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Headteacher Dr Roger Harris

To: Y12/Y13 parents/carers/students

9 February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer/Student

The school has a duty to safeguard and care for all our students which is supported through the statutory guidance from the DFE, '[Keep Children Safe in Education 2021](#)'. This guidance is updated and reviewed annually to ensure that schools and colleges are doing everything they can to ensure that students are safe whilst in school or involved in school-based activities.

This year there has been a focus on sexual violence and sexual harassment between children which follows on from the OFSTED review of '[Sexual Abuse in Schools](#)'. Schools are expected to adopt a whole school approach to not only respond to reports of incidents but to also identify where it may be occurring even when it has not been reported. The '[Everyone's Invited](#)' website has also shed further light on the number of young people who have experienced some form of harassment whilst at school.

The OFSTED report shows that 92% of girls and 74% of boys have experienced sexist name calling, 80% of girls and 50% of boys have experienced unwanted or inappropriate sexual comments and 81% of girls and 53% of boys have had rumours made about their sexual activity. As a school we have a responsibility to educate and support our students in understanding what is and is not acceptable and how we should react and respond to such matters. We also have a duty of care to ensure that students feel confident to report any concerns that they may have. As we take this issue very seriously part of this process will involve asking our students to complete an anonymous survey about what they have experienced at school so that we can identify key areas that we need to address and educate our students further in. The final part of the questionnaire offers students the opportunity to be part of a working party group called 'expect respect' to address the issues we identify from this questionnaire.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you our wellbeing referral form for our students, this can be used as a self-referral form or as a referral for someone else. It can be found on our school website on the Student Support page and can be accessed via this link: [Student & Parent Referral Form](#)

Should you have any concerns about the safeguarding and wellbeing of one of our students please contact the school and ask to speak to one of our DSLs.

Yours faithfully



Ms R Ricketts  
Deputy Headteacher