

Parent / Carer Safeguarding Newsletter

May - July 2025



Living with Teenagers

Welcome to the last edition of our safeguarding newsletter for this academic year.

Keeping children safe at Handsworth Grange Community Sports College (HGCSC) is our number one priority, we know that the most effective way for us to support our young people is to work in partnership with their parents / carers. This is why each term we will send out information on this newsletter with fresh topics to keep you informed of issues impacting our wider community.

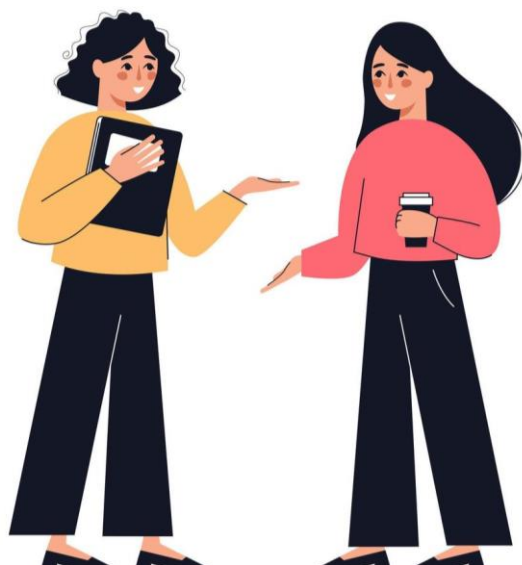
We appreciate that the long summer holiday is vastly approaching and many of our students and families will struggle without the support from school. We will signpost you to some vital services within this newsletter or on our school's social media account before we break up.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with the safeguarding team by requesting a contact via;

<https://hgcsc.co.uk/contact>

You will also find our safeguarding contacts at the end of this newsletter,

Sophie, and Chloe.



The teenage stage, also known as adolescence, is a period of significant physical, emotional, and cognitive development between childhood and adulthood, typically spanning from ages 10 to 19. We know that this stage can be an extremely testing time as a parent.

Physical punishment can negatively impact a child's development, leading to increased anxiety, fear, and aggression. It can also damage the parent-child relationship.

The Sheffield Parent Hub is running an 8-week course called 'Living with Teenagers' to provide support to parents and carers at this difficult stage.

The course is led by trained EPEC (Empowering Parents, Empowering Communities) parent facilitators and aims to support you to manage both you and your teen's feelings, communicate and interact positively with your teen, use positive behaviour management strategies and manage parental stress.

If you are interested in attending this programme, please complete the 'Find out more' form:

<https://www.sheffielddirectory.org.uk/sheffield-parent-hub/parent-hub-events/living-with-teenagers-1151/?booking>

Consent and Healthy Relationships

It's natural for young people to start being curious about sex and relationships, this is why we have a robust safeguarding curriculum in school to provide students with knowledge of consent, and how to keep themselves safe. For some parents / carers, it can feel really difficult talking about sex with their child as most parents / carers feel worried about their child's safety as they develop new relationships. The NSPCC however report that it is vitally important for parents to talk to their young person about sex and consent at home to empower them to make the right choices, and recognise signs of abuse / unhealthy relationships.

How to talk about consent

When a young person is ready to engage in a sexual relationship then saying yes or agreeing to sexual activity should be an active choice, not something that happens because of being pressured. (Sexual activity can be in person or online)

Things we teach children in school and things you can discuss at home:

- Consent to sexual activity means actively saying yes, using both words and body language.
- Consent means always checking the other person is happy to have sex or take part in sexual activity of any kind.
- If the other person's body language and behaviour change, they should check in. They should stop if they think the other person is uncomfortable or unhappy.
- A partner has a right to change their mind. Even if they've agreed to sexual activity or sex before.
- Reassure them that they can talk to you if they feel pressured or unsure about sex or sexual activity.

The law

The age of consent (or the legal age to have sex in the UK) is 16. The laws are there to protect children and not to prosecute young people themselves.

However, any sort of sexual contact without consent is illegal, regardless of the age of those involved.

Children under 13 cannot legally consent to any sexual activity. If this has taken place, this would need to be reported to the police as statutory rape.

Support in school:

The safeguarding team have been trained by Sexual Health Sheffield to provide support in school around:

- Consent and healthy relationships
- Sexual health advice
- Safe sex
- Contraception advice / provide condoms
- Pregnancy tests / pregnancy options
- STI / STD support



Sexual Health support is changing in Sheffield

Lots of young people and adults who live in Handsworth feel isolated from sexual health services which are based at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital.

Chloe Reeves (Deputy DSL) attended the launch of the new sexual health van which will be driving out to local communities throughout Sheffield to improve everyone's access to specialized health care.

The van is a mobile testing unit and provides routine chlamydia, gonorrhea, HIV and syphilis testing.

Updates on where the mobile health van will be located daily can be found here:

<https://www.sexualhealthsheffield.nhs.uk/services/mobile-sexual-health-service/>

Left untreated, a sexually transmitted infection can cause pain and severe health complications, including infertility, pelvic inflammatory disease, certain types of cancer, organ failure and pregnancy complications. Together we can improve education around sexual health.



YOUTH CLINIC

Free and confidential walk-in service for anyone aged 18 and under, offering:

Contraception

STI testing and treatment



Pregnancy testing and support for pregnancy options



Open Mondays and Thursdays from 2.00-6.00pm at The Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Entrance 11a, B Road



HANDSWORTH YOUTH CLUB

EVERY MONDAY 6-8 PM

SCHOOL YEARS 7-12

FREE

EAT Here

HANDSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH, 289A
HANDSWORTH ROAD S13 9BN
AARON.DANIELS@SHEFFIELD.GOV.UK
AARON DANIELS - 07772 900774

Sheffield City Council



WOODHOUSE YOUTH CLUB

EVERY THURSDAY 5-7PM

you
you
you
you

YOUTH
YOUTH
YOUTH

**CONTACT AARON DANIELS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON
07772900774 OR AARON.DANIELS@SHEFFIELD.GOV.UK**

FREE

FOOD . GAMES . ARTS AND CRAFTS. TRIPS

NOW CHURCH, TANNERY STREET, S13 7LA

13-17 YEAR OLDS

COMMUNITY YOUTH SERVICES

Sheffield City Council

Youth Clubs are back!

Youth clubs are important because they provide young people with a safe and supportive environment to develop socially, emotionally, and academically. They offer opportunities for personal growth, foster positive relationships, and help young people develop skills that can help them navigate life challenges and achieve their full potential.

Studies have shown that regular attendance at youth clubs can have positive long-term impacts on young people's education, employment, and overall well-being.

The Community Youth Team (CYT) in Sheffield are now running two youth clubs in our area, please see the posters attached with all the details.

These clubs will be running throughout the summer holidays, so if your child is struggling during the long 6 week break from school, this is a place where they can get extra support with school being closed.

The youth clubs provide free food, and free activities which is also a god's send for parents / carers during the summer holidays.

Door 43

Door 43 is a mental health and wellbeing service for young people living in Sheffield, aged between 13-25. They are based at Star House on Division Street. If your child is struggling with their mental health during the summer holidays, then either you can refer them to Door 43 or they can refer themselves.

They are an approachable team at Door 43 and will guide you through the process, and what different type of support would work best.

Please follow this link to find out what's on during the holidays, or to make a referral:

www.sheffieldfutures.org.uk/whats-on

They have a wellbeing café every Tuesday 5-6.30pm at the Star House, and this will be running through the summer holidays.



DOOR43
Sheffield Futures

WELLBEING CAFE

We do arts and crafts, listen to music, play games and chat about life in general.

Ages 13-25
Over-18s and Under-18s meet separately

Just show up!
No booking required.

SCAN FOR INFO



Star House

0114 201 2800

door.43@sheffieldfutures.org.uk

The poster features a purple background with white and teal text. It includes a circular inset image of a person's hands drawing a rainbow on a piece of cardboard. There are also three teal heart icons and a teal brain icon with a heart inside.

The Corner

The Corner is Sheffield's young people's substance misuse service, anyone under the age of 18 can access their support.

Cannabis is The Corner's most commonly used substance, second is alcohol. We appreciate that during the summer period, our young people may experiment with alcohol and substances, so if you would like further parenting support around this you can access their Family Support Worker by calling:

0114 275 2051

Alternatively, any young person can also make a referral themselves by using their website:

thecornersheffield.com

The Corner are also based on Division Street.



Handsworth Grange Safeguarding Team

Here at HGCSC, we believe in exceptional education for every student every day and as such
Every Person Matters.

We all must take responsibility for looking after each other and making sure we are safe and
happy.

If you are worried about something or someone then you should share it.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) at HGCSC is Mrs Hirst



Designated Safeguarding Lead / Designated Teacher for Children Looked After / Online Safety Coordinator
Deputy Headteacher
T: 0114 269 4801 ext 2217
E: gehirst@handsworth-mlt.co.uk

The Deputy Safeguarding Leads are Chloe Reeves and Sophie Lewis



Deputy DSL
Safeguarding Manager
Chloe Reeves
T: 0114 254 2660
E: creeves@handsworth-mlt.co.uk



Deputy DSL
Family Liaison Officer
Sophie Lewis
T: 0114 269 4801 ext 2290
E: slewis@handsworth-mlt.co.uk