



Online safety policy for Campbell Harris College

Written: June 2020

Reviewed: Jan 2024

This policy should be read alongside the child protection/safeguarding policy for Campbell Harris College.

Statement of Intent

Whilst acknowledging that the current Covid 19 pandemic has necessitated different ways of working with groups and individual students, Campbell Harris College will continue to provide a safe environment for students and staff, including interaction undertaken online: **all staff who interact with students online will continue to look out for signs of a student who is at risk.**

The College will ensure that any use of online learning tools and systems are in line with privacy and data protection requirements.

Purpose of Policy

- to ensure the safety and well-being of students when using the internet, social media or mobile devices
- to inform staff of the overarching principles that guide our approach to online safety, with special reference to the process of online 1:1 teaching and learning
- Ensure that as an organisation, we operate in line with our College values and within the law of how we use online devices
- Students will be safe to access the internet for 1:1 learning while it is inadvisable for them to come into college for lessons

Legal framework

Summaries of the key legislation and guidance which underpin this policy can be found summarised on learning.nspcc.org.uk

Partnership

The College aims to work in partnership with the students, their parents, carers and other relevant agencies to ensure the students online safety

Action to keep children and young people safe

- Campbell Harris has a designated an online safety coordinator
- clear and specific directions will be given to staff on how they must behave online
- children of school age will only take part in 1:1 lessons with a parent/carer alongside, or after agreeing to being videoed during the lesson
- The College will use an online safety agreement with students and, if applicable their parent/carer
- Campbell Harris will enable students to respond to any incidents or inappropriate behaviour and to finish each lesson by declaring if they have felt safe during the session
- The College will ensure that usernames, logins, email accounts and passwords are used effectively
- Campbell Harris will ensure that personal information is shared only on a need-to-know basis
- No photos of the student or their family may be uploaded
- The online safety coordinator will randomly sample lessons

Response to any online abuse

- follow current safeguarding procedures
- suspend online lessons for that specific student/staff member at once

Contact details

Online safety coordinator: Jane Choonara

Senior lead for safeguarding and child protection: Mark Harris

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000

Addendum to the Safeguarding Policy

I have written this with support from Marnie Wilkins who was able to explain aspects of online abuse that I did not know about.

Online Abuse

The students at Campbell Harris are vulnerable to online abuse and it is important that all adults working at the College are vigilant in noticing and responding to this type of abuse.

Online abuse is any type of abuse that happens on the internet, using technology like computers, tablets, mobile phones, games consoles and includes any access to social media.

Students may experience several types of abuse including:

- Bullying
- Emotional abuse/blackmail
- Harassment, stalking or threatening behaviour.
- Sexual abuse, including coercion to send sexual images, or sexual exploitation

Perpetrators exploit digital technology to initiate, maintain and escalate abuse.

Online platforms may be used to groom victims by building fictitious trusting relationships.

Online abuse may:

- ***Reflect abuse that is happening face to face***
- ***Happen only online***
- ***Start online but move towards contact abuse.***

Signs of online abuse:

Being alert to changes in behaviour is key to spotting when something is wrong.

As well as mood changes you may notice that they start to use inappropriate language

The student may become more secretive about their devices and who they are talking to.

They may become more isolated or withdrawn.

They may spend more (or suddenly less) time online.

What to do if you suspect online abuse:

As with all safeguarding concerns at Campbell Harris, record your concerns and contact Mark or Jane as soon as possible: if in doubt contact the NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000 where specialists can talk you through your concern.