

9 February 2022

Dear parent/carers

Re: Safeguarding

At The Dukeries Academy safeguarding is a priority and we take any concerns or allegations about the behaviour of a member of our Academy community very seriously.

Recently we have investigated two allegations which have been aggravated through the spreading of malicious rumours and we are aware that some of these rumours may have been shared with you at home. These allegations have been found to be unfounded but, in both cases, the repetition of inaccurate information has regrettably caused harm to a member of our Academy.

As a result, all students will attend an assembly this week on the theme of hate crime, slander and malicious rumours. During this assembly, and also in coaching time, students will learn about the legalities around these issues and what to do if they see or hear something concerning either online or in the real world, including reporting information directly to a member of our Safeguarding Team and not sharing information any further. Students will also learn how sharing discriminatory or abusive comments and spreading malicious rumours online can affect themselves through creating a negative 'digital footprint' which can follow them into adulthood.

If you have a safeguarding concern about the behaviour of a member of our Academy community please contact your child's Pastoral Leader for concerns about children;

Year 7 tracey.whitton@attrust.org.uk

Year 8 and 10 taryn.hughes@attrust.org.uk

Year 9 fiona.prince@attrust.org.uk

Year 11 selena.marshall@attrust.org.uk

Year 12/13 janette.dixon@attrust.org.uk

If you have a concern about adult behaviour please contact the Principal Ged Rae via his PA kay.shepherd@attrust.org.uk

Kind regards



Mrs Jacqui Ferris
Senior Assistant Principal/DSL