



New resource for Parents – Talking to Your Child About Online Sexual Harassment

At Hexham First School, we take our safeguarding responsibilities very seriously. In school, this means that staff have regular safeguarding training/information updates. Additionally, we also share resources and information on Class Dojo that we think parents and carers will find beneficial - safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. Our school website has a section on safeguarding with links to support parents under the 'Key Information' drop down menu. Here you will find our Child Protection Policy and a range of useful links. We have two dedicated safeguarding leads, Mrs Overton and Miss Noon and as well as our safeguarding governor, Mrs Armstrong.

As many of our parents also have older children in middle and high school, we think that the resource below is very useful. This guide was shared with Designated Safeguarding Leads by Northumberland County Council's Schools' Safeguarding Team.

Since March 2020, young women have been sharing their experiences of sexual harassment through the 'Everyone's Invited' project. This is an online platform where girls (most of whom are still in school) have shared their experiences of growing up with sexual harassment. It's important to remember that boys also experience sexual harassment, but most of the sexual harassment is perpetrated by boys towards girls. One of the responses to this, has been by the Children's Commissioner who brought together a group of 16– 21-year-olds and asked them to share what they thought their parents should know, and what they think parents should say to their children when talking about sexualised bullying and the pressures of growing up online. The young people were asked what their parents did and said that was helpful, and what wasn't. As a result of this consultation, the Children's Commissioner has produced a parent's guide '**Things I Wish My Parents Had Known**' – young people's advice on talking to your child about online sexual harassment' which is available by following this link:

https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wpcontent/uploads/2021/12/cco_talking_to_your_child_about_online_sexual_harassment_a_guide_for_parents_dec_2021.pdf