

# SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

### UPDATES FROM ST. AIDAN'S C OF E HIGH SCHOOL

## PEER-ON-PEER ABUSE

As we already know from our last bulletin....

### Our local Safeguarding risks include:

- Peer-on-Peer abuse online
- Peer-on-Peer abuse sexual harrassment / sexual violence
- Child criminal exploitation / County Lines
- Please note: Our local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Martin Powell

Another term for "peer-on-peer abuse" is "child-on-child abuse" and this is the new term that will be used in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2022.

## What is peer-on-peer abuse?

- Peer-on-peer abuse is any form of physical, sexual, emotional and financial abuse, and coercive control
  exercised between children, and within children's relationships (both intimate and non-intimate), friendships,
  and wider peer associations.
- Peer-on-peer abuse can take various forms, including (but not limited to): serious bullying (including cyberbullying), relationship abuse, domestic violence and abuse, child sexual exploitation, youth and serious youth violence, harmful sexual behaviour and/or prejudice-based violence including, but not limited to, genderbased violence.
- Online peer-on-peer abuse is any form of peer-on-peer abuse with a digital element, for example, sexting, online abuse, coercion and exploitation, peer-on-peer grooming, threatening language delivered via online means, the distribution of sexualised content, and harrasment.





FEBRUARY 2022



# SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

### UPDATES FROM ST. AIDAN'S C OF E HIGH SCHOOL

#### SPOTTING THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS:

- absence from setting or disengagement from setting activities
- physical injuries
- mental or emotional health issues
- becoming withdrawn lack of self esteem
- lack of sleep
- alcohol or substance misuse
- changes in behaviour
- inappropriate behaviour for age
- abusive towards others

#### **VULNERABLE GROUPS:**

- abuse can happen to anyone at any age. Both boys and girls can be victims;
- black and minority ethnic young people often under identified as victims and over-identified as perpetrators;
- young people with intra-familial abuse in their histories or those living with domestic abuse are more likely to be vulnerable;
- young people in care and those who have experienced loss of a parent, sibling or friend through bereavement;
- young people with SEND are three times more likely to be abused than their peers;
- young people who have been abused or have abused their peers.

For more information on peer on peer abuse please refer to section 46 in\_ Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021

Any concerns please see any of the following staff <u>immediately:</u> Kate Douglas - Acting DSL Clair King - Deputy DSL Lucy Holt - Deputy DSL

For more information on peer on peer abuse, please click on the following St. Aidan's policies: 1. School Child Protection Manual 2. Anti-Bullying Policy 3. Behaviour Policy







### FEBRUARY 2022

WWW.STAIDANS.CO.UK