



17th April 2026

Dear Parent and Carers,

Student Safeguarding Updates

I am writing to update you on the safeguarding processes we have in place to help keep your children safe at school.

At QEGS we have robust and responsive safeguarding procedures to ensure that students feel able to share any concerns. Staff are trained in safeguarding protocols and remain aware of both local and national issues that may affect our students. We also deliver a carefully planned PSHE programme to ensure that students develop the knowledge and skills they need to keep themselves safe, both in and out of school.

In addition, we take proactive steps to educate students about online safety, respectful behaviour and the potential risks associated with social media trends. These topics are explored through our PSHE curriculum and our *In the News* programme, where students discuss and reflect on current events and issues.

This learning is further reinforced through school assemblies and visits from guest speakers throughout the year, helping students understand how to stay safe both online and within the wider community.

Below are some updates which I want to draw your attention to.

Online Safety

I want to take this opportunity to share some resources for parents and carers around having conversations about sharing images online and grooming.

Around **one in five** children aged 10-15 years old spoke to someone online who they had never met in person before (published the Office for National Statistics in March 2024).

This opens the door to grooming and abuse. Groomers get to know them, befriend them, and then pressure, manipulate and deceive in order to get them to share sexually explicit images.

The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) have produced some amazing resources to support parents and carers with having open conversations with their children to help educate them as well as be supportive if they have shared content unknowingly. The link below is to the **Think Before You Share** campaign website. It includes amazing resources for parents on dealing with issues as well as support links for children.

[Need Help with Leaked Nudes? Think Before You Share](#)

If you would like any further advice or support on how to help keep your child safe online, please contact the safeguarding team at safeguarding@queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk.

A Parent's Guide to Self-Harm

Derbyshire Parent Carer Voice are offering a free, supportive online session for parents and carers who are concerned about self-harm, or who would like to better understand how to help their child during a difficult time.

The session will be delivered by Nikki Webster, Mental Health Nurse and Therapist, who brings extensive professional and lived experience of supporting young people who self-harm. This will be a compassionate, non-judgemental space focusing on reassurance, understanding and practical strategies.

The session will cover:

- Why some young people self-harm
- How to support a child with care and consistency
- Self-harm reduction and safety planning
- Where to access further help and support

Vaping

We would like to remind you that under UK law, it is illegal to sell vaping products to anyone under the age of 18, as set out in the Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016, and it is also an offence for adults to purchase these products on behalf of children.

In addition to the legal restrictions, health guidance from the NHS highlights that vaping can expose young people to nicotine, a highly addictive substance that can affect brain development, concentration, and overall wellbeing.

While we continue to ask for your support in reinforcing this message at home and ensuring that students understand both the legal and health risks associated with vaping, we are taking a zero tolerance approach to any students caught with, providing or smoking a vape in around the school site (this includes the start and end of the school day). Any student who is found in possession of a vape will face a **10-day sanction**, part of which will be served **at another school**.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a safe, calm and supportive environment for all students, staff and the wider school community.

Yours faithfully,



Kev Davis

Deputy Head Teacher

Designated Safeguarding Lead

When Your Child Is Hurting: A Parent's Guide to Self-Harm



Free Online Session for Parent Carers
Monday 28th April | 10am-12 noon

A gentle, supportive webinar to help you understand self-harm, feel more confident in how to support your child, and know where to turn for help.

Delivered by:

Nikki Webster – Mental Health Nurse & Therapist

We will cover:

- Why some children and young people self-harm
- How to support your child with compassion and consistency
- Practical self-harm reduction approaches
- Creating a safety plan together
- Where to access further help and support

A safe, non-judgemental space for parents and carers.

For more details and to book your place please visit
<https://derbyshireparentforums.co.uk/>