



25 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Re: Pastoral and Safeguarding Reminders**

Welcome to my first letter of the Autumn Term. As is now customary, I should like to share some important pastoral information and to remind everyone of our reporting routes for any safeguarding concerns that may arise.

### **Vapes**

I have attached a short information sheet on vape devices showing what to look out for, some advice from the charity Action for Children and an update on our use of vape detectors in our toilets. I hope you find this information helpful.

### **Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Campaign – IWF**

In 2022, the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) recorded 199,363 cases of self-generated explicit images. This was a 6% rise from 2021. It is likely that this will increase, as a proliferation in social media apps and websites, alongside the increasing sophistication in telephonic cameras is making underage individuals more vulnerable than ever to deception and grooming. The foundation has unveiled a campaign backed by the UK government and tech partners such as Microsoft, TikTok and Snapchat aims to raise awareness about the dangers of self-generated imagery. To find out more please follow the link below:

<https://www.iwf.org.uk/about-us/our-campaigns/talk-and-gurls-out-loud-self-generated-child-sexual-abuse-prevention-campaign/>

### **Reminder: reporting safeguarding concerns.**

We have a trained team of Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs). They are:

- Dr Hall (Senior DSL)
- Miss Cartwright
- Ms Jenkins
- Mrs Ballanger
- Mrs Muddle
- Mr Alderman
- Mr Tiley
- Mrs Wheeler
- Ms Bateman
- Mrs Day

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Concerns can be raised via the DSL team or indeed any colleague in the school that a student feels comfortable to talk to. All staff receive annual safeguarding training, including how to provide support when disclosures are made.

If a student does not want to speak directly to a member of staff, then there are also students trained in anti-bullying and/or mental health support who can be approached. As well as providing immediate peer support, they will also ensure that the DSL team are informed.

We also have our Stay Safe Alert [Stay Safe Alert - Testbourne Community School](#) ([staysafe@testbourne.school](mailto:staysafe@testbourne.school)) and No to Bullying alert [Bullying Alert - Testbourne Community School](#).

Both are accessible directly from the school website (see the 'three dots' in the top right corner).



You can find a range of general pastoral support via our school website [Pastoral Care - Testbourne Community School](#) which will link to other areas such as Attendance, Wellbeing, Safeguarding and Anti-Bullying. Our Child Protection Policy is available on our school website: [TCS Child Protection Policy and Guidelines.docx \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

I hope you find this information useful and as always if you have any concerns or questions then please do contact us.

Yours faithfully

Dr Hall  
Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral)