

# Safeguarding Bulletin

## Healthy Relationships Feature

This half term a working party has formed to focus on healthy relationships. As such an important subject matter, this Safeguarding Bulletin features the group's intentions this term. We hope that you feel reassured in our approach to some challenging subject matter such as: sexist language; sexual harassment and gender stereotyping. We believe that our community needs to be equipped to make informed decisions that treat everyone as equals.

*Shahla Matarazzo*

## Our 4 priorities for healthy relationships this year are:

1. To establish a whole school approach to tackling peer on peer abuse.
2. To train and equip all stakeholders with the knowledge, understanding, resources and confidence to tackle peer on peer abuse.
3. To support students to learn about peer on peer abuse, how to report incidents, and where to seek further support.
4. To develop, establish and embed a zero-tolerance approach to peer on peer abuse.

Healthy relationships are a priority for us at Linton Village College, and we pride ourselves on our ethos of mutual respect and equality. However, sadly the national campaign '[Everyone's Invited](#)' and the [Ofsted review into sexual abuse in schools](#) has shown that many young people, mainly but not exclusively girls, are subjected to unwanted, sexualised harassment from their peers. We are carrying out a detailed review of the way we address this national issue at the College.

## Autumn Term Actions

1. Student assemblies.
2. PSHE lessons about consent.
3. Surveying students, staff and parents/carers about their experiences.
4. Follow up interviews.
5. Establishing a working group of staff, students and parents/carers.
6. A fortnightly tutor time session.

**Parent/Carer Survey:** We hope to work closely with you to ensure Linton is a positive, respectful community for everybody. Please complete the survey [here](#), ideally with your child, to share your experiences and thoughts about healthy relationships.

## Useful Terminology

**Sexist language:** Language that unnecessarily identifies gender, or suggests one gender is superior.

**Gender stereotyping:** Sharing a generalised view that someone has particular characteristics or acts in a certain way because of their gender or sexuality.

**Sexual harassment:** Unwanted conduct of a sexual nature (in real life or online), that makes someone feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated.

**Peer on peer abuse:** Children causing harm to other children.

## Reporting peer on peer abuse

As parents/carers, please email: [thinkpink@lvc.org](mailto:thinkpink@lvc.org) or ring to talk to a member of the safeguarding team. Remember, if a crime has been committed, it should also be reported to the Police. Students should talk to a trusted adult, use the email address or complete a peer postcard (which they can do anonymously) which are followed up by the safeguarding team.

## Mental Health Support

We are aware that some students are struggling with their mental health and well-being in the present context. Please click [here](#) for a useful guide on mental health services. Each provider has a brief overview and contact details. If you would like to talk to someone at the College about your child's mental health, please email [supporthub@lvc.org](mailto:supporthub@lvc.org).