

24th November 2021



Etone College
www.etonecollege.co.uk

Dear Parents/Carers

The Government have set out an initiative with regards to schools preventing and responding to sexual harassment and sexual violence between children and young people. As a school, it is our duty to keep children safe and educate them about the types and effects of sexual harassment and the steps that they can take to protect themselves.

What is sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment is unwanted and unwelcome behaviour of a sexual nature which can occur online and offline. The definitions used by the Department for Education (DfE) are as follows:

- Peer on peer sexual abuse: this includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, up-skirting and sexting.
- Sexual harassment: this includes sexual comments, sexual jokes or taunting, physical behaviours such as deliberately brushing against someone, displaying pictures, photos or drawings of a sexual nature
- Online sexual harassment: this includes sharing of sexual images, sexual comments and messages, sexual exploitation, coercion and threats
- Sexual violence

At Etone College we are committed to keeping our pupils safe and continually:

- Raise awareness through assemblies and educate our pupils about what constitutes unacceptable behaviour.
- Discuss issues through Learning for Life lessons in line with the statutory RSHE guidance. A copy of our policy can be found on our website
- Ensure pupils are clear of how to report sexual harassment - "we are a telling & listening school".
- Support pupils with personalised programmes and take appropriate action. We do not tolerate sexual harassment of any kind.
- Train staff on how to support pupils and challenge sexual harassment.
- Provide information to support parents and carers.
- Listen and respond to pupil views to ensure they feel safe and comfortable at all times.

Parents/carers should ask themselves:

- Is my child becoming withdrawn?
- Is anything affecting my child's ability to learn or enjoy school or classroom activities?
- Has there been any change in my child's behaviour? If so, is this part of a repeated pattern?
- Is my child secretive with their phone and social media accounts? Have I discussed this with my child?

The Government has also asked NSPCC to set up a helpline for children and adults who need advice and support; Phone Number 0800 136 663 or Email help@nspcc.org.uk.

Further information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-sexual-abuse-in-schools-and-colleges/review-of-sexual-abuse-in-schools-and-colleges>

If you would like any additional information on this initiative or would like to discuss this or any other safeguarding concern further, please contact Mrs Price, our Designated Safeguarding Lead in school.

Yours faithfully

Mr I Smith
Headteacher

