



31 March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

## Re: Pastoral and Safeguarding Reminders

As another busy term draws to a close, I firstly wanted to say how amazing our students have been. They impress us with their excellent attitude to learning, in how they model the Testbourne Standards of Excellence and in their behaviour. External school visitors are always keen to note what a focused and purposeful school we are. I should also like to thank you all for your ongoing support of the school and our ethos. This is very much appreciated.

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.

In addition, I am including some specific guidance on online safety and some information about misogyny and discussing this with your child.

### Head of Year responsibilities

As you will be aware we have been operating with only three Heads of Year this term. It is not an easy task to work across two Year groups or take up the reins of Year 11 later in the year. I am hugely grateful to them, and indeed the whole team, for their hard work over this period.

Moving into the Summer Term we will be returning to our full complement of Year leaders and will be joined by a new colleague, Mrs Ballanger. I have outlined the new arrangements in the tables below.

### From April 17

Year group	Head of Year
7	Mrs Ballanger – with handover support from Ms Jenkins
8	Ms Jenkins
9	Mrs Muddle
10	Mr Tiley
11	Mr Alderman

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**From late June as Y11 duties are reduced.**

Year Group	Head of Year
7	Mrs Ballanger
8	Mrs Muddle
9	Mr Alderman
10	Mr Tiley

Throughout this period, Ms Jenkins will be leading on the Year 6 Transition.

**From the 2023-2024 Academic Year**

Year Group	Head of Year
7	Ms Jenkins
8	Mrs Ballanger
9	Mrs Muddle
10	Mr Alderman
11	Mr Tiley

[Misogyny and Andrew Tate – factsheet for parents and carers](#)

You may have seen Andrew Tate's name pop up in the news, or you may have heard about him from your children. We are talking about topics raised by Andrew Tate in school, through our Personal Development curriculum, through assemblies and support where required. We have a safeguarding culture that has a zero tolerance for misogyny or any prejudicial language or behaviour.

However, children are less likely to listen to influencers such as Andrew Tate if they are having similar conversations reinforced at home. You can find out who he is, why he's in the news, the risks he poses and how to talk about him at home by accessing the following factsheet on our website [Misogyny-Factsheet-March-2023.docx \(live.com\)](#)

[Online Safety – Information Evening](#)

At the beginning of this month, I hosted an Online Safety Information Evening through Teams Live for parents and carers. It was very well attended, and I am grateful for the feedback that it was informative and helpful.

The video is now available on our school website [TCS Online Safety Information Evening - YouTube](#) with an accompanying document summarising the key references that I referred to in the presentation.

[Reference-Links-Online-Safety-Information-Evening-March-2023.pdf \(testbourne.school\)](#)



Finally, I will end with the usual reminders of how to report safeguarding concerns. During the Easter Break we are monitoring the safeguarding communications, but this will not be routinely. You can still use our reporting procedures below, but this should be for non-urgent concerns.

If over the holiday period you are worried about a child and believe that they have been harmed or at risk of harm, then you should contact Children's Services directly on 0300 555 1384.

If necessary, you should also call the police – 101 (non-urgent) or 999 (urgent).

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

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

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 ([staysafe@testbourne.school](mailto:staysafe@testbourne.school)) and No to Bullying ([ntb@testbourne.school](mailto:ntb@testbourne.school)) alerts that can be used to raise concerns with our DSL Team.

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 safeguarding and Anti-Bullying. Our Child Protection Policy is available on our school website [HERE](#)



# Testbourne Community School

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I hope you find this information useful and as always if you have any concerns or questions then please do contact us. We wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable Easter break and look forward to welcoming the students back for the Summer Term.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr Hall', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Hall  
Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral)