

The Champion for Child on Child abuse at The Rowans is Gwen Webb (SENCO)

Additional Support and Interventions for Child on Child abuse is available from the following external agencies:

#### The National Clinical Assessment and Treatment Service (NCATS)

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/services-and-resources/childrens-services/ncats/>

Offers assessment and treatment services to children and young people with harmful sexual behavior, and consultation and training to professionals managing complex or high risk harmful sexual behavior cases.

#### Red Balloon Learning Centres

<http://www.redballoonlearner.org/>

Red Balloon supports children who self – exclude from school and are missing education because of bullying or other trauma. It provides an academic and therapeutic programme to enable its students to get back on track and reconnect with society.

#### Report Harmful Content

<https://reportharmfulcontent.com/?lang=en>

Website for reporting any form of harmful content online this could be threats, bullying etc. and is for both adults and under 16s.

It also offers advice and guidance.

#### NSPCC helpline

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/our-services/nspcc-helpline/>

Support for young people, no matter what their worry. Monday to Friday 8am – 10pm and 9am – 6pm on Saturday and Sunday.

#### Child Protection at The Rowans - Important contacts

##### Designated Safeguarding Lead

F May: Head Teacher

[fiona.may@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:fiona.may@therowansap.co.uk)

##### Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

G Webb: SENCO

[gwen.webb@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:gwen.webb@therowansap.co.uk)

Becky Jones: Welfare and Attendance Lead

[rebecca.jones@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:rebecca.jones@therowansap.co.uk)

Jo Skinner: Inclusions, Interventions and Mental Health Lead

[jo.skinner@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:jo.skinner@therowansap.co.uk)

##### Trustees for Safeguarding

Susan Greenfield

[susan.greenfield@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:susan.greenfield@therowansap.co.uk)

Karen Price

[karen.price@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:karen.price@therowansap.co.uk)

The school's safeguarding and child protection policy is available on our website:

<https://www.therowans.org/policies and info/policies>

# The Rowans AP Academy

## Child on Child Abuse



Please take a leaflet and seek support from us

Silverbank, Churchill Avenue

Chatham, Kent ME5 0LB

01634 33 8803

Email – [office@therowansap.co.uk](mailto:office@therowansap.co.uk)

[www.therowans.org](http://www.therowans.org)

@TheRowansAP

The Rowans AP Academy



## What is Child on Child Abuse?

Child on child abuse is any form of physical, sexual, emotional and financial abuse, and coercive control exercised between children, and within children's relationships, friendships and wider peer associations.

All staff should be aware that children can abuse other children and that it is something that can happen both inside and outside of school / college as well as online. It is important that all staff recognize the indicators and signs of child on child abuse and know how to identify it and response to reports.

It is incredibly important to adopt and maintain an attitude of **"it could happen here"** where safeguarding is concerned. Staff should always act in the best interests of the child.

According to the NSPCC, in Autumn last year there was a 29% increase in children seeking help from Childline due to child on child sexual abuse.

Further research suggests that child on child abuse is one of the most common forms of abuse affecting children in the UK. More than four in ten teenage schoolgirls aged between 13 and 17 in England have experienced sexual coercion. On top of this, two thirds of contact sexual abuse experienced by children aged 17 or under was committed by someone who was also aged 17 or under.

Staff in schools should understand the importance of challenging inappropriate behaviours between peers that are actually abusive in nature. Downplaying certain behaviours, for example dismissing sexual harassment as "banter", "just having a laugh", "part of growing up" or "boys being boys" can lead to a culture of unacceptable behaviours, an unsafe environment for children and in worst case scenarios, a culture that normalises abuse leading to children accepting it as normal and not coming forward to report it.

## Signs of Child on Child Abuse

All staff should be clear as to the school's policy and procedures with regards to child on child abuse. When looking for signs of it, it is most likely to include, but may not be limited to:

- Bullying (including cyberbullying, prejudice-based and discriminatory bullying)
- Abuse in intimate personal relationships between peers
- Physical abuse which can include hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling or otherwise causing physical harm
- Sexual violence, such as rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault
- Sexual harassment, such as sexual comments, remarks, jokes and online sexual harassment
- Non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos
- Causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent, such as forcing someone to strip, touch themselves sexually, or to engage in sexual activity with a third party
- Upskirting, which typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without their permission, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm
- Initiation / hazing type violence and rituals (this could include activities involving harassment, abuse or humiliation used as a way of initiating a person into a group and may also include an online element)

## If You Have Concerns

If you have any concerns about a young person's safety or wellbeing, you should:

Act quickly and share the information with the Designated Safeguarding Leads or the Deputy Safeguarding Leads. If a member of the Safeguarding team is not available then you should speak to the school's senior leadership team

Make a note of what you have seen, heard or been told

Do not question the child

Do not physically examine the child

You should not assume a colleague or another professional will take action and share information that might be critical in keeping children safe so it is important that you share the information to the relevant people in a timely manner.

The designated safeguarding lead will generally lead on next steps, including who else, if anyone, should be informed and whether to pass a concern on to children's social care assessment process.

## Why Is This Important?

It is important for children to receive the right help at the right time to address risks and prevent issues escalating. Research and serious case reviews have repeatedly shown the dangers of failing to take effective and immediate action.