

# **Chipstead Valley Primary School Safeguarding Newsletter- Spring 2**























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

Our safeguarding team liase 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.

## What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

#### Safeguarding means:

- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment,
- preventing harm to children's health or development,
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care.
- taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

## Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

#### Parentlineplus

Parentlineplus runs a large range of free courses and individual support surgeries for parents. There is an active local programme based in Croydon.

Visit: www.parentlineplus.org.uk



#### Children's Mental Health Week

This year, the theme for Children's Mental Health Week was "Growing Together." Things that upset children when they were younger may no longer overwhelm them as they grow and learn to cope with life's ups and downs. Challenges and set-backs can help us to grow and adapt. Trying new things can help us to move beyond our comfort zone into a new realm of possibility and potential. However, emotional growth is often a gradual process that happens over time, and sometimes we might feel a bit 'stuck'. At these times we are reminded of how much we need others in our lives to help us to keep growing.

Children need parents and carers, teachers, friends and others to support them to grow, especially when things get tough. They often need others to help them to believe in themselves, to keep going, and to try doing things a bit differently. Even when children have experienced really difficult challenges in their lives, with the right support, they can continue to grow and flourish.

Throughout the week, children took part in activities based around this theme within their Wellbeing sessions. On Friday 11th February they dressed to express themselves!



#### What is Peer on Peer Abuse?

Peer on peer abuse occurs when a young person is exploited, bullied and/or harmed by their peers who are the same or similar age. This type of abuse can relate to various forms of abuse (not just sexual abuse and exploitation). It can include domestic abuse, Child Sexual Exploitation, harmful sexual behaviour and serious youth crime/violence.

It is recognised that many forms of peer-on-peer abuse can be online, occur via social media or other electronic platforms. At CVPS, children are taught through our Wellbeing curriculum about how to speak out if they know something is not right.

## Mellow bumps programme for mothers-to-be

The programme run by Croydon council decreases stress levels of mums-to-be (20-30 weeks) in pregnancy. It helps them understand that babies are prepared for social interaction from birth and emphasises the importance of early interaction for brain development. There is an optional joint session where fathers-to-be will be invited to the group at the end of the course.

Contact: PRH@croydon.gov.uk

#### Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people, and to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively.

Safer Internet Day 2022 was on 8th February and was celebrated with the theme 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, Safer Internet Day is celebrated in over a hundred countries coordinated by the joint Insafe/INHOPE network, with the support of the European Commission, and national Safer Internet Centres across Europe



## **CEOP**

CEOP help children stay safe online and prevent them from harmful abuse. If anybody acts inappropriately towards a child or young person online (such as sexual chat, or being asked to do something that makes them feel uncomfortable); they can report it using the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command (CEOP) button.

## Purley Food Hub

Purley Food Hub have continued to support families in our local community throughout lockdown, providing weekly food deliveries.

Internet Safety

If you are in need of this service, please contact Miss Harding in confidence.



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

Operation

Encompass

#### Advocacy for Croydon

Advocacy for Croydon is made up of 2 organisations that specialise in a variety of advocacy services for the London Borough of Croydon. They are independent from the NHS and the Local Authority.





An Advocate helps someone to talk about their needs and wishes. Advocates listen to people and help them to have their voices heard. Advocates represent people who need support to make sure that decisions are made in their best interests. This advocacy service is free, confidential and independent.

Visit: www.advocacyforcroydon.org

### **Operation Encompass**

Our school participates in a national scheme called 'Operation Encompass', which is a joint partnership between Metropolitan Police and schools.

One of the principles of Operation Encompass is that all incidents of domestic abuse are shared with schools, not just those where an offence can be identified. This system has been established to help schools provide in-school support to children who have been present at, exposed to or involved in any domestic abuse incident.

We know that children can be significantly harmed, physically and/or emotionally, during these situations, and that it also negatively affects their learning and behaviour. Therefore, as part of the Operation Encompass procedure, and to help mitigate the resulting negative impact, the school receives a notification the morning after a child has been witness to, or involved in, any reported domestic abuse incident. We are then able to use this information to provide the right support to any child and their family as and when it is needed. It is also important to speak to a member of the safeguarding team if there has been a police incident, so that we are able to offer support to your family.