

Safeguarding Bulletin 2023-2024

AUTUMN TERM EDITION 1

Welcome and introduction to new parents/carers

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself as the new Director of Safeguarding and Designated Safeguarding Lead for the College. At Linton Village College we are thoroughly committed to safeguarding and consider it to be the golden thread that runs through the College. We issue a half-termly bulletin in order to keep parents and carers informed about safeguarding and hope to use this a method of keeping you up to date with common trends that we are experiencing in the community. We also like to let you know what has taken place in the first half-term. We always welcome contributions and ideas from parents and this can be communicated via our dedicated email Address – thinkpink@lintonvc.org Mrs Louise Keen – Director of Safeguarding, Designated Safeguarding Lead

World Mental Health Day 10/10

The College used the week commencing 09/10 to raise awareness of mental health. We did this through year assemblies, debate/discussion in tutor time and launching a self-referral option via the College [website](#). We would like to continue to deliver forums again this year to give parents the skills and information that is needed to support young people effectively.

Features and Updates

This edition of the Safeguarding Bulletin features: **mental health development and provision at the College, filtering and monitoring and the introduction of our new WellbeingHub.**

Introducing the College mental health team

We are fortunate to have two members of staff whose roles and responsibilities focus on mental health and wellbeing. They are:

	
<i>Anna Sheasby</i>	<i>Marta Hill</i>
Student Welfare Officer	Wellbeing Mentor

Students can drop in to see these members of staff at breaktime and lunchtime and can be referred to their provision by staff or themselves. Mrs Hill and Mrs Sheasby deal with things such as: anxiety; friendships; low mood; self-esteem; self-harm and stress. Parents/carers are always contacted as part of this 'referral' process and work with our mental health team to support their children.

Special drop-ins for Y11 students

Throughout the mock exam period, the mental health team will offer drop-ins in the Well-being Hub. This will be available every lunchtime for Y11 students. We hope that this will allow students to talk about exam-induced stress and worries as well as to talk through an exam that doesn't go as expected.

There is a national concern over the use of vapes by children. These can be very difficult to spot as they have been produced to look like highlighters and other pieces of stationery. These items are directly targeted at children so do please be aware.

There has also been an upturn in incidences of anti-social behaviour in the village. This is a real concern to us at the College and we would really appreciate parents ensuring that they know where their children are after school and what they are doing

This term we have launched our new Well-being Hub

- Open at break and lunch.
- During lessons it's used for interventions.
- It provides a quiet place to chat or take part in craft sessions,
 - Read a book or just relax.



SENSO – FILTERING AND MONITORING

This term sees the implementation of a new filtering and monitoring system – SENSO. This system sends an alert to The Safeguarding Team if/when inappropriate content is being accessed on the College system. This allows swift intervention to take place in order to protect children from harmful content online. Filtering and monitoring are statutory requirements for schools, as set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) Part 1, 2023