

Safeguarding & Wellbeing update Information for Parents & Carers

Please check out our safeguarding and wellbeing pages on our website:

<https://www.westfieldacademy.co.uk/about-us/safeguarding.htm>

There is a host of information, advice and links to excellent websites to offer support and guidance.



If you need to contact the safeguarding team at Westfield Academy please use the reporting form on our website or use the following email address: safeguarding@westfieldacademy.co.uk This will be monitored by the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Safeguarding Lead only during normal school hours.

IF URGENT AND THE YOUNG PERSON IS AT RISK OF HARM PLEASE CALL the Police on 999 or Children's Social Care (Somerset Direct) on Tel:0300 123 2224. Out of hours service please call the Emergency Duty Team on Tel:0300 123 2327.

Collaborate Digital - Town Centre Safety & Active Bystanding

At the end of last term we had the pleasure of welcoming 'Collaborate Digital' into school to deliver assemblies to Years 8&9 around Town Centre safety and being an active & safe bystander. In the afternoon the team assisted a group of students in a workshop to write, create & perform a podcast around the relevant personal safety themes. One podcast, created by a Year 9 group on Domestic Violence was chosen to be in a Somerset School's competition and we have the pleasure of announcing that they won the competition!

The students received a trophy for their efforts. Well done to all the students taking part, the team were impressed by their creativity and engagement.

Listen to the winning podcast here: [Domestic Violence podcast](#)



New student entrances

As per the letter you will have received from Mr Dallimore all students are now using the school entrances on Freedom Avenue & Westfield Road. Neither of these gates will be open until 7:55am (students who arrive by taxi/bus who will continue to use the Stiby Road entrance). All students should be on site between 8:00-8:25am - **NO EARLIER** to enable appropriate supervision by staff on site.

Students are welcome to attend our free breakfast club from 8:00am onwards in Hubbles, the Upper School Canteen.

Please can we remind parents/carers that are dropping off their children in a vehicle at our **Westfield Road entrance not to pull in or park on the zig zag yellow lines** on Westfield Road. These are in place to ensure our student's safety as they attend & depart school. A lot of our young people do not always focus, as they should, on safely crossing roads. All roads outside of our school entrances need to have clear visibility and no obstructions.

Thank you for your continued support & cooperation in the implemented changes and keeping our students safe.

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New School Counsellor

We wanted to introduce you to our new school counsellor, Michelle Wood who started with us at the end of March. Michelle is a qualified person centred counsellor, which means she provides a safe, supportive and non judgmental space for young people to explore their thoughts and feelings at their own pace. Michelle will be attending school on a Wednesday and Thursday on a weekly basis, her sessions run in a private meeting room in school.

School counselling is brief and solution focused, offering a maximum of six free weekly sessions during the school day. While short term, these sessions can have a positive impact by helping students build emotional resilience, develop coping strategies and gain a better understanding of themselves.

Should you feel that your child need a referral to our school counsellor please contact their Tutor, Head of Year or the Safeguarding Team.



Wellbeing@Westfield - Wellbeing Action Group

The Wellbeing Action Group (WAG) is a group of people in school who meet regularly (after school hours) to develop and implement the whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing. The group can be used to hear the voice of the whole school community, have a shared understanding of wellbeing and improve emotional health and wellbeing for all of the school community. The group contains members of our Senior Leadership Team, Pastoral Team, Teachers, Mental Health Support Team, a Parent Governor, School Nurse, parents & carers and the voice of the students via our Student Wellbeing Champions is gathered by Ms Broom, our Senior Mental Health Lead.

We have a space for a parent/carer to be part of the Wellbeing Action Group. If you wish to get involved please contact Ms Broom, the Senior Mental Health Lead via email - safeguarding@westfieldacademy.co.uk

Wellbeing@Westfield instagram page: @wellbeingatwestfield

#wellbeingatwestfield

