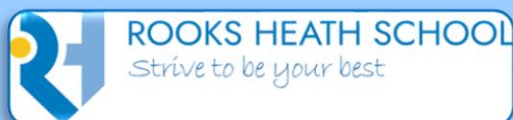


SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER



SUMMER 2021 – Issue 7

Latest advice for Parents and Carers



Welcome to the first of our Summer term Newsletters from the Rooks Heath Safeguarding Team. We aim to bring you all the latest, relevant help and advice on issues that we feel will be of importance to you.

We hope that you all had an enjoyable Easter break and have settled back into the daily routine of returning to school. Over the last few weeks Media attention has highlighted the sensitive subject of Sexual Harassment/Abuse within the school community, it is therefore, the focus of this edition of our Newsletter.

Rooks Heath is taking this subject very seriously and has a planned schedule of Assemblies for all year groups. These assemblies started last week and will continue over the coming next few weeks, with some being delivered by our Safer Schools Police Officers.

Peer-on-Peer Sexual Harassment/Abuse

The subject of Sexual Harassment/Abuse in schools and colleges is more prevalent than ever currently. Since the assault and murder of Sarah Everard, there has been a wave of disclosures and testimonies on the anonymous website 'Everyone's Invited'. In light of the recent media coverage and disclosures of Sexual Harassment/Abuse, it is clear that now more than ever, we **ALL** need to be more aware of the language used. We need to be making sure students have a thorough understanding of what consent is and also having conversations with our young people about what is acceptable and what is **NOT OK** to say or do! We need to be promoting Respect - both for ourselves and for others.

Parents have a hugely important role to play in reducing levels of sexual harassment/abuse. With our whole school approach, we hope that you will be fully engaged and feel supported to be able to address the subject with your children.

As mentioned, Rooks Heath takes any report of this kind extremely seriously, you can rest assured that the matter will be fully investigated in a sensitive manner. All parents will be notified of ANY report of a sexual harassment/abuse nature involving their children.

It is important to remember that these kind of behaviours happen to both males and females.

NSPCC

Dedicated Helpline

0800 136 663

This new dedicated helpline provides support to both children and adults who have experienced sexual abuse in educational settings or has concerns about someone or the issues raised. Support and advice include how to contact the police and report crimes if they wish. The helpline will also provide support to parents too. More information is available at

[Dedicated helpline for victims of abuse in schools NSPCC](#)

Parents Protect

Together we can prevent
child sexual abuse

THE
LUCY FAITHFULL
FOUNDATION

Working to protect children

Parents Protect is a child sexual abuse and prevention website created by the sexual abuse and prevention campaign **Stop It Now!** UK and Ireland and [The Lucy Faithfull Foundation](#). The Stop It Now! Campaign aims to prevent child sexual abuse by raising awareness and encouraging early recognition of warning signs of abuse. It also sets out identifying and responses to the problem by abusers themselves and those close to them.

Click [Parents Protect - Learn](#) to educate yourself on all aspects. The website also has many resources for parents and carers to access. Click [Parents Protect - Resources](#) to see the full range of information leaflets, safety plans, posters and books to share with children.

[Stop It Now! UK and Ireland](#) believes that sexual abuse and exploitation is preventable and gives adults the information they need to protect children effectively whilst urging abusers and potential abusers to seek help. Stop It Now! encourages adults to create a society that no longer tolerates the sexual abuse of children. There is a confidential and anonymous helpline And email service – **0808 1000 900** or **live chat**, **secure email** if you **are not ready to speak to someone on the phone**.

Click the following links: [Live chat - Stop It Now](#)
[Stop It Now! Secure email](#)



Parents/Carers Learning Programme

Sexual Abuse Learning Programme (Parents Protect)

Parents Protect has developed this online child sexual abuse and exploitation awareness learning programme for parents/carers and professionals to help:

- Understand potential risks
- Recognise the signs of possible abuse in children
- Be ware of inappropriate behaviour in adults
- Know where to go for help if you have concerns and would like to talk about them

Click here: [Sexual Abuse Learning Programme - Parents Protect](#)

everyone's
invited

Everyone's Invited was founded by Soma Sara during her time at school and University.

Conversations with friends throughout this time began to reveal how widespread the issue is for young people. Whilst finishing her degree she began sharing her experiences of rape culture on Instagram. The huge response from those that identified with her story, prompted the website in June 2020. It is a space created for survivors to share their stories. Since 8th March 2021, over 15,000 anonymous testimonies have been submitted and shared, sparking a conversation about rape culture with millions of people. To find out more click [Everyone's Invited \(everyonesinvited.uk\)](#)

USEFUL ON-LINE SAFETY WEBSITES

National Online Safety – safety guides on ALL aspects of internet use

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/>

Internet Matters – wide range of online safety advice for parents to keep their children safe on-line.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

EAL RESOURCES FOR ONLINE SAFETY

Please see below for useful websites to support your children, together with a link for leaflets in other languages that will assist you in keeping your children safe on-line.

Parents: Supporting Young People Online (Childnet)

<https://www.childnet.com/ufiles/Supporting-Young-People-Online.pdf>

Leaflets available in other languages here

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/supporting-young-people-online>

- Arabic
- Bengali
- English
- Farsi
- French
- Hindi
- Polish
- Punjabi
- Somali
- Spanish
- Turkish
- Urdu
- Vietnamese
- Welsh

PARENTAL SUPPORT

YOUNG MINDS

During these extremely tough times, parents find themselves pulled in many different directions. Concerns about COVID-19, work from home/children at home, along with a possible financial impact make for a stressful household. **Young Minds** have created a useful 'Supporting Parents Help Finder'. By answering six questions, parents can find out how to support their child's mental health during the pandemic (and beyond). Find the help finder here:

<https://youngminds.org.uk/supporting-parents/>

HelpHarrow

Help Harrow Digital Product

Help Harrow is being delivered in partnership with Harrow Council. It is a self-referral system for all ages, targeting acute needs in specific social areas in Harrow.

Help Harrow Key Points:

- A portal as a way of connecting vulnerable residents to vital services in the borough during and throughout the current pandemic.
- Currently offers support for food poverty, advice/information in all areas of life, as well as mental health and emotional wellbeing support.
- A 'Single Point of Contact' referral system.
- Referrals can be made directly by the person in need or via an Access Point.

Key Benefits to HelpHarrow.org Users:

- A virtual One stop shop" to organisations and services in the Harrow.
- A choice of relevant organisations listed to support the user's needs.
- Process to start engagement with a person in need within 2 working days of referral received.
- Key organisations in the system including but not limited to Citizen Advice Bureau, MIND, Age Concern and Harrow Carers.

Who is Help Harrow for?

- Local Harrow residents for self-referral
- Households affected by Covid-19
- All ages
- Organisations

Please click on link for more details

<https://helpharrow.org/>

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

Parents, are you worried about: Your child's behaviour, finances and putting food on the table, employment, housing, your own mental health or relationship difficulties and want to talk about these?

Students, are you worried about: Your mental health, food, arguments or fights at home, covid-19, or do you have worries about your brother or sister or friend?

I will be holding drop-ins over the Telephone on the days and times listed below:

Mondays 2-4pm

Thursdays 10am-12noon



Please email: Evangeline.phillips@harrow.gov.uk to arrange a call back. If these times don't work for you, we can find another time.
Look out for my presentation in virtual assemblies soon!



HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS

Do you need help from the foodbank?
**THE MOST IMPORTANT STEP IS TO GET A
FOODBANK VOUCHER.**

To provide the most appropriate help for your circumstances, Harrow foodbank works with local agencies. If they feel you are struggling to put food on the table, they will issue you with a foodbank voucher. The local agency can also provide long term support if needed to help address some of the issues behind the reasons for your crisis.

Agencies that they work closely with include: Citizens Advice, housing support officers, children's centres, health visitors, social services, and some local charities.

To Get In Touch

If you [call or email](#) the foodbank they can talk through your situation and put you in touch with the relevant local agency.

[Harrow Foodbank | Helping Local People in Crisis](#)

LEARN HARROW

If you are struggling with Home Learning and supporting your children during this current Lockdown, Learn Harrow, promoted by Harrow Council, provides a wide choice of learning opportunities for all ages and abilities across the borough in partnership with various providers.

They have created a google form for parents to tell them what they are interested in:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1pfXbm0GNJh1Xq3bQqjs8oSfBo3z3v23gZdfVSPk8whg/edit>

They are running various different courses for secondary school parents to attend such as:

- How to use learning platforms such as Google, Zoom and Teams
- Awareness of teenage mental health and how to approach this with your own child
- How to monitor children on the internet
- How to motivate their children to do work
- ESOL
- Functional Skills Maths/English/ICT



*Online Counselling Service
for 11-25 year olds in Harrow*

As part of Mental Health services for young people in Harrow, the service complements their existing early intervention, Harrow Horizons.

It is a free online counselling and emotional well-being support service providing young people in Harrow, aged 11-25 years (up to 25th birthday), with a free, safe and secure means of accessing support with their emotional health and wellbeing from a professional team of qualified counsellors.

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

The Rooks Heath College Safeguarding Team have been trained to an advanced level on all aspects of safeguarding. The team is available to any student, parent or school staff member to discuss and report any safeguarding concerns.

The team Members are as follows:

Designated Safeguarding Lead -

Ms S Rockell

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads –

Ms V Cobblah-West, Miss L Dale and Mrs L Geoghegan

School Social Worker

Ms Evie Philips

Are all your contact details up to date?

If you change your home phone/email/mobile number, please let the school know, so that we have the most up-to-date contact details.

**Useful contacts to report a concern
If you are worried and need help, then please
contact one of the following:**

For children click here



Online here



Harrow Children's Services [click here](#)

020 8901 2690

Share the HOPE
Save a life

HOPELINEUK
0800 068 41 41 07860 039 967 pat@papyrus-uk.org

EMERGENCY
APPEAL

