

## Safeguarding and support guidance for parents/carers

Safeguarding young people has always been a key part of the partnership between school staff and those with parental responsibility; the National Emergency has not changed that. During these difficult times, our Student Support Team would like to share some resources and information that we think you may find helpful.

### **1. Child Protection Policy:**

We have added an addendum to our child protection policy:

<https://priory.tpstrust.co.uk/media/4503/child-protection-addendum-1.pdf>

The main thing is we always have someone who is trained to respond to concerns available. If you have any concerns email [info@tpstrust.co.uk](mailto:info@tpstrust.co.uk) and someone will contact you. Of course, in the case of an emergency, phone the police

### **2. Staying safe online:**

We are getting many links to websites about internet safety. As people are online a lot more, there has been an increase in cybercrime and we all need to be vigilant; keeping young people safe on line is no different.

All of our students will have had lessons regarding staying safe online. Recognising this and reminding them of these lessons along with having regular conversations about who they are communicating with, what apps they find useful and whether they are struggling with anything or worried will help assessing whether you need to be concerned.

Further advice can be found on the 'thinkuknow' website, which is a great resource with a range of activities to work through with young people of different ages:

[https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/11-13s/?utm\\_source=Thinkuknow&utm\\_campaign=03f521e658-TUK\\_ONLINE\\_SAFETY\\_AT\\_HOME\\_21\\_04\\_20&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_0b54505554-03f521e658-64766057](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/11-13s/?utm_source=Thinkuknow&utm_campaign=03f521e658-TUK_ONLINE_SAFETY_AT_HOME_21_04_20&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0b54505554-03f521e658-64766057)

Another useful website with lots of helpful links is:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/uk-council-for-child-internet-safety-uk>

### **3. Domestic abuse:**

Domestic violence and abuse within the home by parents, partners, siblings or peers is one of the most difficult things for us to address together, but we are being made aware that nationally there is an increase.

Should you be worried about any of these you can ask for help or report concerns via text to 07885911545. This is a school mobile number which is being used by our Designated Safeguarding Leads; please note that it is not being manned 24/7 and in the case of emergency you should contact the police or the Shopshire First Point of Contact Team on 03456789021. You can also contact the 24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline on [0808 2000 247](tel:08082000247) or visit their website -

<https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/>

Boots the chemist are offering a safe place for those experiencing Domestic Abuse in their consultation rooms, for people to be able to safely phone for advice, support or to access a refuge. This is significant for many people who can't make private phone calls etc.

Also, the National Rail Network are offering free train journeys to anyone trying to travel to a refuge or safe place. Information about seeking refuge and the free travel scheme can be found on the Womens' Aid website - <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/>

#### **4. Supporting parents to support children:**

Parenting Team Support

The Parenting Team is continuing their service of telephone consultations. Parents and carers can simply call the office on 01743 250950 or email [parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk) to arrange a consultation at a time convenient to them. Professionals can also contact the office and arrange appointments for parents/carers if they have gained their consent to pass on their telephone number.

Taking the current situation into account the parenting team can support parents and carers with:

- managing difficult questions and worries from children due to the current situation
- managing challenging behaviour which might be a result of the changes to their everyday lives
- maintaining good relationships with children during this time
- suggestions on activities to do with children
- talk through and reflect on the online course content with a Parenting Practitioner

#### **5. General resources and useful links:**

The Shropshire 'Local Offer' has a huge wealth of information and links to useful websites, grouped into key categories – please note that this is not just for children with a SEND:

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/>

The NSPCC always has a range of advice and resources via their website:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/>

Finally, don't forget our Priory wellbeing Instagram account – @theprioryschoolstudentsupport

As always, looking after the health and wellbeing of young people is the responsibility of all of us; please don't hesitate to ask for support.

Take care and stay safe,

Priory Student Support Team