis team on 0800 915 4644 . It's open
24 hours a day – 7 days a week.**

If you're not in a crisis, but still need support ...

If you do not need urgent support, you can talk to your mental health lead in school. They are there to listen and support you with your mental health and wellbeing. If you do not know who this is, talk to a member of school staff you trust and they will be able to help you.

Visit our website, www.mindworks-surrey.org – this offers a wide range of information which can help your mental health and wellbeing. We have resources such as [My Safety Plan](#) and [self-help tips](#) to help guide you through your wellbeing during challenging times. You'll find links to useful websites, recommended reading , plus coping strategies to help you through difficult times.

We are partnered with Kooth, who are a digital mental health platform providing confidential support for all young people. Here you can access forums, activity centres, messaging and live counselling. You can get support when you need it, with no waiting lists or need to be referred by an adult. Visit www.kooth.com for more information.

Sometimes it might feel easier to message/ text about how you are feeling and there are many places you can do this:

- **Shout** : is a free, confidential, 24/7 text support service for anyone in the UK who is struggling to cope. To start a conversation, text the word 'SHOUT' to 85258.
- **Chat Health** : is a safe and easy way for you to speak to a qualified health professional. They provide information about services near you that can provide support. Contact them through their website www.chathealth.nhs.uk

The CYP (Children & Young People) Haven is a safe space for any child or young people aged 10–18 to go where they can talk about worries and mental health in a confidential, friendly and supportive place. Scan the QR code for more information.



We also work closely with young people groups such as Amplify, their contact email amplify.mindworks@sabp.nhs.uk and Surrey Youth Voice, where your voice can help us help other young people's mental health and wellbeing services across Surrey and North East Hampshire. Contact them on 01483 519 464 or user.voice@surreycc.gov.uk

Mindworks Surrey provides a dedicated out-of-hours helpline for parents and carers of children with suspected or diagnosed neurodevelopmental needs such as ASD and or ADHD. It's open 5 pm–11 pm, seven days a week. Call 0300 222 5755.

Our partner's offer a range of groups and youth clubs for both children and young people. These are all open to self-referral and you can find out more information on our website by scanning the QR code.



**The Mindworks Access and Advice Team can also provide support in signposting you to more help.
Call them on 0300 222 5755.**



Fearless is the dedicated youth service of the independent charity Crimestoppers. We provide you with the opportunity to give information about crime 100% anonymously.

You can give information to us using our [online form](#) or by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

We cannot track your IP address or your phone number. We have no way of knowing who has contacted us.

After receiving your completed form or your call, we create a report, ensuring it doesn't contain any info that could identify you, and generate a report which is then sent on to the relevant authority with the legal responsibility to review the information that has been passed to them.

We are not the police. We are a charity. You will not be contacted by the police after passing information on to Fearless as the police have no way of knowing who the information has come from.

Want to know more? Have questions about how it all works? Check out our [FAQs](#)

What information can we take?

You can pass on information to Fearless about **any crime** via our [online form](#) or by calling Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

We don't want to know who you are, or how you know about the crime, we just want to give you a safe place to give any information you may have, 100% anonymously.

Remember, no matter how small the detail, it could be the missing puzzle piece to solving a crime. Your information can make a real difference.

Information we cannot take?

We **cannot** take information on:

- **An emergency** - Fearless is not an emergency service. In an emergency always call **999**.
- **A missing person** - We can only take information if there is criminal involvement with the disappearance and when there is a police appeal. If there is no police involvement, please contact the charity [Missing People](#)
- **A noisy party/neighbour** - only your local authority can deal with noise complaints. Follow this link to find your [local authority](#).
- **Fly tipping/dumping of rubbish** - if this is a one off, you will need to let your [local authority](#) know. However, if you have information about large scale dumping or hazardous waste being dumped, you can give us information on this 100% anonymously.
- **Scam emails or phone calls** - You can report info on scam emails/phones calls to [Action Fraud](#). If you live in Scotland, you should report to Police Scotland by calling 101 or contact Advice Direct Scotland on 0808 164 6000.

Attendance

The Government have launched a national campaign to support childrens attendance to school called “Moments matter, attendance counts”.

The campaign messages aim to primarily reach those parents and carers whose children are taking preventable odd days of absence – or “avoidable absence” – rather than children who face greater barriers to attendance, such as those with long term medical needs or special educational needs and disabilities. Support first approach is really important and at Kings we have a strong wellbeing team to support students including a Wellbeing Practitioner, Youth Workers, Mental Health Support Team and Art Therapist as we want to ensure that children can access support in school to support their wellbeing which in turn will help their academic and life outcomes. Research shows prolonged period of absence is likely to heighten a child’s anxiety about attending school in the future. <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

What parents can do to helps us with attendance

- Use Studybugs to inform us of absence or any concerns about illness.
- Talk to Pastoral Team about early signs of stress or anxiety so we can ask our Wellbeing Team to support. Support in best offered at early signs so it can be preventative.
- Provide information about appointments and medical absences
- Avoiding booking appointments during the school day and where unavoidable ensure they come to school before and after the appointment
- Signing in medication to reception so children can be supported to stay in school, this must be done in person

What we will do to support your childs attendance

- We will try to support children to be in school by monitoring absences and talking to them about them.
- Reception team our available at breaks and lunches to monitor and support any children that feel unwell.
- Our HSLW Holly will call after 2 absences to ensure that any support needed is in place
- Our Pastoral Leads will meet with families to offer support if there is a third absence
- We care committed to an excellent wellbeing offer, read more about the team <https://www.kingscollegeguildford.com/wellbeing/#:~:text=Wellbeing%20Approach%20at%20Kings&text=The%20skills%2C%20knowledge%20and%20understanding,and%20our%20peer%20mentoring%20programme>
- We celebrate attendance in assemblies every week
- Whole school rewards for the school on maintaining and improving attendance



Kings College Attendance Process



Safeguarding Team



Mrs M Robbarts

Vice Principal
Designated Safeguarding
Lead

m.robbarts@kingscollegeguildford.com



Miss J Hamilton

Pastoral Lead Years 7 & 8
Deputy Safeguarding Lead &
Lead for Looked after Children

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Mr D Ferguson

Vice Principal

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Mrs K Taylor

Safeguarding &
Pastoral
Administrator

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Miss R Francis

Assistant Principal

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Mr S Stewart

Assistant Principal
Pastoral Lead
Year 9

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Mrs J Sneddon

Associate Assistant
Principal
KS3 SENCO

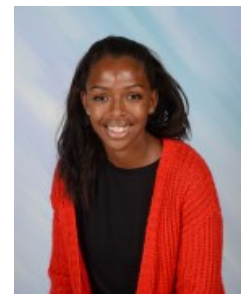
j.sneddon@kingscollegeguildford.com



Mrs K Denslow

KS4 SENCO
Pastoral Lead
Year 10

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Mrs N Ward

Pastoral Lead
Year 11

n.ward@kingscollegeguildford.com

I welcome your input and ideas. If there are any topics that you feel we should cover, please don't hesitate to share them with me.

With best wishes as we all work together to keep children safe,

Mrs Mollie Robbarts
Vice Principal and Designated Safeguarding Lead

BEGINNERS GYM

course for 11-16yr olds

A brand new 12-week programme aimed at teenagers aged 11-16yrs to start leading healthier lifestyles.

FREE
COURSES
for eligible
participants

Notice an improvement
in your mental health
and wellbeing, a higher
level of confidence and a
chance to socialise with
like-minded people whilst
learning new skills.

Sundays
10:00-11:00
Kings College
Community
Sports Hub

To be eligible for the
programme you need
to be doing less
than 150 minutes of
moderate physical
exercise per week.

For further information
please email
[communitywellbeing@
surreysportspark.co.uk](mailto:communitywellbeing@surreysportspark.co.uk)

