

27 January 2023

Sandy Lane Blackdown Leamington Spa Warwickshire CV32 6RD

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Dear Parents and Carers

It was fantastic to see so many parents/carers attending the recent subject evening, we hope that you found it a useful experience. Thank you to the 125 people that took the time to answer our parent/carer survey, your feedback is very valuable to us and we really do appreciate you taking the time to support us in this way.

The significant amount of positive comments made around the evening itself and the wider day to day experience of our students in school were much appreciated and these will be shared with staff as appropriate. The overall feedback will be used to help us reflect on our practices in school, and some of the themes will feature in future year group and whole school bulletins. Any parents/carers who left feedback with their name in the comment box will receive contact from an appropriate member of staff as soon as possible.

In preparation for Safer Internet Day on 7 February, students have been discussing the importance of how to stay safe online as part of our PSHE and Tutor Time curriculum. We therefore thought it would be a useful time to remind parents and carers about the resources which can support you and your child in having productive conversations about their use of social media. Whilst the online world or social media apps can provide fantastic opportunities for collaboration and developing knowledge, commonly used apps such as Whatsapp, Snapchat, TikTok can be extremely difficult for students who may still be developing their social skills, to navigate safely and within the law.

We have a range of resources on our website which cover the following elements of supporting your child in staying safe online:

- Links to websites with advice and support
- Our monthly Online Safety Newsletter which covers facts on commonly used apps
- How to put parental controls on your child's devices
- How to have productive conversations with your child about the content they are accessing online

https://www.northleamington.co.uk/student-life/student-support/online-safety

The South West Grid for Learning also offers free online courses for parents and carers to understand more about ways to support children in staying safe online and can be accessed here <u>Parents & Carers | SWGfL</u>

How do we support online safety at North Learnington School?

- Curriculum education as part of our RSHE curriculum through PSHE, assemblies and Tutor Time curriculum
- Key adults who have been trained in Mental Health First Aid
- Our Student Support and Engagement Team are able to support with any concerns relating to online safety for both parents and students
- Networks in sharing best practice with other schools
- Liaison with external agencies for support and advice as needed

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We also inform students about accessing apps which have an age requirement that they do not meet. As part of our Safeguarding processes we remain committed to referring any child protection issue which arises from the inappropriate use of social media and messaging apps to the relevant external agencies and working with parents to support in keeping children safe online.

Kind regards

Mr J Foxon Head of Year 7

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