

Chipstead Valley Primary School Safeguarding Newsletter- Summer 2



OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM



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Deputy
Safeguarding Lead



Rebecca Herrera
Deputy
Safeguarding Lead

Speak to a member of our safeguarding team
if you are worried about a child.

Our safeguarding team liaise with children's social care
and other external agencies to support families.

Staff can contact children's social care directly in an emergency
where no member of the safeguarding team can be contacted.

Our safeguarding team are here to listen, help and
support your family.

Preventing Suicide

The last year has been difficult for many and sadly, this has led to an increase in mental health conditions and in some cases suicide. The suicide rate among females aged 10-24 years has increased significantly since 2012. However, 75% of people who go on to take their own lives are men.

Suicide is a preventable death and people feeling suicidal need to be supported and listened to.

The safeguarding team have recently undertaken suicide awareness training, which is free and available for anyone to access. Although it may be a conversation you may think you will never need to have with a friend, children, family member or colleague, unfortunately in these times, we never know how everyday life is impacting on our loved ones. The training takes just ten minutes and could give you the skills to help save a life:



<https://www.zerosuicidealliance.com/training>

If you need any further information or support regarding suicide, the website above has some fantastic links to help.

Dedicated New NSPCC Helpline



Tel: 0800 136 663

The new helpline will provide both children and adults who are potential victims of sexual abuse in schools with the appropriate support and advice. This includes how to contact the police and report crimes if they wish. The helpline will also provide support to parents and professionals too.

CALM – Campaign Against Living Miserably

A registered charity, which exists to prevent male suicide in the UK.

Phone helpline: 0800 58 58 58

Safeguarding News- Virginity Tests

Within the UK, there has been an increase in the use of "virginity tests". A virginity test is a method of checking if a girl or woman is a virgin. This usually involves checking for an intact hymen in the mistaken belief that a torn hymen means a woman has had sex. Virginity tests are sometimes used in Muslim and other conservative communities because their customs say women must be virgins when marrying their husbands. However, there is no scientific way to prove a girl or woman's virginity.

Taking the test can cause a girl or woman anguish and severe mental distress. Tragically, failing one can result in violence, sexual assault, banishment from the community, and, worse still, murder.

This is not something that just goes on in other countries. This is very much a British problem. In the 1970s it was reportedly carried out by immigration officials on women arriving from the Indian sub-continent to marry their British-Asian fiancés.

Virginity tests are carried out in the UK in private clinics. Although the extent of the practice in the UK is unknown, a BBC Newsbeat investigation in 2020 identified at least 21 clinics offering such tests.



Mental Health Phone Lines:

Croydon Drop-In: Tel: 020 8680 0404 Email: enquiries@croydondropin.org.uk

Talkbus helpline: 07592 037823



CAMHS Crisis Line 0203 228 5980 Monday - Friday 5pm - 10pm, Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holidays 9am - 9pm

For advice out of hours: SLAM Mental Health Crisis Line on 0800 731 2864 or NHS 111

Summer Safety

Visit the following websites for more information and fun activities that you can share with your children to help keep them safe over the summer holidays.



Sun safety

Whether you're heading to the beach, playing in the park or out in your own garden, it's really important to think about sun protection for all the family – especially young children. This website gives you top tips on sun safety for children and makes sure everyone enjoys the sun safely.

www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/sun-safetyfor-kids

Water safety

The Royal Life Saving Society UK report that drowning is the third highest cause of accidental death of children in the UK and that a person can drown in as little as 2cm of water. Hot weather can make rivers, lakes and paddling pools more appealing for children and families – make sure you know how to teach your child to be safe when cooling off and playing this Summer.



www.rlss.org.uk/water-safety

Chat Health

This is a confidential text messaging service that enables young people, aged 11-19 years old, to send questions to our School Health Team.

Students can text the Croydon School Nurses: 07520 615205



FJC

Care and support in Croydon for those experiencing domestic abuse

You can make an appointment by contacting us on: 020 8688 0100

Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm and weekends, 10am-4pm.

CROYDON
www.croydon.gov.uk

Keeping Safe Week

During the week commencing 24th May, we hosted another 'Keeping Safe' week in partnership with the NSPCC. The week focused on three key topics: NSPCC PANTS, peer pressure and the role of the police.

PANTS

Children across the school enjoyed watching the Pantasaurus video. This led to important discussions about keeping our bodies safe and speaking out if we feel worried about this. Each class thought who they would speak to if they needed to have a conversation with a trusted adult.



Peer Pressure

As part of our wellbeing curriculum, children learnt about peer pressure in age appropriate ways. Our younger children discussed pressure to play with other children or behave in a certain way and how this made them feel. In Key Stage Two, our older children thought about peer pressure from groups of children and the difference between "good" and "bad" secrets. Each class discussed ways to cope with peer pressure and when to speak to an adult.

Role of the Police

Children across the school were lucky enough to meet our School Liaison Officer as well as officers from Coulsdon Town Police. They held a virtual assembly where they explained about the role of the police and how they help to keep our community safe. The officers explained to all children that anyone can be in the police regardless of gender or race. Children in Year 5 and 6 took part in workshops with the police officers where they explained in more detail about peer pressure and consent as those children begin to become more independent.

All children across the school were able to visit the police car on our field, which was a particular highlight!

