



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 11 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 C Franklin
Lead DSL



Mrs S Hussain
Deputy Lead DSL

Designated DSLs



Mrs Knowles
Year 7



Mrs Green
Year 8



Mrs Powner
Year 9



Mrs Greenway
Year 10



Mrs Lane
Year 11



Mrs Withers
Year 13
Progress Leader

Useful Contacts:

Childline: 0800 11 11

NHS: 111

FRANK: Confidential drugs information and advice
0300 123 6600

Samaritans: 116123, ww.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

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:

The Internet Watch Foundation has found that the amount of child sexual abuse materials depicting extreme abuse has doubled since 2020.

Materials that fall under category A abuse, the most severe kind, accounted for one in five online images found by the IWF last year.



Furries:

'Furries' are people who have an active interest in animal characters with human characteristics. The community is often the subject of online rumours and hoaxes, particularly related to schools and pupils dressing up as animals, requesting litter boxes in the school toilets, and communicating with teachers by making animal noises.

Children can often use this term as an insult towards each other.

Concerns:

The idea of the being a furrie or fursona can blur the line between real life and created reality. Whilst for some, this may present an opportunity to engage without fear of judgement about who they are and how they are perceived, it could also encourage a vulnerable young person to engage in risk-taking activity they would not normally consider

If a child or young person shows interest and/or decides to become a Furry, they may be subjected to bullying from their peers (and others) both online and offline.

Mental Health Awareness week—15th May-21st May 2023

ANXIETY:

The focus of this years Mental Health Awareness week is Anxiety.

Anxiety is a normal emotion in us all, but sometimes it can get out of control and become a mental health problem.

Lots of things can lead to feelings of anxiety for young people, including exam pressures, relationships or other big life events. Anxiety is one of the most common mental health problems we can face. Below are agencies of support for Anxiety:

Anxiety UK—this was established in 1970 and is run by and for those with anxiety, offering an extensive range of support services designed to help support those affected by anxiety disorders, anxiety and anxiety-based depression.

Anna Freud— established to close the gap in wellbeing and mental health by advancing, translating, delivering and sharing the best science and practice with everyone who impacts the lives of children and families.



Useful acronyms:

KCSIE - Keeping Children Safe in Education

CAMHS - Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services

PPP - Police Powers of Protection

EHA - Early Help Assessment

LA - Local Authority

PR - Parental Responsibility

MASH - Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub