



Friday 3 October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

September has flown by, and it has been fantastic to see the Year 8 students find their feet again in school. I also want to pass on my thanks and congratulations of every single Year 8 student that supported at Open Evening. They were an absolute credit to themselves and the school, and the feedback from prospective students and families has been glowing.

I am writing today to inform you about a new part of Student Voice that we are piloting with Year 8. As it stands, the school has a number of mechanisms of collecting Student Voice. Last year, for example, every member of the year had their say through the specific Student Voice sessions in Tutor Time, and our Year Representatives went to Student Cabinet to represent the views of our cohort to the Senior Student Leaders.

This new aspect, the Student Voice Project, is specifically about collecting feedback from students to keep each other safe.



The first tile on the [Digital Learning Hub](#), which can be accessed through the main school website, is now the [Student Voice Project](#). The “Give Feedback” section of this page enables students to report in something that they feel uncomfortable or worried about in school, in the community, or at home. Students can choose to provide their email address, or they can report anonymously. At this time, the pilot is only to be used by Year 8 students. Next Wednesday, I will be launching this with the year group through assembly so that students understand exactly how to use it, and what to use it for.

This is the first time the school has made use of the Student Voice Project, and for this pilot to be a success, it is very important that students only use it to report places or incidents where they felt unsafe. They need to report factually, and give specific details, like precise times, people and locations.

I would very much appreciate if you could spend some time with your child explaining that the purpose of the Student Voice Project is to keep each other safe, and not to give general feedback, which students already can give through those other channels.

Reporting

- To keep yourself safe
- To keep someone else/others safe
- The problem might be urgent/important
- You may need an adult's help
- Speaking out because you know something is wrong

I am genuinely excited about the launch of the Student Voice Project which, when used correctly, should really help to enhance our existing safeguarding practices.

If you would like to know more about Safeguarding at school, there is a wealth of information on the [Safeguarding area of our website](#).

There is also a comprehensive section on online safety information within the Safeguarding tab and we have recently added the October Online Safety Newsletter and a link to Parentsafe which is a very useful tool produced by LGfL (London Grid for Learning).

It offers a wide range of support materials and advice for parents to keep children and young people safe in the online world.

Topics on offer include:

- Top tips for right now
- Safe settings and control on various devices
- What's that APP?
- Talking to children about the topic
- Screen time
- Top topics including fake news
- Sex and relationships
- Help and reporting

You can view resources and advice via the links here: [Parentsafe LGfL Website](#) and [Online Safety Information on the NLS Website](#)

Finally, when I last wrote to you on 19th September, I shared that the the Mental Health in Schools Team are completing a research exploration and have produced a questionnaire for students to complete at home by 24 October 2025. I have had feedback from a couple of parents that their child was not able to access the questionnaire, so today I have reissued that to all Year 8 students as a Homework on Go4Schools.

If you do not want your child to take part in this exploration, you can ask them not to complete it.

If you would like to find out more about the Mental Health in Schools Team and the 'Whole School Approach' principles, please visit the [Rise Mental Health in Schools Team website](#).

Thank you as always for your support of your child both at home and in school, I am looking forward to launching the Student Voice Project on Wednesday.

Yours sincerely

Joseph Piper

Assistant Headteacher – Year 8 Lead