

Safeguarding Update Letter

| May 2024



What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is a term used in the United Kingdom, Ireland and Australia to denote measures to protect individuals' health, wellbeing and human rights, which allow people—especially children, young people and vulnerable adults—to live free from abuse, harm and neglect.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and all staff here at Haydon take it very seriously. However, we do have specific roles that are more safeguarding-orientated than others.

Attendance: A child not in school is not achieving development, social and emotional wellbeing, and safety may all be compromised. If we don't know where children are, how do we know if they are safe?

Pastoral care: Pastoral care is a school's provision to ensure pupils' physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing.

Medical: To ensure children's medical needs are met, any environmental issues are reported to keep our children safe.



Things we have done

- Home visits
- Added new duties including more staff near the toilets at break and lunchtime. Also, in between lessons and gate duties between 2:40-3:10 pm
- Made numerous calls about attendance and added a new system of reporting absence
- Had mental health week. Children were learning about mental health during form time and in assemblies.
- Had more end-of-day presence from our safer school's officer



Hot topics

Social Media

A new social media craze has been brought to our attention whereby children are luring an individual child to places where they are met by a crowd of other youths. They are then subjected to humiliation by being made to “beg for forgiveness” in order not to get hurt. Sometimes, the individual ends up being physically abused anyway. The ordeals are being filmed and shared on social media.

If you encounter anything like this, in person or on the phone, please report it immediately to the police.



Attendance

Ensuring students have arrived safely at school

Mr Kidd recently sent out a link to the new absence reporting form, allowing parents to report daily absence without having to telephone the school. By using this form it will allow us to process daily absence in a more timely manner, and contact you should your child not have arrived at school. In the rare occasions students have left home but decide to truant from school, this allows us and you to establish their location more quickly and ensure they are safe. If you receive an email or message from us letting you know that your child is not in school, your rapid response stating the reason would be greatly appreciated. The link to the form is below:

[Absence Form](#)

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility