



24th February 2020

Safeguarding Newsletter Term 4

Welcome to the Spring term edition of the safeguarding Newsletter. As the new Designated Safeguarding Lead at Khalsa Secondary Academy, staff and parents will receive termly updates on Safeguarding. The Newsletters will focus on issues that relate to the school and wider community.

This edition of the Safeguarding Newsletter introduces the new Safeguarding team & hopes to give you a better understanding of “County Lines”.



SAFEGUARDING



Should you have any concerns / issues regarding **SAFEGUARDING**, you can talk to the following **DESIGNATED SAFE GUARDING LEAD(S)** in the school.



MR J ROOPRA
(LEAD)

MR J WILLIAMS
(DEPUTY)

MRS N TIMOTHEOU
(DEPUTY)

MR A KILBANE
(DEPUTY)

MRS S WILSON
(DEPUTY)

MRS A KAUR
(DEPUTY)

MRS A SINGH
(SAFEGUARDING
GOVERNOR)



NSPCC
CHILDLINE
KIDSCAPE BULLYING HELPLINE
SAMARITANS

0808 800 5000
0800 11 11
0845 1205 204
0845 790 9090

Khalsa Secondary Academy Safeguarding Statement

Khalsa Secondary Academy is committed to safeguarding children. We believe that children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them. We expect that all staff, volunteers, outside agencies and service providers adhere to our policies and share in our commitment to safeguard all children in our care.



County Lines

What does the term 'County Lines' mean?

The name 'county lines' refers to the phone numbers, or lines, that criminal gangs which traffic drugs from urban to rural areas use to organise the sale of their wares. Gangs in cities such as London, Birmingham and Liverpool use children to deal mostly heroin and crack cocaine over a network of dedicated mobile phones to smaller towns and rural areas. The main county lines groups operate from London and Liverpool, but other groups work out of Birmingham, Manchester and Reading. With Reading being so close to Slough and the developing links that Slough has with London, the potential risks associated with County Lines impacting our young people's lives has increased.

For more information on County Lines please see the following link;
<https://www.bucksscp.org.uk/professionals/exploitation/child-exploitation-2/>

Who are the victims and how are they recruited?

The majority of victims groomed into working for gangs are 15- to 17-year-old boys but children as young as 11 have been safeguarded and girls have been targeted. Many victims are recruited over social media, with offenders luring them with images of cash, designer clothing and luxury cars, but vulnerable girls and women are being targeted by men who create the impression of a romantic relationship before subjecting them to sexual exploitation.

The signs

The signs to look out for are similar to any children being exploited.

- Withdrawn, secretive
- Mobile phones additional to other handsets
- Unaccounted movements
- Missing from home
- Changes in behaviour / attitude
- New / different clothes

What to do if you have concerns

The best advice is to trust your instincts. Even if someone isn't involved in county lines drug dealing, they may be being exploited in some other way, so it's always worth speaking out.

You can speak to your local police by dialling 101, or in an emergency 999.

In an emergency dial 999.

If you are a young person who is worried about your involvement, or a friend's involvement in county lines A good option is to speak to an adult you trust and talk to them about your concerns. This could be a family member or someone in the Safeguarding Team at KSA.

You can also call the NSPCC Childline on 0800 1111. Childline is a private and confidential service where you can talk to specially trained counsellors about anything that is worrying you.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact any member of the Safeguarding Team

Best Wishes,
Mr J Roopra
Assistant Principal
Designated Safeguarding Lead