



# PERRYFIELDS ACADEMY

Together we achieve excellence

## Safeguarding Newsletter – 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021

### Safeguarding Statement

At Perryfields Academy, meeting the needs of our learners is our priority. It is a privilege for us to be part of each child's learning journey. With our mission statement being; 'Together We Achieve Excellence', our staff work as a team to nurture our students and prepare them for their future. We aim to provide a safe and secure environment in which children will thrive and develop intellectually, emotionally, socially and physically; a place where learning is central to everything. Our staff are committed to supporting the students entrusted to our care and for them to achieve their best, we ensure a positive working relationship between home and school. Our partnership with parents is extremely important to us.

## Mental Health Awareness Week 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021



### MeeToo App

Available on Android and iOS

MeeToo is a multi-award winning, free, anonymous app where young people can talk about difficult things. Built on research showing the positive impact of peer support for mental health, MeeToo provides a safe, pre-moderated (by humans) space for young people aged 11+ to experiment with opening up about whatever may be on their mind.

Posts can be responded to by other users, as well as a team of trained university psychology students and MeeToo counsellors who help to guide discussions and ensure that no post goes unanswered.

Moderators check every post and reply before they go live to ensure the safety and anonymity of our users, and our counsellors uphold a sophisticated system for monitoring and tracking potential safeguarding risks.

MeeToo supports over 6,000 young people each month. It is featured on the NHS Apps Library and promoted by more than 1,000 schools in the UK.

You can easily see how MeToo works here: <https://www.meetoo.help/how-meetoo-works>



# Hollie Guard

Hollieguard.com

**What is Hollie Guard?** Hollie Guard is a next generation Smartphone app that provides enhanced levels of protection.

Hollie Guard has you covered, whether you're working alone, travelling to an unknown area or simply commuting around town.



**Journey planner**—The journey feature gives you the confidence to travel safely by allowing you to set your start and end destinations before setting off. This feature will notify your emergency contacts once you arrive safely at your chosen destination. An alert will be automatically triggered if you do not arrive at your destination within the time parameters you have set.



**Meeting someone new**—This allows you to feel safe when going to unfamiliar areas, meeting someone new or going into a potentially dangerous area where there may not be a mobile phone signal or internet connection. You can set a designated duration for your meeting and alert emergency contacts if you don't mark yourself as safe before the time has elapsed.



**Duress Pin** —In situations where you may have been forced to deactivate an alert, you can use the duress pin '9999' (or a pre-set number of your choice) to notify emergency contacts and prioritise the alert to emergency response teams.



**Reports** - The report feature allows users to quickly and easily record an incident with supporting photo evidence that is automatically categorised, time stamped and geo-tagged.

This feature can be used to create a log of events which can be used as evidence if required. All reports will be saved to the Hollie Guard server.



**Man Down**—When enabled, the Man-Down feature allows the app to automatically detect if you have had a sudden fall or have stopped moving for a period of time. This provides peace of mind in your daily life, including when walking your dog, are out for a run alone or commuting.



**Emergency contacts**—Once a report is triggered, your emergency contacts will immediately be notified on their mobile phone or by email. By simply clicking the link, your emergency contacts will have access to your whereabouts.

# Safeguarding Incidents

## Barnford Park

There have been some extremely serious incidents at Barnford Park, Moat Road, Oldbury. The majority of which have involved a high Police presence to resolve.

There have been reports of young people displaying physically aggressive behaviour and on occasions, brandishing weapons. Please be mindful if this is a park that you visit or if your child goes there.

Any such incidents must be reported to the Police.

## Social Media: Library of Apps

West Midlands Police have produced a Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Social Media: Library of Apps database.

Here are some Apps that are included in the database:

Vault:



According to the developers, "Vault is a mobile app designed to hide private pictures, videos, SMS, call logs and contacts on your phone". The app also provides users with a Private Browser and the ability to set up multiple (and fake) password protected vaults in which to store secret content and contacts. Stealth mode can be activated, so that the Vault icon is hidden from the device home screen (disguised as a camera) and can only be accessed once a passcode is typed. A photo is taken of any "intruders" who enter the wrong passcode.

Hoop:

Hoop is an app that lets you add users from around the world through Snapchat. This includes people you do not know who can also request to add you.



## Safeguarding Team



**DSL**  
Mrs Paddock

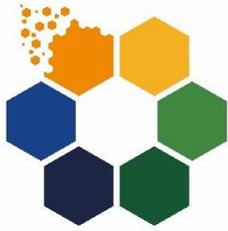
**DEPUTY DSL**  
Mrs Thompson

**DEPUTY DSL**  
Mrs Hinkinson

**DEPUTY DSL**  
Mrs Shaw

**DEPUTY DSL**  
Miss Wainwright

**DEPUTY DSL**  
Mrs Smith



**PERRYFIELDS**  
ACADEMY

## FAMILY SUPPORT

We are here to support our students and our families in any way we possibly can. If you need our support, please email us at [pastoral@perrys.org.uk](mailto:pastoral@perrys.org.uk)

Here are some other useful resources in Sandwell and surrounding areas to enable you to get support and advice for a range of different areas.



### FOOD BANK INFORMATION

#### BLACK COUNTRY FOOD BANK

<https://www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk/>

#### LOCATIONS

<https://www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk/locations/>

Telephone: 01384 671250 Email:  
[admin@blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:admin@blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk)

If you don't have access to a voucher, please call the above number.

#### RESTORE

Transformation Church, 1 Station Road, Rowley Regis  
West Midlands B65 0LI  
Opening Hours: Wednesday 11:30am - 1:00pm

#### HOLY TRINITY CHURCH – OLD HILL

Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath B64 6JA  
Opening Hours: Monday 10:00 am - 12:00pm

#### COMMUNITY LINK

72 High Street, Cradley Heath, B64 5HA  
Opening Hours: Thursday 1:00pm - 3:00pm

#### Emergency Food Parcel

Midland Langar Seva Society 24hr Emergency Parcel  
Delivery: 07903 400179

### FINANCIAL SUPPORT

#### COVID WINTER GRANT

<https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/wintergrant>

#### FINANCIAL ADVICE & HELP

If you are worried about debt to Sandwell Council, please call 0121 569 5333

Council Tax Reduction, Discretionary Housing Payment, Welfare Rights, Self-isolation payments, Money Advice amongst others.

[https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200354/coronavirus\\_advice/4460/get\\_financial\\_help](https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200354/coronavirus_advice/4460/get_financial_help)

#### RESILIENT RESIDENTS

Lots of advice and contacts for a wide range of needs (benefits checker, debt advice, budgeting and money management, employment advice and support, well-being, food, help in an emergency).

[https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200347/resilient\\_residents](https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/info/200347/resilient_residents)

### MENTAL HEALTH & BEREAVEMENT

#### RETHINK EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

<https://www.rethink.org/help-in-your-area/services/advice-and-helplines/the-black-country-emotional-support-helpline/>

Rethink Emotional Support Helpline is a freephone service for those who are in need of support, reassurance and understanding. The service can be contacted on 0808 802 2208 at the following times:

Monday- Friday 6.00pm – 3.00am

Saturday- Sunday 2.00pm – 3.00am

We are now offering Text/webchat support during our opening hours:

Text 07860 065 168

Webchat [www.rethink.org/blackcountryhelpline](http://www.rethink.org/blackcountryhelpline)

#### KALEIDOSCOPE PLUS GROUP

The Kaleidoscope Plus Group works to promote and support positive health and wellbeing.

<https://www.kaleidoscopeplus.org.uk/self-help-tool.php>

Chat to us via telephone, online through our website or directly through Facebook and a member of our team will be with you as soon as possible to talk.

Call 0800 059 0123 Monday-Sunday between 5pm & 9pm

Messenger: Monday-Friday: 9am-8pm & Saturday-Sunday: 5pm-8pm

#### BLACK COUNTRY NHS MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT 24/7

Phone line is operating 24/7 and is available to Black Country residents of all ages - 0800 008 6516

If you are experiencing increased distress or anxiety during these uncertain times, please don't suffer in silence, pick up the phone and speak to one of our specialist mental health professionals who will be able to support you.

We continue to provide support through our Healthy Minds / Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) services which offer services for people experiencing common mental health problems such as low mood, depression, anxiety and stress. You can also access free online CBT via our Silver Cloud platform.

<https://www.blackcountryhealthcare.nhs.uk/contact-us/help-crisis>

#### BLACK COUNTRY WOMEN'S AID

0121 552 6448 (24/7 Helpline)

07384 466181 (Text or WhatsApp 9am – 9pm)

<https://blackcountrywomensaid.co.uk/>

