



Robert Smyth Academy

Dear Families,

Keeping Children Safe

I hope that you have all had a good half-term ahead of much improved March weather.

At Robert Smyth Academy, we prioritise the safety and wellness of our students in all that we do. Here are a few examples of things that we do to keep children safe:

- We empower all students through an **age appropriate PSHE curriculum** so that they can recognise healthy and unhealthy relationships, manage risks and make good choices.
- We provide **constant, high-quality supervision** around the school campus. We manage every lesson changeover, break and lunchtime so that students always have a trusted adult to turn to.
- We remind students that they should raise concerns or worries in person by speaking to a member of the **Safeguarding Team** or to a trusted adult. These people are listed [here](#).
- We promote the use of online self-referrals for children via **My Voice** which is available [here](#).

What do parents do to support the safety of their child?

This week, I wanted to use this letter as an opportunity to revisit the important role that we all play as parents particularly as our children grow up, gain maturity and manage a wider range of opportunities and challenges. We are grateful that our students benefit from parents who:

- **Provide emotional safety:** Parents provide a safe space for children to express their feelings and fears, offering support that helps build resilience and cope with life's challenges.
- **Check social media:** In the digital age, parents should check their children's social media use, setting boundaries and educating them about responsible internet behaviour to protect them from cyberbullying and inappropriate content.
- **Work in partnership with the school:** Parents work in partnership with schools to ensure a consistent approach to safety and well-being, staying informed about their child's progress and any concerns.
- **Educate about risks:** Parents educate their children about the risks of harmful substances, such as drugs and alcohol, promoting healthy choices and awareness of the consequences.

The role of parents in keeping children safe from harm cannot be overstated. Your support, care, guidance, and vigilance are the cornerstones of a child's safety and well-being. As children grow and face new challenges, the unwavering support of their parents remains a constant source of strength and protection.

Our mantra regarding student safety is that we don't want our students to 'Bottle it up' and so if you have any concerns or need advice regarding safety and wellness we encourage that you visit this area on our website: <https://www.robertsmyth.tgacademy.org.uk/about/safeguarding/>

Thank you once again for your support and contribution to our community.

Mr D Cleary
Principal



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