



# SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

## Message from the Safeguarding Team

All children have the right to:

- ◆ Speak out and be heard
- ◆ Be safe
- ◆ Get help when they need it

If you have a concern - Speak Out!

Welcome to Issue 4 of the West Coventry Academy safeguarding newsletter for parents. The aim of this publication is to keep you informed of important safeguarding updates and to signpost services that your children may benefit from.

West Coventry Academy is committed to safeguarding and meeting the needs of our young people, our staff and our families and through working in partnership, we will strive to create a safe and inclusive environment in which we can all learn and develop together.



Mrs Franklin  
Lead DSL



Mrs Hussain  
Deputy DSL

### Designated DSLs



Mrs Powner  
Year 11



Mrs Saund  
Year 10



Mrs Knowles  
Year 9



Mrs Greenway  
Year 8



Mrs Lane  
Year 7



Mrs Withers  
Year 12



Mrs Dudley  
Family Support  
Worker

## Useful Contacts:

**Childline:** 0800 11 11

**NHS:** 111

**FRANK:** Confidential drugs information and advice  
0300 123 6600

**Samaritans:** 116123, [ww.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org)

**Victim Support:** 08 08 16 89 111

**Kooth:** Online mental health services for young people and adults - <http://www.kooth.com>

**Rape Crisis Line:** 08088 039999  
(12:00 - 14:30 & 19:00 - 21:30)

**Anxiety UK:** 03444 775 774

**LGBT+ Helpline:** 07935 669611  
(15:00 - 17:00 Tuesdays & Wednesdays  
13:00 - 15:00pm Thursdays)

**CRUSE:** Bereavement counselling:  
0333 554 9157

**Crimestoppers:** 0800 555 111

**Coventry Sexual Health Clinic:** 0300 020 0027

**Domestic Abuse Helpline:**  
[www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk](http://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk)

**Forced Marriage Unit:** 020 7008 0151

**Positive Youth Foundation:** 02476 158550

**Homelessness:** 0116 221 1857

**Drinkaware:** 0300 123 1110

**BEAT: Eating Disorders:** 0800 801 0811

**Mind:** Mental Health Charity  
0300 123 3393

Statistic of the Week:



Signs of emotional abuse may go unnoticed by adults in a child's or young person's life.

It's difficult to measure exactly how many children in the UK experience emotional abuse. However, according to the NSPCC, research with 2,275 young people aged 11-17 about their experiences of emotional abuse suggests around 1 in 15 children in the UK have been emotionally abused.

## ROBLOX—New Safety features for Under-13s

Roblox is introducing new safety features for children under the age of 13, following criticism of how it protects younger users. The free online gaming platform, which has around 70 million daily users, external worldwide, allows players to create their own games and play those made by others.

According to the media regulator Ofcom, Roblox is the most popular game in the UK for children aged 8 to 12. It is particularly popular with children - but some have complained they have been exposed to upsetting and harmful content on the site. Below is a timeline of new safety features introduced:

- ⇒ **18th November:** Under-13s will be barred from accessing "social hangouts", which are online spaces where players can talk to each other by text and voice.
- ⇒ **3rd December:** Game creators will be asked to say whether their games are suitable for under-13s. Any that fail to do so being blocked for players 12 and younger.

## Catching a Catfish—how to avoid being baited:

Catfishing is when a person takes information and images from other people or generates photos using AI, and uses them to create a new identity, typically online on social media platforms. The aim of this is to deceive someone else into believing they are in a friendship or relationship, usually with the intention of fraud, extortion or cyberbullying.

### Red Flags to Look Out For:

- **Is it too good to be true?** If it seems too good to be true, it probably is. For example, if they appear to be out of your league, are extremely attractive and claim to be wealthy.
- **They mirror your interests and dislikes:** They have exactly the same interests as you and reflect exactly the same challenges in life.
- **Conversations get very personal very quickly**
- **They ask for money:** they may use an emotional story to manipulate you.

## Useful acronyms:

- KCSIE - Keeping Children Safe in Education
- CAMHS - Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services
- PPO - Police Protection Order
- EHA - Early Help Assessment
- LA - Local Authority
- PR - Parental Responsibility
- MASH - Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub