



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 the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies straightaway.

Bedford Borough Integrated Front Door
(children's social services) 01234 718700
Out of hours – 0300 3008123

If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police on 999

Meet the Designated Safeguarding Team:

The Safeguarding Team oversee and coordinate all aspects of the school's work to ensure that children are kept safe

safeguarding@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr Will Atkinson

atkinsonw@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Head of Year Seven:

Mrs Anthea Jones

jonesa@goldington.beds.sch.uk

School Safeguarding Governor:

Mrs Kate Reynier

reynierk@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Special Educational Needs &/or Disabilities Coordinator:

Mr Sailesh Roopnarain

roopnarains@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Eight:

Mrs Louise McCarthy-Gardner

mccarthy-gardnerl@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Nine:

Mr Michael Lincoln

lincolnm@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Ten:

Mr Liam Hall

halll@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Eleven:

Mr James Pinkney

pinkneyj@goldington.beds.sch.uk

All can be contacted via the school office on 01234 261516

For a copy of our school's Child Protection Policy, please visit the Safeguarding page on our [school website](#)

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the thirty-third edition of the safeguarding newsletter from the Goldington Academy safeguarding team. Our aim is to bring you all the latest, relevant help and advice on issues that we feel will be of importance to you.

In this issue, we focus on a recent BBC article regarding online safety and misogyny. We continue to teach E-Safety to pupils through our computing curriculum and we teach our pupils about mutual respect through our wider curriculum.

Safeguarding children is everybody's responsibility. If you have concerns about the safety or welfare of any child, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

We hope that you will find the information in this newsletter useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information or support with any of the topics raised.

Yours sincerely

Mr W Atkinson

Assistant Headteacher

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Every child will have contact with a stranger online (BBC article 1/06/2025)

Sophie was just 17 when she was contacted online by someone, she believed to be a boy of her own age.

Having just split from her boyfriend, Sophie (not her real name) admits she was feeling low and lacking self-confidence, so welcomed his attention.

"He told me I was pretty and we chatted on and off for about a month or so on various social media platforms," she says. He asked her to send him some pictures, which she did. "I did not think much of it," she says.

He then told her she could make money from the pictures, and asked for more, including sexually explicit shots.

"So I began sending him pictures of what he asked for. Before too long, it was videos and I was in way too deep," she says.

Sophie realised something was amiss when people began to contact her to say they had seen the videos.

The "boy" asked her for more photos and video, this time of her with others, and she never received any money.

To read the article in full please visit: ['Every child will have contact with a stranger online' - charity - BBC News](#)

Misogyny is a form of hate that targets women and girls. It is promoted in different forms in different communities both online and in the real world where influencers advocate that women should be treated as inferior. These communities blame women and feminists for all sorts of problems in society and many encourage resentment, or even hatred, towards women and girls.

There are four main groups:

- **Men's rights activists (MRAs)** advocate political change that will benefit men. Much of their activism consists of harassment and abuse towards feminists and female public figures.
- **Men going their own way (MGTOW)** argue that women are so toxic that men should avoid them altogether. Some MGTOW will date women but avoid anything serious like marriage, while others will not even be friends with women.
- **Pick-up artists (PUAs)** teach men strategies to be more successful in attracting women, many of which involve insulting women ('negging') or disregarding consent.
- **Involuntary Celibates (Incels)** believe they are entitled to a relationship with a woman but are unable to find a partner. Multiple acts of extreme violence and even murder have been attributed to this group.

Language to look out for: There are several images, words and phrases that suggest someone is familiar with the manosphere such as:

Alpha male / Chad: an attractive, successful man desired by all women. Usually a white, straight male with Aryan features and other 'desirable physical traits'. Chads are simultaneously despised and revered by incels.

Beta male / Cuck: an average man who has not yet taken the red pill and is inferior to the alpha male.

Stacy: Stacys are the archetypal counterparts to Chads. They are described as beautiful, promiscuous women who can entice any man they choose but are only interested in Chads. This term is used to stereotype and dehumanise women.

Becky: The counterparts to Cucks. A physically 'plain' woman. Wants to sleep with 'Chads'

Femoid/foid: 'female humanoid', mostly used by incels.

Gynocentrism: the theory that society revolves around and is dominated by women.

However, not everyone uses this sort of language. It is also important to look out for generalising statements made about women and men, such as making claims about how all women act or talking about women and men as if they are different species.

What Parents & Educators Need to know about Ofcom Media Report 2025

[What You Need to Know: Ofcom Media Report 2025 | Free Guide](#)

This edition of #WakeUpWednesday takes a closer look at Ofcom's latest Children and Parents: Media Use and Attitudes Report. With children embracing social platforms and livestreaming from increasingly younger ages, the guide highlights some critical areas of concern for educators and families including online exposure, peer interactions and content-sharing habits.

Whether it is the rise in unsupervised screen time, the popularity of gaming with strangers, or the emotional toll of negative online exchanges, the 2025 findings are a timely reminder of the risks that continue to evolve in children's digital spaces. We have highlighted the key statistics to help you navigate this complex landscape, stay on top of emerging trends and identify where to focus your online safety efforts.

<http://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/goldington-academy>

Once you have registered, you will be able to access the "Online Safety for Parents and Carers' course" and National Online Safety's Resources (which includes a wide range of online platform guides on the latest social media channels and games). This aims to help empower parents with the knowledge to protect their children from the dangers of the internet.