

Week 14



Jan 23

SAFE AT SUMMERHILL

At Summerhill School we are committed to Safeguarding our children and young people as well as promoting positive well-being for all.

This safeguarding newsletter, aims to help staff, parents and students alike to be aware of Safeguarding and mental-health issues, giving you useful links and resources to use if you have concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact us on the main school number 01384 816165 or via email on studentsupport@summerhill.dudley.sch.uk

NSPCC Guide to the Metaverse and VR Headsets



Christmas has now come to a close and a new year has begun. Among their peer group young people will begin to discuss what they got for Christmas. For many the answer will almost certainly be 'a Fortnite battle pass, a new PC, a PlayStation 5 etc'. All devices which allow both unlimited access to the internet and expose children to voice chat, text chat and photo sharing with complete strangers. This year presents an acceleration of vulnerability window as, VR headsets, connected to Facebook's Metaverse have been released onto the marketplace. The Metaverse seeks to link users to the internet as a Virtual Entity through the use of Virtual Reality Headsets. This amplifies the danger children are exposed to online. To find an NSPCC Guide [please click here.](#)

A Guide to Online Safety and Gaming

An increasing number of young people are using multiplayer games and the internet in general this new year, it is more important than ever to make your child aware of how to stay safe online. The [leaflet here](#) discusses the best ways to keep safe whilst using online software and games. With advice on reporting and blocking, online socialization and the considerations on online gaming, the leaflet can be a useful resource.

Hub of Resources for Parents on Safeguarding Topics

The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership, is now running a hub of resources and information linked to raising awareness of safeguarding. The hub, designed for use by parents, carers, and young people, is also aimed at tackling child exploitation. To find out more please [follow this link.](#)

Action for Happiness Calendar



Action for Happiness brings people together and provides practical resources. They help with evidence-based skills for happier living, feel a sense of belonging and commit to personal action to create more happiness, for ourselves and others. Each month they create a calendar packed with simple everyday actions you can take to build a happier world and make happiness a habit in your life. Follow [this link](#) to see this months calendar.



Mrs Sprouting
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead



Mr Randle
Deputy
Safeguarding
Lead



Ms Gordon
Deputy
Safeguarding
Lead



Mr Quirke
Deputy
Safeguarding
Lead



Mr Cresswell
Deputy
Safeguarding
Lead