



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

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Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Head of Year Seven:

Mrs Anthea Jones

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School Safeguarding Governor:

Mr Neil Davies

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Special Educational Needs &/or Disabilities Coordinator:

Miss Claire Johnstone

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Head of Year Eight:

Mrs Louise McCarthy-Gardner

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Head of Year Nine:

Mr Michael Lincoln

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Head of Year Ten:

Mr James Pinkney

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Head of Year Eleven:

Mr Liam Hall

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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](#)

Welcome to the twenty-ninth 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 **online grooming** and **misogyny**. We teach all students about online safety through our computing curriculum and through our assembly programme. We also teach students about healthy relationships through our life skills 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

Online grooming

Unfortunately, at some point in their lives every child will be approached by a stranger online. It is very important that young people are equipped with the right strategies to manage this appropriately when it happens.

The Internet Watch Foundation safety campaign aims to help parents have conversations with their children about keeping their 'door' closed to child sexual abusers.

The campaign includes a booklet for parents explaining the risks, explaining why children are vulnerable and suggests practical steps that parents can take:

- **TALK** to your child about online sexual abuse. Start the conversation and listen to their concerns
- **AGREE** ground rules about the way you use technology
- **LEARN** about the platforms and apps your child loves
- **KNOW** how to use tools, apps and settings that can help to keep your child safe online

For further details go to: <https://talk.iwf.org.uk/>.

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 would 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.

Top tips for dealing with traumatic and challenging events

[Top Tips for Dealing with Traumatic and Challenging Events](#)

When children and young people experience traumatic or difficult life events their emotional world can be shaken and the impact may show up in their behaviour, mood or relationships. Whether it is bereavement, a family breakdown or witnessing something distressing, the support of trusted adults can be key in helping them feel safe again. This guide looks at how to create a nurturing environment to help young people process difficult feelings. It also shares clear, actionable strategies to promote recovery, from building emotional literacy and creating a predictable routine to recognising signs that further help may be needed. Sensitive language, patience and presence all play a part in empowering children to move forward at their own pace. With the right support they can rebuild a sense of security and resilience.

<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.

Early Help Service

The Early Help service is made up of six Early Help professionals who support schools to co-ordinate early help for pupils and their families. The Early Help service includes the following teams:

- Adolescent response team
- Early Help Hub
- Education Welfare
- Family Information Service
- Family Support Hub
- Inclusion Support
- Parenting Team
- Strengthening Families Team

For further information, please visit [Early Help Assessment - Overview | Bedford Borough Council](#) or speak to any member of the school's safeguarding team.

