

PADGATE ACADEMY

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 padgateacademy

Principal: Mr A McMillan Bsc (Hons)



Safeguarding Newsletter

Summer Half-Term One 2025-26



This has been a short half-term, but we have managed to pack in lots of enriching and educational activities for our children.

Mental Health Awareness Week was celebrated between 11th-17th May, and there are now lots of colourful decorations around school following on from the wellbeing activity completed in tutor time.

We have also launched the new Reach Out button to provide children with an additional way of speaking to someone if they need support.

More details are included in this newsletter. We wish all of our families a happy and safe half-term.

Kind regards,
Ms Jones and the Keep Kids Safe team.

Key Numbers

01925 443322 (Option one, followed by option one) Warrington Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) For urgent safeguarding concerns about a child	01925 444400 Out of Office Emergency Duty Team For urgent safeguarding concerns about a child outside of office hours	0808 800 5000 NSPCC For adults who are worried about a child
0800 1111	111	999
Childline	Police Non-Emergency	Emergency Services
For children who are worried about their own safety or need some advice	For reporting any crimes or concerns	For anyone in immediate danger (including if you are worried about the immediate risk to a child)



Mental Health Awareness Week

As you may be aware, May is Mental Health Month, and Mental Health Awareness Week is celebrated between 11th-17th May.

We have marked the occasion in school by getting crafty! Our mental health ambassadors kindly delivered resources and guidance to tutor groups, supporting them to create wonderful decorations that can be displayed in their tutor rooms.



The theme for the week this year is 'Action': taking action for yourself, someone else, or anything to encourage positive mental health. To represent taking action, our students have written self-care tips and positive affirmations on the decorations, to serve as a reminder for steps they can take to actively encourage positive feelings.

Thank you Mr Dean, Mrs Simpson, the mental health ambassadors, and all of the children who helped to make the hands - your help is greatly appreciated!

Our school nurses also visited school canteen, speaking to children about exam stress and how they can look after themselves. It was great to see so many children engaging with the nurses.





Whilst lots of our students are wonderful at coming to ask for support, we know that approaching an adult and asking to talk can be a daunting task for some children.

With that in mind, we have launched a brand new way for students to ask for support/someone to talk to whilst removing the barrier of coming to ask in person.

The Reach Out button is now located on every page of the Padgate Academy website for easy access. When children click on the logo, it will take them to a page where they can write a message to the Keep Kids Safe team about anything they are worried about. The message will be delivered straight away, and someone will be in touch with the child to offer support. Once a message has been sent via the page, the children will be shown details of some services that may also be of use to them, such as Kooth.

Please note: the button should not be used where immediate help is required, however we will aim to provide a timely response within school hours.

Reach Out





Phone-free School

As you will be aware, as of September 2026, we will be a phone-free school. Mr McMillan has sent out a letter to parents/carers regarding the logistics of this in terms of where and how phones will be stored, as well as how you can contact your child should you need to during the day.

This is an exciting development for the school, and we anticipate that this will have a positive impact for our students, including strengthening safeguarding.

Research from several sources suggest the following benefits of phone-free schools:



Improved
concentration
in lessons



Increased
academic
performance



Improved
socialisation



Fewer incidents
of online
bullying



Improved
mental health

More information about the benefits of phone-free schools can be found here:

<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/resource/smartphone-free-schools-evidence>



Year 11 Youth Club

Warrington Youth Service have launched a new group aimed at children in Year 11 and above. The sessions are held on Wednesday nights, and aim to create a safe space for young people to meet and socialise with peers.

The sessions have a selection of activities on offer such as cooking, arts and crafts and sports which they can choose to engage in. It is a relaxed group where young people can go to chill and chat. Alternatively, there are also opportunities to do things that young people are interested in or would like to do. The group was created so that older children can have a new space to develop their skills and make new friends.

Warrington Youth Service

NEW YOUTH CLUB WEDNESDAYS

year 11 and above

6.30 - 9PM
THE HUB
CAPESTHORNE ROAD
WARRINGTON
WA2 0JF

COME CHILL AND CHAT

LEAD YOUTH WORKER
TRACEY BAKER 07825844027