

Safeguarding and Wellbeing at Shenfield High School



Newsletter Issue 004: July 2025

In line with the recent warm weather we have been experiencing, this edition of the Shenfield High School's Safeguarding and Wellbeing newsletter, will be focusing on how young people can keep safe in the summer.

Many students are in the process of transitioning into Secondary education and others into Higher education or work which can bring forth an array of challenges and questions. We have launched some new initiatives to aid students in this time and we will also share some of our key areas of focus with parents and carers.

If you have any questions about the issues highlighted here or any relevant issue that you would like to raise with us, please do contact us using the email at the bottom of this newsletter.

Safeguarding focus this term: Staying Safe

There has been an increase in the number of peer incidents and concerns raised regarding risky behaviours in the community (e.g. anti-social behaviour, smoking/vaping etc). In light of this, we have sought out more specialised interventions from other agencies such as the Essex Fire and Rescue Service, the Police and the NHS Mental Health team. Utilising these interventions has helped us to meet the needs of our students in a more extensive way by addressing concerns from an earlier stage.

We continue to highlight our safeguarding focus to students through assemblies, curriculum reviews and internal and external intervention support (e.g. Group work sessions, NHS Mental Health Team support, assemblies led by Mr Bolitho across all year groups highlighting ways students can keep safe using AI and mental health support).

Shenfield High School has a structure and emphasis to "know students and to know them well" with its Pastoral staff and interventions from school staff and external agencies that we work with. If you have any concerns about your child, their Pastoral Manager is always the first person to contact and discuss your concerns with. We also monitor and review the data for safeguarding concerns every half term to identify trends and strategic steps to take, to support students.

Need to talk, share a concern or ask a question?

Who can students talk to at school?

- Form Tutor
- Class Teacher
- Pastoral Manager
- Head of Year
- Support Staff
- Safeguarding Team
- Senior Leadership Team
- Any member of staff



Mr Bolitho

Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Nelson

Deputy Safeguarding Lead

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'Let's Talk' Initiative

The 'Let's Talk' initiative has been launched in partnership with Essex Police, to give students an opportunity to find out what policing is about and build a positive and approachable relationship with our local Community Safety and Engagement Officers.

The Officer attends school at Thursday lunchtimes (fortnightly) and accompanies Mr Bolitho around school site. The walks give students an opportunity to openly ask questions and gain advice on how to keep themselves safe socially in person and online. Some questions asked have been "how do I become a Police Officer?", "is it illegal to drive before I pass my driving test?" and "have you ever tasered someone?".

In specific instances, the Officer has met with some students individually where particular concerns have been raised by staff or parents regarding students' behaviour in and out of school. The conversations held have been educational based and used to encourage positive changes in those students. As part of those conversations, students have been given an insight into what continued Police involvement could potentially be, should the student(s) continue displaying concerning behaviours.

Since the start of the initiative, responses from students has been positive and in light of this, the initiative will continue in 2025/26.

 [Sign up to Weekly Newsletter from Essex Police](#)

 [Talking to Young People about Mental Health](#)



Resources students can access during the break

- [SHOUT](#)
- [YoungMinds](#)
- [Kooth](#)
- [Mind](#)
- [CEOP](#)
- [Barnardos](#)