



# Safeguarding Newsletter



## Peer on Peer Abuse

In 2017/18, Childline held 3,878 counselling sessions about peer-on-peer sexual abuse, this was a 29% rise since the previous year.

All staff should be aware that children can abuse other children. This is known as peer on peer abuse. It is likely to include, but may not be limited to:

- Bullying, including cyberbullying.
- Physical abuse such as hitting, shaking, kicking, biting, hair pulling or other causes of physical harm.
- Sexual violence such as rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault.
- Sexual harassment such as sexual comments, remarks, jokes, online sexual harassment, which maybe stand alone or a broader pattern of abuse.
- Upskirting, which typically involves taking a picture under a person’s clothing without them knowing. With the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks for sexual gratification or to cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm.
- Sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery).
- Initiation type violence and rituals.

### How does Bay House School respond to peer on peer abuse?

Fortunately, peer on peer abuse is very rare at Bay House School. However, it is sometimes difficult to distinguish between banter, unkindness and bullying (peer on peer abuse). If you suspect that a pupil is suffering from peer on peer abuse and/or unkindness, staff should challenge the behaviour and use the ‘reporting acts of unkindness form’ or the ‘Safeguarding disclosure form’ to alert the safeguarding team and the year offices. Both of which can be found on the intranet homepage.



The pupil voice team and Mr Adderley have linked up with the Diana award to promote Anti bullying ambassadors within the Bay House community. After receiving the training students become Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. In their role they help educate their peers on bullying, lead on anti-bullying campaigns, promote a culture which celebrates and tolerates difference and help keep their peers safe both online and offline.

