

Safeguarding and Well-being Support

Respecting Others

As a school in these strangest of circumstances, we are all too aware that many crucial elements of our daily processes have had to change very rapidly. One such aspect is our ongoing daily responsibility to do everything we can to keep all of our students safe and to support them with any worries or concerns that they may have. As such, I wanted to take this opportunity to remind parents that while the school building is closed to most students, we are still very much here and available to provide support as required. Many of you will have already received phone calls or emails home as we check that our students are coping with lockdown, but don't forget that we are still here to help as best we can, with any problems that emerge during this period.

Respecting others online

As you will know, many of our young people are working through Microsoft Teams and part of that involves group chat between teachers and students and also between students themselves. As always, we expect our students to be respectful to each other and to their teachers at these times. Any abuse will result in students being removed from these groups until parental contact is made and agreements are in place regarding appropriate online behaviour moving forward. Failure to abide by these rules though, may result in student access to this valuable facility being removed for a longer period of time. The reason for this is to ensure that all of our students can access their education without fear of abuse in any form and that staff members can continue to work with the same standard of respectful behaviour from students as we would expect in a classroom situation.

What to do if my child is receiving abuse online

If your child is being abused in any way online, whether it be name calling, humiliation in any form or threatening behaviour of any sort, please inform us immediately. If it is in a group chat, it is likely that the class teacher will spot this quickly and take this up on their behalf, but if not, please email school on admin@thepolesworthschool.com and the pastoral team will pick this up as a matter of urgency. Despite not being physically in school, we do still take bullying very seriously and will work with parents rapidly to do everything we can to resolve any problems.

Further support available

This week, students are all being issued with brief information, which reminds them of our confidential email service, workingtogether@thepolesworthschool.com, which can be emailed anonymously if they wish, to provide them with support should they need it during this time. The address is staffed by our school counsellors, who are also members of our safeguarding team and we ensure an email response to them within a working day. This includes every weekday during the Easter holiday. If you notice that your child is struggling emotionally for any reason, please do encourage them to consider contacting us for support.