

MUTC SAFEGUARDING & ATTENDANCE NEWSLETTER

WELCOME!

By Ms Kibela
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Welcome, parents, carers, and staff, to the very first edition of the MUTC Safeguarding and Attendance Newsletter! In this issue, we'll explore what your child can expect from this week's safeguarding assemblies, take a closer look at what safeguarding really means within a school setting, and share some useful parent and carer advice on keeping children safe in a holistic way. You'll also find updates from safeguarding news across the UK, our "Safeguarding Showdown" quiz question that had MUTC staff thinking last half term (can you guess the answer?), and a special regular feature – Ms Ribchester's Health and Well-being Corner. Finally, we'll discuss why attendance matters so much and take a look at current attendance trends in the UK.

WHAT IS SAFEGUARDING?

Safeguarding simply means keeping everyone safe, protected, and well cared for – making sure no one comes to harm. The Department for Education (DfE) says it's about protecting children from abuse, helping them stay healthy and happy, and giving them the best chance to thrive. At MUTC, we take this very seriously. All our staff are trained in safeguarding, and someone from the safeguarding team, is always available for students to talk to. We keep our school safe through things like lanyards for KS5 students and staff, KS4 uniforms, CCTV. Every student has a timetable, and we build safeguarding into PSHE lessons, assemblies, and anti-bullying work. With a focus on well-being, inclusion, and diversity, MUTC is a place where everyone should feel safe, supported, and respected.

SAFEGUARDING ASSEMBLIES THIS TERM



This term, our safeguarding assemblies are took place across MUTC, where students were formally introduced to our bespoke and original anti-bullying model, built around our very own acronym: S.A.F.E.T.Y. During the assemblies, pupils explored how this framework helps us respond to and prevent bullying in a safe, structured, and compassionate way. They also took part in an interactive Kahoot quiz, testing their knowledge of what each letter in S.A.F.E.T.Y. stands for and the many ways we safeguard everyone in our school community – students and staff alike. Our acronym guides our approach: S - Statement, A - Analysis, F - Facilitate, E - Engagement, T - Teach, and Y - Your Well-being – reminding everyone that at MUTC, safety, understanding, and care are at the heart of everything we do.



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OUTSIDE SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS:

Stay Connected, Stay Safe:

Teenagers value independence, but staying safe still starts with simple habits. The Department for Education (DfE) advises parents and carers to stay engaged – know where your teen is, who they're with, and how they'll get home ([DfE: Keeping Children Safe in Out-of-School Settings](#)). Encourage them to travel with friends, keep their phone charged, and share their location when out late. Remind them that it's okay to walk away from uncomfortable situations and to call you anytime – no judgment. A quick message or check-in builds trust and keeps them safe in and around London.



MS RIBCHESTER'S HEALTH & WELBEING CORNER

Are You Easily Triggered?

Being upset by unkind words can affect your mental health and wellbeing. Compliments are easy to accept, but negative comments shouldn't hold the same power over you.

A True Story

Recently, Kelly Osbourne faced intense public criticism online about her weight and appearance following the death of her father. Instead of letting hurtful comments define her, she publicly explained she's struggling with grief and urged critics to show understanding, focusing on self-care rather than negativity.

Key Message

Don't let negative comments steal your joy or derail your goals. Responding, not reacting, builds resilience. Tips Pause and breathe. Disengage if needed. Focus on solutions. Report to the Safeguarding Team. Speak to Ms Ribchester (Room 401) or a trusted teacher. Support is always available: Childline 0800 1111 (free, confidential, 24/7).

ATTENDANCE LADDER



WHY ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT!

Good attendance is key to success at MUTC – every single day counts! Our Attendance Ladder shows how quickly missed days can add up. For example, a student with 100% attendance has a perfect record, while 98% (around 4 days off per year) is still impressive. But at 95%, that's around 11 days missed, and attendance of 90% or below means serious concerns – the equivalent of missing about 20–30 days of learning each year! Regular attendance not only helps students keep up with lessons but also builds confidence, routine, and a sense of belonging. Simply put, being in school every day gives your child the best chance to achieve their full potential.

SAFEGUARDING SHOWDOWN!

Every week, all MUTC staff take part in our fun and competitive Safeguarding Showdown! Each Monday, a safeguarding question is sent out to staff at the same time, and the person with the quickest correct answer wins the Safeguarding Trophy for the week. It's a great way to keep everyone's knowledge sharp and up to date. From now on, we'll be sharing some of these previous questions with parents and carers in our newsletter – so you can join in too and test your safeguarding knowledge!

Here's this edition's question:

What is the difference between Safeguarding and Child Protection?

- Safeguarding is optional, Child Protection is compulsory
- Safeguarding is everyday prevention; Child Protection applies when harm has occurred
- Child Protection is about bullying, Safeguarding is about attendance
- There is no difference

What would your answer be?

The correct answer will be revealed in the next edition!

