



OUR LADY & ST JOHN

CATHOLIC COLLEGE

November 2016

Dear Parents,

Keeping your child safe whilst he/she is at school is a fundamental priority. I would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to a number of matters:

Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy

The school has a policy on Safeguarding and Child Protection which can be found on the school's website. Please be aware that where the school has a concern over a pupil's welfare, it has a duty to refer the concern to Children's Social Care.

E Safety Policy

The school's policy can be found on the school's web-site. Attached with this letter is the pupil acceptable use agreement. Please read it through with your child and then return a signed copy of it to your child's form tutor.

Designated Personnel

The Designated Persons responsible for Child Protection in school are Mr Kelly and Mrs Spicer.

Photography and filming/E Safety

Taking photographs and recording (video and audio) of pupils involved in school activities, plays a key part in being able to acknowledge and celebrate success. Indeed on some courses, it is a requirement that images are recorded. If you do not wish your child to be photographed or filmed, it is crucial that you keep school regularly updated on the matter.

In line with the Information Commissioner's Office, Our Lady & St. John allows parents to record video and images during performances for personal use only. Images must not be shared with other parties.

Social Media

Given that an increasing number of issues and challenges are presenting in school as a result of social networking, it is crucial that parents supervise children's activity on social networking sites and encourage safe behaviour on line at all times.

Bullying

The school takes any reported incidents of bullying seriously. Parents with any concerns should contact the Form Tutor/Head of Year.

Escorting children to and from school

It is parents' responsibility to provide adequate arrangements for pupils' safe journeys to and from school, including activities which may extend beyond the school day.

In instances where pupils are denied access to particular adults, school must be informed in writing and be provided with the appropriate legal documentation.

Web-site

May I encourage all parents to use the links on the school's website which provide information and advice on how parents can help keep their children safe.

Mental Health and Well-being

Hopefully you will be aware of our Healthy Heads strategy, which is our school's approach to promoting and supporting the mental health and wellbeing of all members of our community, including staff and parents. Positive mental and emotional health is essential for us all to achieve the best outcomes in life, live well and be resilient to the ups and downs in life that we all face at times.

Health promotion is at the heart of our approach and the Healthy Heads work is themed around six key actions which have been found to improve an individual's wellbeing. We intend to provide information and updates to all members of our community including staff, pupils and parents.

Please take a look at our website for more details and to follow developments as they unfold or speak to Nicki Chadwell, our school counsellor, if you would like further information.

I hope you find the contents of this letter useful. May I reiterate the importance of contacting your child's Form Tutor/Head of Year in the first instance if you have any concerns over your child's welfare.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J A Ackroyd
Safeguarding Lead