

THROUGH THEIR EYES

Sexual Assault

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

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What makes a school safe?

Everyone knows and keeps the rules: What are the school rules? How do we learn about the rules? Often pupils learn about rules when they break them and are told off, examples might include: 'don't run in the corridor'..... 'you are late'.....'put your phone in your bag or I will confiscate it.' Is this the best way to learn the rules? Are pupils involved/want to be involved in making the rules?

Well-being and relationships are a priority: As adults, we know that if we are feeling good then we perform well. Do pupils in school understand this?

Diversity, faith and culture, are valued: It is important to not make assumptions about anyone's values attitudes, identity, behaviours, life experiences and feelings.

Teachers are fair: Teachers need to treat everyone fairly. This doesn't need treating everyone the same. Some pupils may have additional needs and this might be reflected in how they are managed by staff.

Pupils are listened to: This needs to be reciprocal, pupils should listen to others and have the right to expect to be listened to themselves.

Pupils treat each other with respect: Schools can help pupils to learn about the world and develop their opinions, while making it clear that attitudes/behaviours such as racism, homophobia, transphobia, discrimination, and bullying, are never acceptable.

There is information and support for when things go wrong: When things go wrong or we need help and advice, it is important to know how and where to go for support in school and in the community. It is helpful to encourage friends to seek help, if we think they need it.

Everyone is responsible for what they say and do: We all make mistakes. It is important to take responsibility for our mistakes, put things right if we can, get help if we can't, and learn from the experience.

Safety is paramount: When someone is not safe, staff must act promptly to assess risks and what the person needs to be protected.

Who would you talk to, if you didn't feel safe in school?

At home: Parent/Carer, Grandparent, Family friend, Neighbour, Faith leader, Sport coach, Social Worker, Police, Helpline.

At school: Friend(s), Form Tutor, Head of Year, Safeguarding Lead or Deputies, School Nurse, School Counsellor, Headteacher.

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Sexual harassment behaviours include:

- Sexual comments, such as: telling sexual stories, making lewd comments, sexual remarks about clothes/appearance, or calling someone sexual names.
- Sexual “jokes” or taunting, such as: implying a sexualised attribute to someone.
- Physical behaviour, such as: deliberately brushing against someone, interfering with their clothes.
- Displaying pictures, photos or drawings of a sexual nature, such as: showing pictures or photographs which are intimate or sexual.
- Upskirting, this is a highly intrusive practice, which typically involves someone taking a picture under another person's clothing without their knowledge, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks (with or without underwear).
- Online sexual harassment. It may include:
 - Consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos. Taking nude and semi-nude images or videos of under 18 year olds is a criminal offence.
 - Sharing of unwanted explicit content. A photograph or film is private, if it shows something of a kind that is not ordinarily seen in public. A photograph or film is sexual, if it shows all or part of a person’s exposed genitals or pubic area, or if a reasonable person would consider the photograph or video to be sexual because of it’s nature.
 - Sexualised online bullying. This may involve messages to control or coerce a person to do something.
 - Unwanted sexual comments and messages, including, on social media
 - Sexual exploitation; coercion and threats.
 - Coercing others into sharing images of themselves or performing acts they are not comfortable with.

Highlight the sexual harassment behaviours of Danny and his friends, on the school bus.

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Sexual violence behaviours include:

When referring to sexual violence, we are referring to sexual offences under the Sexual Offences Act 2003:

- **Rape:** A person (A) commits an offence of rape if: he intentionally penetrates the vagina, anus, or mouth of another person (B), with his penis, B does not consent to the penetration and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.
- **Assault by Penetration:** A person (A) commits an offence if: s/he intentionally penetrates the vagina or anus of another person (B) with a part of her/his body or anything else, the penetration is sexual, B does not consent to the penetration and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.
- **Sexual Assault:** A person (A) commits an offence of sexual assault if: s/he intentionally touches another person (B), the touching is sexual, B does not consent to the touching and A does not reasonably believe that B consents. (NOTE- Schools and colleges should be aware that sexual assault covers a very wide range of behaviour so a single act of kissing someone without consent, or touching someone's bottom/breasts/genitalia without consent, can still constitute sexual assault.)
- **Causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent:** A person (A) commits an offence if: s/he intentionally causes another person (B) to engage in an activity, the activity is sexual, B does not consent to engaging in the activity, and A does not reasonably believe that B consents. (NOTE – this could include forcing someone to strip, touch themselves sexually, or to engage in sexual activity with a third party.)

What is consent? Consent is about having the freedom and capacity to choose. Consent to sexual activity may be given to one sort of sexual activity, but not another. Consent may also be given at one time, but not at another time. Consent may be withdrawn at any time.

- A child under the age of 13 can never consent to any sexual activity
- The age of consent is 16
- Sexual intercourse without consent is rape.

Highlight the offence committed against Ella.

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Keeping Children Safe in Education

This is statutory guidance for all schools and colleges

Statutory guidance means it is required by law that the guidance is followed.

Extracts from the guidance are on the slide:

Schools and colleges should be aware of and respond appropriately to all reports and concerns about sexual violence and/or sexual harassment both online and offline, including those that have happened outside of the school/college.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (or Deputy) is likely to have a complete safeguarding picture and be the most appropriate person to advise on the initial response by the school or college.

Where a child has been harmed, is at risk of harm, or is in immediate danger, schools and colleges should make a referral to local authority children's social care.

Any report to the police will generally be in parallel with a referral to Local Authority Children's Social Care. All police forces in England have specialist units that investigate child abuse.

The victim should never be made to feel they are the problem for making a report or made to feel ashamed for making a report.

Wherever possible, the victim, if they wish, should be able to continue in their normal routine. Overall, the priority should be to make the victim's daily experience as normal as possible, so that the school or college is a safe space for them.



Think of a slogan for a poster about getting help after sexual violence and/or sexual harassment.