

ST PHILIP HOWARD SAFEGUARDING BULLETIN

ST. PHILIP HOWARD
CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



ADVENT TERM

October 2026

Keeping every child safe and ready to flourish

Welcome to our first safeguarding bulletin of the 2026–27 school year. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and sits at the heart of school life. This edition introduces our Personal Development curriculum, explains how the Wellbeing Hub supports students and reminds families who can help when a child is worried.

Personal Development at SPH

Personal Development gives every student the knowledge, confidence and values they need to stay safe, form healthy relationships, and make responsible choices.

Through weekly PD lessons, students learn about:

- Relationships, consent and respectful behaviour
- Physical and mental health
- Online safety, AI and digital wellbeing
- British Values, equality and protected characteristics
- Careers, financial education and preparation for adult life

Our Catholic foundation runs through the curriculum. We teach that every person has God-given dignity and should be treated with compassion, respect and care.

Working with families

Some topics are sensitive, so lessons use clear ground rules and age-appropriate language. Parents and carers can support learning by asking what has been discussed, listening without judgement and reinforcing that help is always available.

Please contact us if there is anything we should know before a topic is taught or if your child needs additional support to access a lesson safely.

Please click the link below to be taken to the PD curriculum at SPH.

[Personal Development - St Philip Howard Catholic Voluntary Academy](#)

Safeguarding focus: Online safety in an AI world

Artificial intelligence can be creative and useful, but it can also be used to produce convincing fake images, videos or voices. Young people may see deep fakes, impersonation, harmful content or pressure to create and share images.

Help your child by:

- keeping conversations calm and regular
- checking privacy and location settings together
- reminding them never to share intimate images
- encouraging them to pause before trusting or forwarding content
- saving evidence and reporting harmful content
- contacting school promptly if another student is involved

A useful rule: if something online feels upsetting, threatening or too good to be true, stop, do not reply, keep the evidence and tell a trusted adult.

Useful support

NSPCC: nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety

Childline: childline.org.uk 0800 1111

CEOP: ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre

Try these conversation starters

- What apps or games are popular with your friends at the moment?
- How can you tell whether an image or account is genuine?
- Who would you tell if something online made you uncomfortable?

Talk to us early. No concern is too small. If something does not feel right, please share it with the school so we can listen, support, and act.

#Team SPH

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The Wellbeing Hub

The Wellbeing Hub is now open as a calm, supportive space for students who need agreed time out, a check-in or help to regulate before returning to learning.



Welcome from Our Mental Health and Wellbeing lead

Hello, I'm Miss Daniels the newly appointed mental health and wellbeing lead, and I have been busy creating our new Wellbeing Hub for the pupils at St Philip Howard. We wanted a safe space for the pupils should they need a quiet 5 minutes, a group activity to support personal growth, or somewhere they can go to speak to a friendly face. The hub still needs a few more finishing touches, but we look forward to doing a 'grand opening' in the upcoming weeks.

I will be based in the hub daily from 8:30-2pm and look forward to making a positive impact on the wellbeing of the children and wider staff.

Meet the safeguarding team

Our safeguarding team listens to students, works with families and coordinates help when a child may be at risk. Students can speak to any trusted adult in school; that adults will pass the concern to the safeguarding team.

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Ms C Neves

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs S Bailey

Family Support Managers

Mrs C Brown and Mrs J Fishwick

Wider support team

Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead, Pastoral Managers, Heads of Year and Form Tutors

How to contact us

safeguarding@sph.srscmat.co.uk

Contact the school reception and ask for a member of the safeguarding team.

In an emergency call 999. If you believe a child is at immediate risk outside school hours, contact the local authority's children's social care service or the police.

What happens when a concern is shared

We listen carefully, record the concern, and decide what support or action is needed. We involve parents and carers wherever it is safe and appropriate to do so. Sometimes we must seek advice from, or make a referral to, another agency so that a child receives the right help.