



**Relentlessly Pursuing Excellence**

## **Safeguarding Parent Newsletter - Friday 27 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:** Mrs M McCarthy, Mrs J Foyle, Mr J McFarlane, Mr T Drury, Mrs A Drury, Mrs S Herrington, Mr J Studholme, Miss C Mrs C Chin, Mr C Pattinson

### **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: **Fake news.**

## What is Fake News?

Fake news is the spreading of news stories online that are invented, distort the facts, or are not news at all, but made to look as if they are.

## Why do people create it?

Those who create fake news may be looking to get people to click on the link to promote advertising, encourage people to buy something or persuade them to support a point of view. There are also times when news organisations may make a mistake and print something which is later revealed to be untrue.

## How can fake news affect young people?

It can lead children and young people to believe something about the world that can have a negative impact on their wellbeing

Fake news sometimes may target minority groups and spread hate which can have real world consequences

It can cause children to be confused about what they see online and anxious about being misled to believe something that isn't true

## How can you help young people spot fake news?

*Talk to them:* Children rely more on their family than social media for their news so talk to them about what is going on. It's also helpful to talk about how the information they see online is created so they have a better understanding of the intentions behind it.

*Read:* Many people share stories they don't actually read. Encourage children to read beyond the headline and if they do spot something, not to share it but to help set the record straight.

*Check:* Share quick and easy ways to check the reliability of information. This could be doing a search to double check who the author is and how credible they are, seeing if the information is available on reputable sites and using good fact-checking websites to get more information.

It's also worth talking to them about spam, and the possibility that some of the adverts that they come across might also be fake. Get Involved: Digital literacy is about participation. Teach children to be honest, vigilant and creative digital citizens.

### Sources

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zmvdd6f>

[Internetmatters.org](http://Internetmatters.org)

[How to spot fake news, Childline](#)