



**Relentlessly Pursuing Excellence**

## **Safeguarding Parent Newsletter - Friday 15 September** **Latest advice and guidance for parents and carers**

### **Great Wyrley Academy Safeguarding Team**

The Great Wyrley Academy Safeguarding Team has been trained to an advanced level on all aspects of safeguarding. The team is available to any student, parent or school staff member to discuss and report any safeguarding concerns.

**Designated Safeguarding Lead:** Mr M Rehman

**Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:** Mr D Fielder, Mrs M McCarthy, Mrs J Foyle, Mr J McFarlane, Mrs S Herrington, Mr J Studholme, Miss C Jackson, Mrs C Chin, Mrs V Smith

### **Overview**

Welcome to our latest edition of the Newsletter from the Great Wyrley Academy Safeguarding Team. Our aim is to bring you all the latest, relevant help and advice on issues that we feel will be of importance to you.

At Great Wyrley Academy, both staff and students are trained and educated in many areas of safeguarding. Staff are informed of the signs and symptoms to look for and be aware of, that could be an indication that there is a concern and how to report concerns. Students are given appropriate information into safeguarding topics and given strategies on how to stay safe.

This issue will cover: Live Streaming Culture

## What is it?

Live Streaming is the online broadcasting of video content in real time.

There are many platforms where people can either host streams themselves or participate solely as viewers. Some platforms have niche audiences (like Twitch, which heavily features video game content) and others (like YouTube or Facebook Live) have broader audiences.

'Live streaming culture' refers to the norms of live streaming, including the behaviours of streamers, how viewers interact and communicate, and the nature of the streaming platforms themselves.

## Are there any risks?

Irrespective of whether children are presenting or viewing their live streams, there are things to be mindful of. Young streamers might feel compelled to act impulsively in front of audiences, or they could accidentally reveal personal information – for example, by wearing easily identifiable school uniforms. A platform's 'live chat' can negatively impact both streamer and viewer, as it's difficult to moderate hurtful or explicit messages when audiences are large. Some popular content creators ask for financial donations, and offer personalised shout-outs or requests for money. Alongside this, 'influencer' streamers can be paid to endorse products

## How can my child stream more safely?

Ultimately each platform has its own safety settings. Generally speaking however, you can mute or leave live chats, and prevent unauthorised spending. It's best to look into the specific platform your child wants to use for details about its safety settings, age rating, or the general culture of the site.

## What else should I know?

Despite the risks, live streaming (and the culture surrounding it) can be fun, build confidence, and connect audiences. It's important to have open discussions with

your child about engaging with live streaming. If they want to present streams, talk about what might be inappropriate to say, share, or do online. As viewers, make sure they're aware that streamers can get paid to promote and say things. As always, suggest they come to you if they see something which upsets them online.