



Be Proud Be Respectful Be Resilient Be Ambitious

## Wellbeing Newsletter



THE BRUNTS  
ACADEMY



MWP

#SafeguardingFirst

## Safeguarding Assurance

Seasons Greetings to all! On Tuesday 11th November, Brunts had our annual quality assurance with Greenwood Academies Trust. This was led by Ashley Wilson, one of the safeguarding directorate advisors.

The full day consisted of interviews with key staff responsible for site safety, attendance, safer recruitment, alternative provision, suspensions and off site direction. It also included extensive scrutiny of CPOMS records with the DSL and Deputies. It also includes analysis of our self evaluation of safeguarding, led by the DSL.

Additionally, there were several staff and students who gave their opinions of the culture of safeguarding that has been established in the academy.

Ashley's feedback was very positive indeed and included a lengthy report that demonstrated full compliance and positive outcomes in **every area scrutinised**. His executive summary is here:

*It should be noted that the DSL, Safeguarding Team and Attendance Lead have developed an extremely effective safeguarding culture with a systematic, process driven and bespoke approach to safeguarding pupils.*

*The DSL is committed to the safety of all pupils and is both knowledgeable and effective in their approach to safeguarding which is demonstrated and recorded effectively within CPOMS records.*

*There has been a clear and persistent improvement in the safeguarding of pupils at The Brunts Academy, becoming a beacon of sound and effective daily practice within the trust.*

There are 39 schools in the Greenwood Academies Trust. We thanked Ashley for his time and thoroughness.

In the new Inspection framework, safeguarding standards remain 'met' and Brunts is an academy where there is a strong culture of keeping children safe and where they say that they feel safe.



GREENWOOD  
ACADEMIES TRUST  
SAFEGUARDING

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## Safeguarding is:

- **P**roviding early help to children as soon as problems emerge
- **P**rotecting children from abuse
- **P**reventing harm to children's development
- **P**roviding safe and effective care
- **P**romoting the best outcomes for children

## Emergency Contacts:

Police: 999—101

NSPCC: 08088005000

Childline: 0800-1111

MASH: 0300-5008090

EDT: 0300-4564546

CAMHS Crisis: 08081963779

#WellbeingFirst

#StrongerTogether



## Site Safety

Just a polite reminder about the **10mph speed limit** on Bath Lane Drive. We have a very safe departure from site, can we also remind parents/carers about the **arrival in the morning** if you choose to drop your child off in a vehicle, the same guidelines apply. Please keep to the speed limit and do NOT turn around in the round if you choose to travel up the drive. Thank-you.



## Punctuality and its importance (#OnTimeIsLate)

If your child arrives after 0830..they will be marked late (please do inform us of any genuine issues). Staff on the Bath Lane gate mark children in late for 5 minutes, but then leave to resume their day of support. This means that if your child is late they will have to walk around to Park Avenue to sign in, which is a 15/20 minute walk. Please help us to avoid this by ensuring your child is **ready to walk through the Bath Lane pedestrian gate by 0825**. This will mean they are not alone in the community, but are safely onsite with us, and learning.

## Visitors

All visitors must report to **Park Avenue** and use the visitors' car park and sign in, please note that the POSTCODE takes you to Bath Lane. If you attend during the day at Bath Lane, you will be asked to go to Park Avenue. This is to ensure that children are safe and to follow our safeguarding policy.

## Christmas

Christmas can be a tricky time for families. Sent with this newsletter is another document proved by **Mansfield District Council** detailing support for individuals and families for food (meals and provisions) finances, energy costs, housing and citizen's advice. We hope these services can provide help for any families in need...

Young people who face challenges with their relationship with food are on the increase and we see increasing numbers who limit their dietary intake due to peer pressure, perceptions about body mass or image...This limiting of dietary intake can be unhealthy and can be linked to worries about wellbeing/mental health.

Christmas can also be a tough time for those struggling with eating disorders and their families. There is a free weekly online support group for anyone with avoidant/restrictive food intake disorder (ARFID) – no diagnosis needed. You can join this inclusive, welcoming space to share how you're feeling, get advice, and talk to others who understand. The Hummingbird support group is split into time for themed discussion and free chat. **Hummingbird** is anonymous, and a Beat advisor will moderate the chat to make sure the space stays safe and helpful. Drop in online every week or just occasionally, from 6.45 – 7.45pm every Thursday. No referral or diagnosis is needed. [Hummingbird - HelpFinder](#)

### Know the first signs?



**Lips**

Are they obsessive about food?



**Flips**

Is their behaviour changing?



**Hips**

Do they have distorted beliefs about their body size?



**Kips**



**Nips**



**Skips**

If you're worried someone you care about is showing any signs of an eating disorder – even if they're not on our list – act quickly and get in touch. We can give you the answers and support you need to help them on the road to recovery as soon as possible.

Don't delay. Visit [beateatingdisorders.org.uk/tips](http://beateatingdisorders.org.uk/tips)

# Beat

## Eating disorders

## Mental Health and wellbeing

On Friday 12th December Brunts Academy was proud to host **Tom's Talks**.

**Tom Dickinson** is an inspirational speaker who addressed Year 9 and Year 10 and also several students in Y11 and our sixth form.

Radio Nottingham were also in attendance and interviewed three of our students

**Mateen W, Megan H and Aleigha W**. They spoke eloquently. Our feedback for Tom:

"Tom's presentation and workshops are a humbling experience, where the personal connection is palpable. His ability to communicate the devastating loss of his brother on himself and his family and the subsequent determination to 'carry on' is second to none. Tom is living testimony to the importance of positive mental health and wellbeing and the champion of caring for others...*It is okay to not be okay*, the line to remind us of our moral duty to look after others and to dispel forever the stigma of mental health difficulties" An indelible impact and forever lasting positive change...



## Anti-Social Behaviour and Violence

The academy is a very safe place for our young people—built on our ethos and values, but we retain concerns about community safety, especially in the evenings and at weekends...

The police website allows a local search to show crime levels and most frequent crimes. Our postcode reveals that violent and sexual offences, closely followed by anti-social behaviour are the highest reported crimes. Many of these are young people below 25.

**Do you always know where your child is in the local community, what they are doing and who they are with?**

**Mrs Loach—An Audience with... (Our Offside Safeguarding Lead and SVP)** Two of our wonderful Key Stage Four Ambassadors, **Bonnie Teal and Bella Ward** met Mrs 'Loach' recently to talk to her about her work to protect children offsite. They asked:

**What are the challenges of keeping children safe offsite?**

I don't see these students daily, so we need to check in. We get confirmation that they are in their setting and I have regular communications with all their parents.

**How would you describe partnerships Brunts have with external providers?**

They are 'brilliant'. Very good relationships indeed— I have them on 'speed-dial' :) We use 6 different 'approved providers' and have daily communications. Our Trust have checked these providers last week and they state outstanding relationships with Brunts, which is really nice to hear.

**How do you check that children are safe when they are educated offsite?**

The provider shares registers daily. If a child is absent, a welfare call is made, until we confirm the child is safe. Any wellbeing concerns are shared with me and the safeguarding team. Mr Taylor, our DSL checks all the placements with me to ensure every child is safe and remains safe.

**Is there a lot of paperwork involved?**

Lots! And it is reviewed regularly—risk assessments, agreements and consents. All necessary to ensure we keep these children safe. Everything is recorded on CPOMS, our safeguarding database

**How do you work with parents in this role?**

Really closely! They understand why their child is educated offsite and this suits their needs. I contact them every Sunday to prep for the next week, which they appreciate. They message me for any updates. I'd say the relationships are very high quality indeed...

**In what ways do YOU contribute to a positive safeguarding culture at Brunts?**

I am on the gate every morning for check-ins and a warm welcome :) The 'office' is used to support children who might need support. I think I'm approachable and you definitely hear me before you see me! Staff and students feel safe here because of the culture we have created...I'm very proud of that!

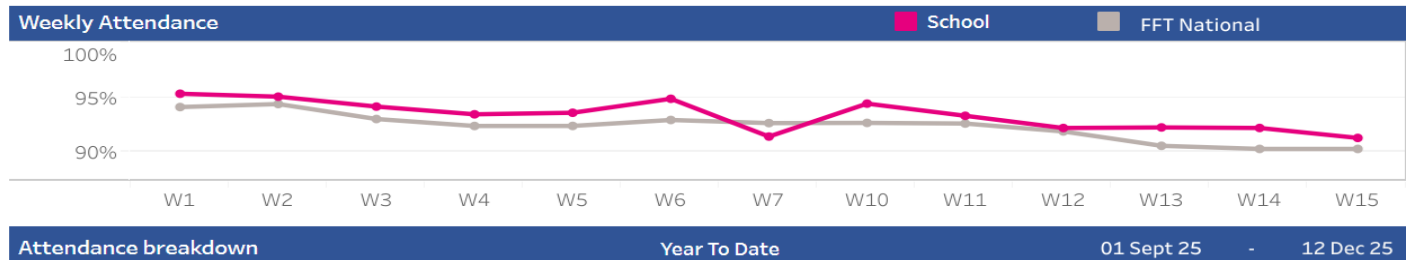


Violence and sexual offences	95
Anti-social behaviour	43
Criminal damage and arson	29
Shoplifting	22



## Academy attendance #AttendanceMatters #AmbitiousAttendance

Academy attendance has been very positive this term, despite a recent decline due to lots of genuine illness. Brunts' attendance has been well above the national average every week this term except for one. Our overall attendance



remains **significantly better than the national average** meaning children enjoying attending

Our other 14 week headlines are...

- **All our year groups have attendance ABOVE national average**
- We were ranked **FIRST** in the DfE Autumn report for the lowest rates of persistent absenteeism when ranked against 20 similar schools
- The attendance of more vulnerable children remains in line with national (those with additional needs) and **significantly above for those who are entitled to the pupil premium**, which is absolutely spectacular!



This week we had non-uniform for the highest attending Tutor Groups, and we are giving away LAPTOPS and other BIG prizes like Pantomime tickets to random children with 100% attendance over the last few weeks. We have ordered new PODIUM badges for 100% attendance (see image) and we are appointing Attendance Ambassadors in the new year (2026) who will play an active role in promoting high attendance...

Let's continue to work together to remove barriers to high attendance. We are keen to support families and children where attendance is a challenge— please get in touch with your child's Tutor in the first instance and we WILL HELP.

Days Absent	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
% Attendance at end of year	100	99	99	98	97	97	96	96	95	95	94	94	93	93	92	92	91	91	91	90

Please see our 'days absence' model above. If your child has had **6** days of absence so far this year, they are on track to be **persistently absent** which means more likely to miss out on key learning, underachievement, and be lacking in key personal qualities and employability skills.

Our return to the Academy is **Monday 5th January**—latest arrival is 0825,

### Signposting important services...

**CGL (Change Grow Live)** for substance misuse concerns: <https://www.changegrowlive.org>

**Nidas and Women's Aid** for domestic abuse concerns: <https://www.nidas.org.uk/> **01623 683 250**

**Nottinghamshire Womens Aid - Nottinghamshire Women's Aid** **0808 800 0340**

### Contacts:

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

Jayne Kirkland—Senior Deputy Safeguarding Lead ([jkirkland@bruntsacademy.org](mailto:jkirkland@bruntsacademy.org))

Emma Jimmick—Deputy Safeguarding Lead ([ejimmick@bruntsacademy.org](mailto:ejimmick@bruntsacademy.org))

**In the next issue...** Discrimination and its impact.

**We wish all our students and their families a restful Christmas break and a Happy New Year**

