

Statement Regarding Peer-on-Peer Abuse

Our School community is dedicated to the promotion of equality and to achieving that through open dialogue. We provide an education that advocates, and seeks to foster, dignity and mutual respect in all relationships. The School continues to review its Relationship and Sex Education policy to ensure it remains compliant with the latest requirements of the Department for Education. This policy is designed to enable all our pupils to understand the core principles that underlie relationships and sexual conduct.

The national debate about women's safety, misogyny and intolerance in society generally has included the sharing of some distressing accounts. We are saddened by such accounts and WHSB is committed to doing everything possible to condemn illegal and inappropriate behaviour in every form and to strive to ensure that the pupils and staff at WHSB feel safe and respected. We recognise and understand the profound personal impact of inappropriate and abusive conduct and extend compassion to those who have shared their testimonies.

We encourage any pupil who may become aware of such abuse to report their concerns to the School without delay. Each individual disclosure is addressed sensitively and with clear protocols for informing relevant safeguarding authorities, including the police, as appropriate. Equally, former pupils of WHSB are encouraged to contact us to discuss any serious related concerns they may have had, but not shared, during their time at the school.

Further details can be obtained by reviewing the following School Policies which can be access through the link below.

Policies - <https://www.whsb.essex.sch.uk/key-information/school-policies>

Child Protection Policy
Addendum to Child Protection Policy
Behaviour Policy
Complaints Policy and Procedure
Relationships & Sex Education (RSE) Policy
Harmful Sexual Behaviour: Peer-on-Peer Abuse