

Online Safety Group Newsletter

St. Patrick's Academy, Lisburn

November 2021

Online Safety Group 2021-2022



St. Patrick's Academy has a new **Online Safety Group** for 2021-2022. Student membership will help the school to identify, understand and deal effectively with current online safety issues and keep pupils safe. Pupils will have lots of opportunities to raise their concerns and share ideas as to how these concerns can be tackled.

Yr 8	S Kozlowski	L Spilman	J Zakrzewska	K Bell	S O'Neill	
Yr 9	D Auguscik	R Cormican	M Barr	S McAleese	O Maguire	G McClenaghan
Yr 10	D Doherty	R Zakauskaite	L McPolin	D Denver	D McGrath	
Yr 11	A O'Connor	R Heaney	E McAleese	E Sloan	P O'Flaherty	
Yr 12	P Notarte	E Campbell	J Cooper	W Wilson		
Yr 13	U Gircuite	R French				
Yr 14	R Orong					

The group also includes representation from the Board of Governors, the Senior Leadership Team, the Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection, teaching staff, ICT technical support and parents.

Anti-Bullying Week 2021 and Online Bullying

Anti-Bullying Week in Northern Ireland takes place from Monday 15th to Friday 19th November, and the theme this year is **One Kind Word**.

Ask if someone's OK. Say you're sorry. Just say hey.

In a world that can sometimes feel like it's filled with negativity, one kind word can provide a moment of hope. It can be a turning point. It can change someone's perspective. It can change

their day. It can change the course of a conversation and break the cycle of bullying.

Best of all, one kind word leads to another. Kindness fuels kindness. So from the playground to Parliament, and from our phones to our homes, together, our actions can fire a chain reaction that powers positivity.

It starts with one kind word. It starts today.



If you have any concerns about your child and online safety, please contact Mrs Towe (Online Safety Officer at St. Patrick's Academy) using the **School Website Contact Form**

The Northern Ireland Anti-Bullying Forum defines Cyber bullying as bullying that takes place through the use of technology, such as mobile phones and the internet. This could include:

- * Posting hurtful, embarrassing or threatening material on social networking websites
- * Sending nasty text messages or leaving rude voicemails on a mobile phone.
- * Excluding someone from an online game.
- * Sharing, or threatening to share, embarrassing or inappropriate photos of videos to humiliate someone.
- * Setting up fake profiles on a social network to make fun of others



Extract from pupil homework diary: *We understand that some parents may wish their child to have a mobile phone in case of emergency on the way to and from school. However, the increasing misuse of mobile phones and, in particular, the misuse of camera phones is a cause for concern. The mobile must be switched off at all times in school and on the bus. The phone is never used to take photographs or video in school or on the bus. Students who wish to contact a parent during school must ask permission to use the landline telephone in reception.*

Students using their mobile phone during school will have their phone confiscated and will require a parent present to retrieve it from the school office. Parents who wish to contact a student during the school day should do so by telephoning the school office on (02892 664877).

St. Patrick's Academy has a zero tolerance policy to bullying. The new 2021-2022 Anti-bullying policy is available on the school website: www.stpatsni.co.uk.