

HOB MOOR FEDERATION SAFEGUARDING AND WELLBEING NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2022

If you would like to make an appointment with our Safeguarding, Wellbeing and Behaviour team, for guidance, advice, support or to discuss any concerns you may have, please email admin.hmp@ebor.academy admin.hmo@ebor.academy or call 01904 806655

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to our first **Safeguarding and Wellbeing** Newsletter of the academic year. At Hob Moor Federation, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is **everyone's responsibility** and our top priority. Anyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play.

This term's newsletter will focus on the effective Safeguarding Culture that we have in place within our schools, how we educate our children through our safeguarding curriculum where you can share your concerns if you are worried about a child.



WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD

If you are worried about a child's safety please do not hesitate to contact any of the Designated Safeguarding Team.

The following members of staff are Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Nicky Ellis (DSL)

Olivia Hargreaves (DSL)

Charlotte Brady (DDSL)

They can be contacted via the school office, or by telephone on **01904 806655**.

You can contact MASH **01904 551900**.

If your concern is urgent and out of school hours, please contact:

MASH out of hours: 01609 780780

OUR FEDERATION

As we are a very special and unique federation, we are most proud that our children grow up accepting and celebrating all our children's unique talents, differences and difficulties. All our children look out for one another and our staff know and understand the importance of safeguarding all our pupils in both schools, which contributes to the strong culture of safeguarding that we create and promote in our federation.

POSITIVE APPROACHES TO ANTI-BULLYING

Like all schools we are aware that at times all parents may have concerns about their child's relationships with their peers. Whilst we will always take a strong and zero tolerance approach to any kind of perceived bullying behaviour we know this is something that may cause high levels of anxiety, questions and understandably concerns for you as parents. As ever we want to reiterate our open door policy to all our children and families if they have any kind of concerns of this nature. It is vital that in the first instance you raise those concerns with your child's class teacher. All our staff have a high level of skill, knowledge and understanding in responding and restoring relationships within their class settings. So please be reassured that they will take your concerns seriously and work with you and your child to ensure we resolve any potential issues.

Step one- Initial concerns in the first instance must always be addressed at class level by your child's teacher.

You will appreciate that doing this thoroughly takes time, therefore we request if you do have a concern of this nature you contact our school office to make an appointment with your child's teacher and phase leader. Our office team will endeavour to respond to your request within 24 hours so that you can arrange a face to face meeting with the teacher.

Step Two- Concerns that you feel have not been resolved or addressed

Please notify your class teacher that you feel the matter has not been satisfactorily resolved or you are concerned the situation is escalating for your child. In these circumstances we will then ensure you have an appointment with one of our Wellbeing and behaviour team members. Again this will be responded to within 24 hours of your request and you will be invited into school to attend a meeting to discuss in more detail.

Step three- Concerns you feel are building over a longer period of time you are still unhappy with the response given by the school.

The Wellbeing team will at this stage inform the school's headteacher and you will be invited in for a face to face meeting with a member of the school's leadership team and the Headteacher.

Step four- Significant Dissatisfaction

Whilst we will always endeavour to resolve your concerns and work in partnership with you to ensure your child feels safe and secure in our care there will always be exceptions to this where you feel you need to escalate your concerns, or you feel unhappy with the course of action taken. Provided you have followed the stages listed above the school's complaints policy is always published on our website and it is your right to formally make a representation in writing. The Academy Trust will work with you on this complaint.

WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH TO ENSURING CHILDREN'S POSITIVE EXPERIENCES

Please look out for a number of exciting initiatives this coming year continuing to build on our warm, friendly and inclusive school community.

- National Anti Bullying Week- November 14th-18th 'Reach Out'
- Hob Moor Ambassadors Promoting positive friendships and peer mediation
- This term's Sex and relationship curriculum theme this term is all about building successful and healthy relationships with our friends and family members
- Weekly Celebration assemblies
- Continuing on the work we did last academic year all children will be given the opportunity to enjoy creative, interactive and sensory playtime experiences.

We will never dismiss or minimise what your child is thinking or feeling but we will work on an evidence based approach and follow our policy stringently when it comes to these concerns.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY THE PHRASE SAFEGUARDING?

Safeguarding children is a phrase most people will have heard of but may find it difficult to define. *The Working together to Safeguard Children 2018 guidance by HM Government* provides an explanation.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's health or development
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

“Safeguarding children - the action we take to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm - is everyone’s responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and families has a role to play”.

SAFEGUARDING CURRICULUM

We believe that one of the best ways to safeguard children is through equipping them with the knowledge and skills for how they can keep themselves safe.

Safeguarding themes are threaded through our curriculum and the enrichment opportunities we offer in school.

Some examples include:

Our PHSCE curriculum which is delivered from EYFS to Year 6 (please see the school website for a more detailed understanding of this for both HMP and HMO)

Online safety discussions across many topics including computing, Links with NSPCC, School Liaison PCSO and The children’s Society.

Fire Safety through North Yorkshire Fire Service.

Children accessing specialist individual support through strong community links with local and health services.

Fantastic inclusion opportunities where children in Hob Moor Primary and Hob Moor Oaks work together to make a positive contribution to the life of the school and Federation, empowering them to make a positive contribution to their community.

EARLY HELP OFFER

There will be times when you and your family need support or when you are not sure how to make things better

Providing early help to our children and families at Hob Moor Federation means we are more effective in promoting support as soon as we can.

Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life. We endeavour to create a school ethos that promotes trust between all adults and children so that all children know who they are able to talk to if they have any concerns or worries. All our Early Help is offered in partnership with parents and carers.

If you would like to read more information on what Early help support can look like, please visit

<https://www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/early-help.htm>

Or call the school office to book an appointment with our Wellbeing Team.

WHO CAN THE CHILDREN TRUST IN SCHOOL?

We take huge pride in building relationships with all children and staff in our schools, so children can connect with trusted adults to share any of their thoughts and feelings. At Hob Moor, alongside the teacher and Assistant Teachers, the wellbeing team support in and out of classes, with children and with their families to secure and build foundations to offer both short term and long term support.

We also acknowledge children communicate in different ways, Understanding the children and building connections enables the staff to understand and support them in their individual ways.

We are proud that so many of our children in both schools use Makaton, not only as a way of communicating for their own needs but also using Makaton to communicate with children in the playground, in the corridor and within our inclusive enrichment sessions we offer.

In Hob Moor Primary, we have developed a system where children can share their thoughts and feelings, concerns or worries to the wellbeing team, at a time when they don't feel ready to talk.

The children can use their school email accounts and email

hobmoorhelp@ebor.academy which is monitored daily, in school time.