

Safeguarding Bulletin 2025-2026

Welcome and introduction to new parents/carers

Firstly, I would like to offer a warm welcome to the new academic year and to introduce myself as the Director of Safeguarding and Designated Safeguarding Lead at Linton Village College.

As always, we remain thoroughly committed to safeguarding and consider it to be the golden thread that runs through the College. We issue a half-termly bulletin to keep parents and carers informed about safeguarding and mental health. We also like to let you know what has taken place in the first half-term in terms of helping young people to keep themselves and others around them safe. We value support and contributions from parents and carers, and this can be communicated via our dedicated email. We look forward to working with parents and carers in keeping our young people safe and well.

Mrs Louise Keen – Director of Safeguarding, Designated Safeguarding Lead

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AUTUMN TERM EDITION 1

World Mental Health Day 10/10

We celebrated World Mental Health in order to raise awareness of mental health and to encourage young people to talk about any issues they may be having. We did this through year group assemblies and debate and discussion in tutor time. We also reminded students about the ways that support for mental health can be accessed – drop-in at the Well-being Hub, the use of the Pink Peer Postcards and/or talking to someone they trust.

Features and Updates

This edition of the Safeguarding Bulletin features: **mental health updates**, **local and national safeguarding trends** and updates on education around **knife crime awareness**.

Mental Health provision at LVC

We continue to provide mental health and wellbeing support for our young people. Mrs Hill is our Wellbeing Mentor and provides Level 2 support and education around issues such as bullying, relationships and prejudice-based behaviours and we have engaged the services of YMCA to provide Level 3 support (counselling) for more complex issues.



As part of Anglian Learning's 'Belonging By Design' initiative, we are working on rolling out further **mental health screening** so that we can provide more targeted support for our young people. Further information will be available in the new half term.

DRUG ALERT

Earlier this month, local schools were alerted to 4 separate incidents in Peterborough that involved the use of synthetic cannabinoids referred to as '**SPICE**'. Professionals advise that, 'due to their potency, there's no safe way to take synthetic cannabinoids'.

If you have any concerns about this substance or any young person that you think may be exposed to it, please contact Cambridgeshire CGL 0300 555 01 01



Police officers from Cambridgeshire Constabulary delivered an assembly to years 8 and 9 on the dangers and impact of **knife crime** and carrying weapons. This will be followed up with discussion opportunities in tutor time and will help to raise awareness. Years 10 and 11 will benefit from these assemblies later in the Autumn term, to ensure that all our young people receive education on this important issue.

As of 1st June 2025 the sale of **DISPOSABLE VAPES** in shops was banned by the government but they are still available online and contain unknown and potentially dangerous liquids.



The previous government said disposable vapes were a "key driver" behind a rise in youth vaping