



Be Proud Be Respectful Be Resilient Be Ambitious



THE BRUNTS  
ACADEMY

## Safeguarding Newsletter

### Safeguarding Assurance—G.A.T.

We had another quality assurance visit from Ashley Wilson, our safeguarding associate at The Greenwood Academies Trust on Friday 7th February where we discussed our current contextual concerns and our procedures and policies/records were scrutinised.

Ashley continues to provide excellent support and validates that our safeguarding of children remains effective. We remain grateful for the invaluable support that our Trust offers.



GREENWOOD  
ACADEMIES TRUST  
SAFEGUARDING

### Anti-Bullying Agent Training



Our 'fabulous' Anti-Bullying ambassadors led anti-bullying training on **January 10th**. This means that we now have 50 'anti-bullying agents' across the academy to support our work in understanding bullying behaviours and tackling them quickly and effectively. Above is a photo of some of our newly trained recruits.

Our Ambassadors have been active in promoting their work including the production of the Staff Lip Synch video published on 20 December 2024. Above is a still image from their great work from the opening scenes of the video—enjoyed by all, especially our staff!

Mrs Jimmick, our 'new' Deputy Safeguarding Lead, has now taken on the role of Anti-bullying coordinator (ABC) and is also supported by Miss A Atkin from our core safeguarding team.



**MSP**  
#SafeguardingFirst

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### Safeguarding is:

- Providing early help to children as soon as problems emerge
- Protecting children from abuse
- Preventing harm to children's development
- Providing safe and effective care
- Promoting the best outcomes for children

### Emergency Contacts:

Police: 999—101

NSPCC: 08088005000

Childline: 0800-1111

MASH: 0300-5008090

EDT: 0300-4564546

CAMHS Crisis: 08081963779



## Site and Community Safety

**Thank-you** for continuing to support safe entries and exits from the academy. We have now established a very safe collection from the academy where no vehicles are parking on the main Bath Lane drive. Additionally, thank-you for listening to our guidance about avoiding 'turning around in the road'. These improvements along with drivers sticking to our **10MPH** speed limit is ensuring our children are safe on departure from site. "Thank-you"

Please remember that **Park Avenue** is the only access and exit to and from site for visitors.



## Bereavement and Grief

We currently have a number of our students dealing with the loss of a loved one or with a close family member with a terminal illness or on 'end of life care'. We would like to continue to reach out to families who may need our support or access to other services that can help during these very difficult times.

Talking about death and dying, and the grief we feel when we know someone, we care about is going to die, is incredibly hard.

Our safeguarding team are not trained bereavement counsellors but do have skill sets in listening and supporting in very challenging personal circumstances. We also have access to range of specialist support services for children and families including counselling and other therapies, for if, and when they may be needed. Grief and bereavement do not have fixed timelines, and support may be needed at any time. When it is, we will always be here in support of those children and their families.

There is also lots of online support and organisations that are there to listen and provide specialist support. Some of these organisations are listed below.

**You are not alone...**

Online support::

[Ruth Strauss Foundation](#)

[Supporting bereaved children and young people | Child Bereavement UK](#)

[Essential Guidance for Supporting a Bereaved Child | Winston's Wish](#)

[Helping Children & Young People Through Trauma | Children's Bereavement Centre](#)



## Mansfield Safeguarding Partnership

The partnership had its third meeting of the year in the very grand surroundings of the 'council chambers' at The Mansfield Civic Centre. The partnership is exploring a

**Youth Conference and Safeguarding 'marketplace'** later this year, and have made initial plans to make this a reality. Other agenda items discussed included online safety and vaping. There were very positive contributions from The Police, the Local Authority and educational providers. Our next meeting will be at Garibaldi Academy in March.



## “Safeguarding is everyone”

### Interview with PC Sinclair (School’s Early Intervention Officer, SEIO)

Amaya Jenkins (Year 7), one of our anti-bullying agents asked PC Sinclair some probing questions about safeguarding this week to get an insight into how she works with Brunts Academy —here are her responses. PC Sinclair attends the academy every Tuesday to work on raising awareness and keeping children safe. Amaya was amazing! Very well done :)

#### What is the best aspect of your role?

**A:** Being able to make a difference, being SEIO after being on response for nine years— I get to make a big impact on children’s life’s I really enjoy it.

#### How do you contribute to keeping young people safe?

**A:** Myself and Mr Taylor created the MSP meetings where agencies get together and discuss how we can keep children safe, to support parents and through assemblies etc. to help educate young people, their positive use of social media, and safe community behaviours.

#### What is the most challenging aspect of your job?

**A:** Trying to get a coffee in school! But seriously, I want to help everyone, but I realise I can’t help everyone, so I focus on making a difference for those children and families that might need extra support and giving generic advice to enable young people to make positive choices.

#### How are you promoting a positive perception of community policing?

**A:** Wearing the uniform in school—regular communication with parents and having great relationships with staff in schools.

#### What impact do you think you can have working together with schools?

**A:** A Huge impact—this is one of most important jobs ‘protect and serve’ - it builds relationships with education and the police service—it’s much more positive than negative, we work together to support children and families.

#### How would you like to see your role develop in the future?

**A:** I’d like to consider working with younger children (working in the prevention hub) to support children’s development through the primary sector for earlier interventions, contributing to their positive future lives.



### Safer Internet Day (Tuesday 11th February)

The academy ran whole school assemblies on Tuesday, raising awareness in this year’s theme of:

#### ‘Too good to be true?’ Protecting yourself and others from scams online

All students were advised about avoiding being targeted with cyber crimes including identity theft, malware and ransomware attacks, phishing and hacking. This generated lots of discussion about online safety and protecting yourself against scammers!



### Contacting your Child during the academy day...

**\*Polite Reminder\*** Please avoid contacting your child via their mobile device during the academy day. Academy regulations are that phones should not be seen, heard or known to be used onsite at all...this is difficult if parents call or text their child and then they feel a need to respond. If you need to contact your child please call or email us and we will get a message to them. Thank-you for your support.

## Knife Crime

The devastating impact of carrying bladed weapons is stark...More than **50,000** knife crime offences were recorded in England/Wales between June 2023-June 24. A 5% rise on the previous year.

We have recently worked with Nottinghamshire police to raise awareness of knife crime in workshops for our students. We are also working with local charities to support an understanding of the inherent dangers and the impact of knife related crimes.

Our work across the partnership and with the police is helping knife crime numbers being reduced across Nottinghamshire, despite a national rise. #StrongerTogether



## Academy attendance

Our Academy attendance remains above the national average, indicating that children enjoy coming to school and the experiences they have with us. Our current attendance (year to date) is 92.1%, with the national average being 91.7%. Please continue to support our Culture of High Attendance and ensure you notify our attendance team with any reasons for absence. The table below gives a graphic of number of days off school in an academy year, with up to 7 days off across the year giving high attendance, but if your child reaches 20 days off school, they will be classed as persistently absent and monitored for attendance. PA children have a much higher chance of underachieving and having fewer opportunities in their future...Thank-you for your invaluable support with attendance.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
100%	99	99	98	97	97	96	96	95	95	94	94	93	93	92	92	91	91	90	90	89



We have been delighted in the last two weeks to issue the first of our attendance 'podium' badges for 100% attendance for the Autumn term (2 September—20 December). The BRONZE Award. Our students with 100% attendance are now wearing these with pride! Hopefully they will repeat their amazing attendance in the Spring term and get 'Silver', and some will go on to secure 100% attendance for the year and receive their 'Gold' podium badge—remarkable :)

If your child was not one of the **350** who got their bronze award, will they get it in the Spring term, or the Summer term? #AttendanceMatters

## Contacts:

Steve Taylor—Deputy Principal, Senior Attendance Champion and Safeguarding Lead ([staylor@bruntsacademy.org](mailto:staylor@bruntsacademy.org))

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**In the next issue...** Working with multi-agencies to keep children safe. Young Carers