

## Everyone's Invited Website

This website aims to expose and eradicate 'rape culture' through providing a platform for people to share, anonymously, stories of misogyny, harassment, abuse and assault. Many girls and young women have used the website to report experiences of harassment, abuse and assault from boys at their own or neighbouring schools. These schools are often named, and the initial media focus was on the reports naming high profile private schools. However, accounts are now from a wider range of institutions and include state schools. Boys have also been posting accounts of their experiences of abuse and assault.

The identity of the children and young people who have posted accounts is not known and hence the focus of the response has been to work with whole school communities to:

- Encourage anyone who has experienced sexual harassment, abuse or assault to tell someone and seek help and support to cope with their experiences. This includes;
  - Providing information about the various helplines, as well as flagging school support and other local services.
  - How to report crimes and the support available to do that.
- Review safeguarding policies and procedures as well as broader preventative work including, for example, the provision of sex and relationship education and bullying prevention, and ensure the content is fit for purpose and being implemented effectively.
- Recognise that these are instances of peer on peer abuse and, as such, the alleged perpetrators are likely to be children and will also require support, which includes understanding and changing their behaviour.

The website now has a clear message emphasising the need to be empathic, to listen and understand and move forward to a better future. This messaging will be particularly important where, despite not being named, children are identified by peers. They may then have to cope with the potential shame and fear that this brings and could also become targets of further abuse and harassment.

Update on the national and London response:

### The Department for Education

- The DfE have announced an immediate Ofsted Review: Ofsted, working with representatives from social care, police, victim support groups, school and college leaders and the Independent Schools Council, will undertake an immediate review of safeguarding policies in state and independent schools.
- The DfE, working with the NSPCC, has launched a dedicated helpline for victims of sexual abuse to provide support and guidance:
  - *Following the concerning reports provided to the Everyone's Invited website, detailing incidents of sexual assault in schools and colleges, the Government is taking immediate steps to support to those affected and ensure all schools are safe places.*
  - *The dedicated NSPCC Helpline - Report Abuse in Education – launched Thursday 1 April can be contacted by phone on 0800 136 663, or by emailing [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)*

### The Police

- The police response is now being co-ordinated nationally by Simon Bailey, the National Police Chiefs' Council lead on child protection – this reflecting that what started out as primarily a London issue is now a national one.
  - Through Operation Hydrant, the police are reviewing all reports and, where possible, identifying the school; whether the person reporting is a current or former pupil;

whether it's peer-on-peer and what type of offense may have been committed. They will produce a statistical analysis of reports over the next few weeks.

**The Met police response:**

- A Gold Group has been convened and will meet weekly – it includes health and children's services representatives.
- The Safer Schools' Officers are supporting schools affected.
- Safeguarding superintendents are briefed and supporting the response.
- Whilst the aim of the website is to provide anonymous reporting and it's important to respect this, there will be messaging explaining how to report if victims should want to do so.

**Support from LBE**

We have been working with the Global Equality Collective (GEC). The process that a school goes through and the resources that are provided are high quality. SEYIS will subsidise the annual cost of purchasing the programme in the first year, reducing costs by 10%. Schools will pay £135 for the access to the entire programme for all staff.

GEC produce a complete suite of 25 eLearning Modules, covering every area of gender equality and inclusion, that have been specifically created for the leaders tasked with tackling these issues.

Created by experts, academics and fellow school and college leaders who have been there, these are action orientated resources which have been designed to perfectly strike the balance between leader-education and the need to act.

**Online Safety Termly Update & The Online Academy PL for Online Safety Leads**

This will be led by Alan Mackenzie, who has worked in the area of online safety since 2008, leading for Lincolnshire County Council and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board. Alan works with schools and colleges across the UK on staff and governor training, parent/community awareness and student engagement.

These termly sessions are about educating children, young people and parents; empowering them to understand, manage and mitigate risks to enjoy technology, safely. It will help school staff to understand and respond to the latest risks and issues regarding the online lives of children and young people including:

- Clear, pragmatic guidance on any new trends, concerns, apps etc.
- Overview of national picture.
- Understanding any new statutory guidance.
- Signpost to new, useful curriculum resources and resources useful for parents.

There is a 10 minute teaser on 14<sup>th</sup> May at 1pm.

The meetings will be 9.30 – 11 on the 19.11.21, 25.3.22, and 17.6.22.

**Online Safety Leads:**

This is an in-depth, self-led online course for those who manage online safety in school to increase their breadth and depth of knowledge significantly. Comprising of 32 short modules, it includes topics such as:

- Parent engagement.
- Risk-assessing.
- Curriculum planning.
- How to keep up to date.
- Cyber trauma.

- Online disinhibition.
- Gaming, YouTube and social media.
- Content, contact and conduct risks.

And much more.

For costs and booking please contact: [seyis@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:seyis@enfield.gov.uk)

### **Safeguarding Review:**

SEYIS has drawn up a review brief for a safeguarding check which can be tailored to your individual school. This would be carried out by an external consultant and an officer with a personnel background. The review would look at the compliance, culture and curriculum for safeguarding. Please email SEYIS if you are interested in commissioning a safeguarding review.