

HZ/LT

23rd March 2015

Dear Parents / Carers

Re: Information about Safeguarding at the College

As you are already aware, the College takes safeguarding our students and staff very seriously. We have arranged a number of activities that I wanted to update you about:

Partial Solar Eclipse – 20th March

Whilst strictly not a safeguarding event, the College had taken the safety of children as a high priority during this event. The focus for assemblies during the week had been National Science Week and we used these assemblies to raise the issue of the partial solar eclipse and to warn students that they were not to look directly at the eclipse. Information and advice had been given to tutors to share with students. Although students had been warned of the risks, they had also been alerted to the risk posed by using unsuitable materials as filters.

The College day was not affected by Friday's partial solar eclipse and students were expected to arrive at the normal time. Although there were no plans to run any whole College activity, many students had lessons linked to this event.

Child Sexual Exploitation awareness - 19th March 2015

The College arranged for Amelia Scanlon to lead assemblies and presentations to students on Thursday 19th March so that they are aware of issues surrounding this subject. John Clements, Independent Chair for the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Safeguarding Children Board (LSCCB) has said:

“Our children should expect to lead their lives free of abuse, exploitation and neglect and we must do all that we can to meet their expectations. Sexual exploitation of our children damages their self-esteem; harms them emotionally and interferes with their life-long ambitions. I am glad to say that in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, we have arrived at a position where people realise child sexual exploitation is happening within our communities and understand the different ways it occurs.”

Proactive Police Drugs Dog visited College – 12th March 2015

Following the assemblies last month led by PC Geoff Turner-Moore, Police Dog handler and PC David Thompson, Youth Offending Officer, this Police team visited the College last week to complete a search with the drugs dog. Thank you to all students and parents for their support in this.

E-safety and information about Cyber Bullying – 13th April 2015

Students will have the opportunity in special assemblies to hear about the effects of cyber bullying. Rich Cottell, who is an upcoming music artist, will speak to students about this issue, as his sister was a victim of cyber bullying. Rich has a YouTube account if you wish to view his music and information.

Safeguarding Ambassadors

Myself and Mrs Fowell met with a group of students to review the College's safeguarding procedures. I am pleased to report that there were no major issues that the students raised. These students are to be the College's students Safeguarding Ambassadors and will meet regularly to evaluate how well we are doing.

The Health and Wellbeing Committee – 27th February 2015

The College held the first Health and Wellbeing Committee on 27th February and this was to look at how we can ensure the health and wellbeing of staff and students at the College. The meeting was successful with lots of ideas brought forward. There will be future meetings in the summer term and I will keep you updated of the progress.

If you would like further information on what we have been doing with regards to safeguarding and health & wellbeing, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Hazeldine', written in a cursive style.

Andrea Hazeldine
Headteacher