

Connect

Spring 2022



Your newsletter promoting safety and support at Sea Mills Primary.

Welcome

The safety of our children, staff and families is our number one priority. Before we are in a position to learn, we need to make sure our needs are met; food, water, warmth and rest. We must also feel secure and safe.

This newsletter, published three times a year, is one platform we use to connect with families and share top tips, advice and news on how to keep your children, yourself and others safe.

If there are specific areas that you feel you would like us to explore, please do let us know.

What is Peer on Peer Abuse?

Peer-on-peer abuse includes, but is not limited to:

- physical and sexual abuse
- sexual harassment and violence
- emotional harm
- on and offline bullying
- teenage relationship abuse
- It can even include grooming children for sexual and criminal exploitation (e.g. stealing, criminal damage etc)

Unfortunately peer on peer abuse can and does happen in a whole range of settings that children attend.

However, it often goes unseen. It might take place online, for example or away from school e.g. in the local community, parks, outside shops etc.

Spotting the signs and symptoms:

- absence from school or disengagement from school 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- becoming withdrawn – lack of self esteem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

How to spot Fake News and misleading online

What's the problem?

Fake news is false or misleading information presented as genuine news.

Your child might have seen fake news online about the Russian invasion of Ukraine. There have been examples of old footage being shared as if it's new, or images being manipulated to present a misleading picture about what's happening. There's been lots of misinformation on TikTok in particular.

Fake news and disinformation have also been linked to radicalisation by extremists and attempts to skew people's world views. For example, extremist narratives relating to coronavirus include:

- Antisemitic conspiracy theories blaming Jewish people for the spread of the virus or suggesting it's a 'Jewish plot'

- Claims that British Muslims have flouted social distancing rules

- Anti-Chinese hatred

- Isis-inspired narratives about how coronavirus is a divine punishment for the 'sinful behaviours' of the west

- Extreme right-wing conspiracies that society is collapsing and far-right groups can accelerate its end

Reading information like this can upset or worry your child unnecessarily. Fake news also helps create a culture of fear and uncertainty, with children trusting reputable news outlets less as a result of fake news.

How can I help my child spot fake news online?

Tell them to ask themselves:

What's the source? Is it a reputable news source, and are mainstream news outlets reporting it too?

When was it published? Check the date an article was published, as sometimes old stories are shared on social media. This could be an accident, or it might be to make it look like something happened recently

Have you seen anything similar elsewhere? What happens if you search for it on Google or check it using a fact-checking website like Full Fact?

Do the pictures look real? Images might have been edited. They might also be unrelated images that have been used with the story

Why might this have been created? Could someone be trying to provoke a specific reaction, change your beliefs, or get you to click a link?

What signs of radicalisation should I be alert to?

It's worth knowing what signs to be alert to, just in case. If you do see these signs, it doesn't necessarily mean your child is being radicalised – it could be nothing at all, or it could be a sign that something else is wrong.

- Becoming more isolated from friends and family

- Not being willing or able to talk about their views

- Becoming more angry

- Talking as if from a script

- A sudden disrespectful attitude towards others

- Being more secretive, especially about their internet use

If you're worried about your child, contact : Sian Randall, Andrew Kinnear or Nicola Phillips





FREE Workshops

Is your child on the Autism Assessment Waiting List?

This exciting project is aimed at parents and carers who are on the waiting list for an Autism assessment for their child. We know that in some areas this can be a long process.

For the first time Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire (BNSSG) Parent Carer forums have teamed together and are delivering specific workshops to provide information, support and practical guidance.

A combination of professional expertise, knowledge and the lived experience of parenting a SEND child is at the basis of each workshop. Attending our workshops will give you the benefit of years of professional training and expertise. We will be running both on-line and face-to-face workshops. Our face-to-face workshops will focus on four themes, turn over for a summary, and our on-line sessions will cover a variety of themes based on feedback we receive from families.

Please sign up to your local Parent Carer Forum to be the first to get dates and locations for our workshops and on-line sessions.

Bristol Parent Carers

E: info@bristolparentcarers.org.uk

T: 07306 650 222

W: www.bristolparentcarers.org.uk

North Somerset Parent Carers

Working Together

E: admin@nspcwt.org

T: 01934 440 844

W: www.nspcwt.org

South Glos Parent Carers

E: training@sglospc.org.uk

T: 07916 275 440

W: www.sglospc.org.uk



**Working together
for SEND families**

BRISTOL, NORTH SOMERSET &
SOUTH GLOS PARENT CARER FORUMS



Anti-Social Behavior in Sea Mills

Since the pandemic there has been a worrying rise in antisocial behavior involving the young community of Sea Mills. For the most part, tackling problems associated with children and anti-social behavior is a joint effort where parents, schools, local authorities and the police all need to work together with children to educate them about moral values and respect, both for themselves and for others. We are continuing to work on this in school and we need the support of parents at home.

What are the signs of anti social behavior in children?

- abusive and harmful behaviour to animals and people
- lying and stealing
- defiance and violating rules
- vandalism and other property destruction
- causing a nuisance in the community



How can you help at home? (click on the links for more information)

1. Teach them how to solve problems (conflict resolution)
2. Help them manage their anger
3. Emotional literacy
4. Clear boundaries and curfews
5. Knowing who your children are socializing with and where

Are you OK?

Coronavirus and the lockdown have caused lots of problems for everyone in different ways. Some people have struggled with their mental health, some people have struggled with money because of losing their jobs and some people have not been safe at home during this time.



Adults who argue and fight in the home have no space to get away during the pandemic. This is scary for everyone in the home. Being stuck indoors has also meant that children and vulnerable adults who are not looked after properly by their family or carers are more likely to get hurt.

This makes us worried. We worry that people like teachers, doctors, and youth workers, haven't been able to see the adults and children who are most vulnerable and can't get the help they need.

Are you OK? asks you to check on your friends, family and neighbours. We know that sometimes this can be hard, but we need some help to check if people are OK. If you are worried that someone is not OK, then the KBSP webpage should help you to find the right people to contact to support your friend, family member or neighbour.

Welcome to the Keeping Bristol Safe Partnership website. (bristolsafeguarding.org)