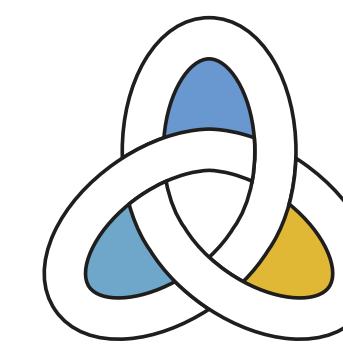


safenews



LEARNING TOGETHER
CORNWALL EDUCATION LEARNING TRUST

JANUARY 2024

Bodmin College | Brannel School | Carclaze CP School | Fowey Primary School | Lostwithiel Primary School | Luxulyan School | Mevagissey Primary School | Mount Charles School | Newquay Junior Academy
Newquay Primary Academy | Newquay Tretherras School | Newquay Tretherras Sixth Form | Penrice Academy | Poltair School | Pondhu Primary School | Port Isaac Community Primary School | St Mewan CP School



Safeguarding vision at CELT -

- Safeguarding is the golden thread through CELT
- 'it could happen here'
- Ensure that every pupil and young person are heard
- Zero tolerance for discrimination
- Empowerment of our staff
- Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility

PROTECTION PARTNERSHIP
ACCOUNTABILITY
CARE SAFEGUARDING EMPOWER
STRENGTHEN IMPROVE
ENABLE EVERYONE VULNERABLE
RESPONSIBILITY

EMPOWERMENT • PREVENTION • PROTECTION • PROPORTIONALITY • PARTNERSHIP • ACCOUNTABILITY

Young Carers



Young carers are a very much hidden section of society. Estimates suggest that as many as two children in every class of 30 could potentially be a young carer. Care provided covers many aspects, but we need to ensure that we support wherever possible.

What might this involve?

A young carer is a child or young person who regularly provides support beyond that which is expected of other children/young people. They may help with or do practical tasks like shopping or cooking, physical and personal care, household management, looking after siblings, giving medicine, interpreting and providing emotional support - essentially taking on adult worries and responsibilities.

Since 2015 teachers and other professionals have a statutory duty to identify young carers and refer them to the local authority for a Young Carers Needs Assessment. Note that there is no requirement on the child or young person to approach us and say that they are a young carer, the requirement is on us to identify the need and to act. All young carers must also be included in annual school/college censuses.

Impact of caring.

We know that the impact of being a young carer can be significant in its own right. If we then add in other issues such as poverty, housing problems or the effects of the pandemic, this can magnify the impact on the child or young person.

Areas of impact include:

- Mental ill-health - Many young carers are known to experience anxiety and depression stemming from concern for the person they are caring for, lack of sleep and not having the same outlets to express themselves as others.
- Difficulties at school/college - Inability to get in on time

or every day, struggling with homework, not having the opportunities to maintain friendships are just some of the ways that caring may impact on children and young people

- Bullying - Young carers are around three times more likely to be bullied by their peers. This could be because they are seen as different, don't join in with activities due to caring responsibilities, and/or lack of understanding by peers.
- Social isolation and loneliness - Young carers can struggle to fit in with friends often describing feeling different. Sometimes they can appear more mature because they have had to operate in an adult world. Caring may mean they miss out on many opportunities to socialise, especially in person.
- Increased online risks - The issues set out above may mean that young carers spend more time online. Their vulnerability can mean that they are at increased risk of being groomed and exploited.

Signs and indicators

These can include attendance issues, being a victim of bullying, underachieving, needing to be in regular contact with home, isolated, anxious, being often tired, distracted or withdrawn or having low self-esteem / low confidence.

Supporting young carers can include:

- providing someone to talk to who understands and can help;
- having a support plan in school that is understood by all relevant staff;
- having key staff know about their emergency/crisis plan;
- providing support for their emotional wellbeing and mental health. As always, if you have any concerns discuss them with your safeguarding lead.

For more support regarding Young Carers visit Young Carers in Cornwall – Cornwall Carers Service

Teen vaping

How many young people vape and why?

- Recent figures show the number of children using vapes in the past three years has tripled, with 20.5% of children aged between 11 and 17 having tried vaping in 2023, according to Action on Smoking and Health (ASH).
- The proportion of young vape users that use disposable vapes has significantly increased in recent years - in 2021, only 7.7 per cent of current vapers aged 11 to 17 used disposable vapes, which increased to 52 per cent in 2022 and 69 per cent in 2023.

Parents, carers and anyone working with children can make sure young people understand the health facts about vaping and know about vaping and the law.

Facts to tell young people about vaping:

- Vaping is a way for adults to stop smoking – not something for non-smokers, especially children and young people to try.
- Vaping is less harmful than smoking but that does not mean it is harmless.
- Vaping exposes users to some toxins, and we do not yet know what the risks might be in the longer term.
- Most vapes contain nicotine, which is an addictive substance that can be hard to stop using once you have started.
- Nicotine is more risky for young people than for adults, as evidence suggests the developing brain is more sensitive to its addictive effects.
- In the UK, it is against the law to sell nicotine vaping products to under-18s or for adults to buy them on their behalf.
- Some disposable vapes on sale are illegal and do not meet UK safety regulations. They can contain high levels of harmful substances.



CPOMS

When logging an incident on CPOMS, remember that reports need to be:

- Professional (consider spelling and grammar, avoiding jargon, initials and abbreviations)
- Objective (be descriptive, use body maps and avoid subjective words (e.g., "inappropriate"))
- Accurate (avoid vague or ambiguous statements, distinguish between fact and opinion and use the child's own words)
- Child Centred (capture the perspectives, wishes and feelings of the child, wherever possible)
- Timely (if urgent – see a member of the team face to face and then log on CPOMS, if not urgent must be logged that day, at latest 24 hours after)
- Succinct (details should be comprehensive, but concise)
- Evidenced (upload relevant evidence to the incident, such as statements, if applicable)
- Evidence of indecent images or videos of children MUST NOT be uploaded to CPOMS.
- Action focused (include any action already taken)

DSLs across the Trust

It's normal to feel overwhelmed and confused if a child reveals they're being abused. It's a challenging subject that can be both difficult to accept and talk about. However, you must be aware of your safeguarding information sharing (or disclosure) responsibilities so you can take the correct course of action to ensure the safety of the child or young person.

Although the abuse could be kept a secret out of fear, children experiencing distress may speak to you as they find you trustworthy and deem the school a safe place. It's also not unusual for them to choose particular staff members that they feel have less authority or are less intimidating. Remember we are all Emotionally Available Adults to our students.

Regardless of your role, if a child approaches you to indicate abuse or disclose harm, your role is to recognise and refer the abuse - not to investigate. Please speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team

Trust Safeguarding Lead	Amy Daniels	adaniels@celtrust.org
Safeguarding Trustee	John Simeons	JSimeons@gov.celtrust.org

School	DSL	Email Address
Bodmin	Emma French Sue Gilbert (Operational)	efr@bodmincollege.co.uk
Brannel	John Doherty	dsl@brannel.com
Carclaze	Simon Pollard	dsl@car.celtrust.org
Fowey	Liz Measom	dsl@fow.celtrust.org
Lostwithiel	Elaine Badger	dsl@los.celtrust.org
Luxulyan	Nathan Cooper	dsl@lux.celtrust.org
Mevagissey	Ben Ringrose	dsl@mev.celtrust.org
Mount Charles	Rachel Nile	dsl@mcs.celtrust.org
Newquay Junior	Tania Findlay	dsl@nja.celtrust.org
Newquay Primary	Craig Hayes	dsl@npa.celtrust.org
Newquay Tretherras	Jacqui McGlynn Laura Thomas (operational)	dsl@tretherras.net
Penrice	Claire Gurd Abby McDonald (operational)	dsl@penrice.org.uk
Poltair	Heidi Spurgeon	dsl@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk
Pondhu	Rachel Clift	dsl@pon.celtrust.org
Port Isaac	Emma Williams	head@port-isaac.cornwall.sch.uk
St Mewan	Karen Dickens	dsl@stm.celtrust.org
CELT Hub	Andy Egford	dsl@hub.celtrust.org

Awareness Days in January

Samaritans Brew Monday is on 15th January 2024. A day to reach out for a cuppa and a catch up with the people you care about. Brew Monday 2024 | #BrewMonday | There's always time for a cuppa and a catch-up (samaritans.org)

National Obesity Awareness Week is between 10th and 16th January 2024. Obesity affects more and more children and adults the U.K. each year. By 2050, 50% of the population could be obese.



TRAINING
THIS MONTH

preventing radicalisation

In the same way that children and young people are at risk of being exploited by those around them, they are at risk of being radicalised. Use of internet and technology also means that they can radicalise themselves without others being involved just by searching particular themes.

'Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.'

Keeping Children Safe in Education, DfE

Radicalisation is therefore a process which someone goes through to end up supporting extremist ideas and the acts that some groups undertake to promote those ideas (i.e. terrorism).

This does not mean that individuals are not entitled to have different points of view - differing points of view and healthy debate in relation to those are after all what brings about change. It is however key that we identify and get support for those who are expressing extremist views.

What do we mean by extremist views?

British values include democracy, mutual respect and tolerance of others. Extremist views are views which oppose these fundamental values. Such views may be linked to religious beliefs, however there are other extremist groups (which may or may not resort to terrorism), for example the views of certain groups of the far right in the UK could fit into the definition of extremism, as could some extreme left wing environmentalist groups and extreme misogynist groups.

PREVENT duty

Under a government strategy known as CONTEST, there is a specific requirement on settings to ensure that children who are at risk of being radicalised are identified and flagged to

multi-agency partners. In line with general safeguarding practices, this is about knowing the children and young people that you work with and identifying those who you have concerns about due to their actions/behaviour, or those where there are observable changes to the way they are acting/their behaviour.

Vulnerable groups

As noted at the start, all children and young people are vulnerable to being radicalised. There are however specific groups who are more vulnerable, including children who:

- struggle with their sense of identity / knowing where they belong;
- are experiencing family issues;
- are experiencing racism or discrimination;
- have experienced a traumatic event;
- are suffering poor self-esteem or mental ill health;
- have specific needs (e.g. learning needs or disability);
- are permanently excluded from mainstream school.

Signs of radicalisation

Signs include:

- being overly secretive about their online viewing or social media
- expressions of an 'us and them' mentality – a sign of a sense of social isolation
- talk of revenge, obsessive desire for change
- being quick to condemn those who disagree and ignoring views that contradict their own
- questioning their faith or identity/sudden unexplained religious conversion
- downloading or promotion extremist content
- social isolation or a high number of new friends
- altered appearance – change in style of dress and/or personal appearance

Remember - this is not an exhaustive list and you know the children / young people you work with. However, remain mindful that children do also change their views and it is important that there is debate, but that this is healthy debate.

<https://safeguarding.network/radicalisation>
confidence in safeguarding