

16th September 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I would like to introduce the new Safeguarding Team and the changes we have made this academic year at East London Science School. Safeguarding pupils is paramount to what we do at ELSS and making sure pupils feel safe means they are able to thrive academically.

Safeguarding Leadership

This year we have expanded the Safeguarding Team at ELSS which is comprised of key members of staff across the school. All these members of staff have had Designated Safeguarding Lead training.

Staff Member	Responsibility	Safeguarding Responsibility
Jennifer Copestake	Senior Leader and Head of Lower School	Designated Safeguarding Lead
Vanessa Mamona	Head of Year 7	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead – Clock Mill Site
Beatrice Ubaka	Senior Leader and Head of Upper School and Head of Year 11	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead – Lock Keepers Site
Richard Woolfenden	Senior Leader and Head of Year 6 th Form	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead – 6 th Form Site
Mark Taylor	Interim Principal	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Matthew Martin	Senior Leader and Director of Teaching and Learning	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Serenea Tsekiri	SENDCO	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Andrew Pyner	Personal Development Lead	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

To stand on the shoulders of giants



Attached to this letter is the Safeguarding Team poster which is also located across all our sites. Our Pupils have all been shown this poster and there are over 80 posters on display around the school so pupils can identify who they can speak to with any concerns they may have beyond their teachers.

The Site

After reviewing our risk assessments of each of our three sites, we are rolling out new measures to ensure the safety of pupils. This will include, but is not limited to, hi-vis jackets for staff on duty on the green, barriers for area close to the river, two-way radios for key members of staff and signs warning members of the public that school children are present.

Contact

We believe it is vital that parents and pupils are able to provide us with feedback directly about any concerns that they may have. We have created a specific email address that anyone can use to contact the Safeguarding Team – SafeguardingTeam@eastlondonscienceschool.co.uk

Safeguarding Assemblies

We are delighted to bring back our assembly slots this academic year and we ensured that every half term there are at least two assemblies based around safeguarding subjects such as Online Safety, Anti-Bullying Week, Mental Wellbeing and this week we delivered assemblies on Canal and Water Safety.

Website

We have created a specific area for Safeguarding on our website, here you will be able to find details on the safeguarding leadership team as well as important information for pupils and parents. We will update this regularly throughout the year.

Personal Development

As I am sure you are aware there is now a new slot on the pupils timetable for an hour of Personal Development for all students in all year groups. These sessions are delivered by the school's pastoral team of Form Tutors and Heads of Year.

The Personal Development curriculum is designed to equip students to become responsible, respectful and active individuals in society. We work with students to develop their character in such a way as to enable them to reflect wisely, be flexible, behave with integrity and to work willingly and productively with others. We help them to grow in resilience, confidence and knowledge so that they can remain mentally healthy and be confident in addressing the challenges inherent in the complexities of contemporary adult life. We demonstrate to our students the importance of being physically healthy and maintaining an active lifestyle, a balanced diet and how to keep themselves safe in the physical environment and online.

To stand on the shoulders of giants



Mental Health First Aiders

Within the next month we have four members of staff who are completing training for Mental Health First Aid. This will include a member of staff on each of our three sites, Vanessa Mamona at Clock Mill, Kimberly St Hill at Lock Keepers and Audra Norris at the 6th Form site. They will be overseen by Beatrice Ubaka who will also be trained and is one of the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads and is based at the Lock Keepers Site. These members of staff will be able to support pupils with existing mental health concerns, identify any pupils who may need support and raise awareness around the school about their roles and support available.

Yours sincerely,

Jennifer Copestake

Senior Leader and Designated Safeguarding Lead

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Safeguarding Leadership

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD



Jennifer Copestake

Head of Lower School

Office : Clock Mill 3rd Floor Library, Clock Mill

Mobile: 020 7062 9578

jennifer.copestake@eastlondonscienceschool.co.uk



DEPUTY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS

Vanessa Mamona



Head of Year 07
Clock Mill site

Beatrice Ubaka



Head of Upper School
Lock Keepers site

Richard Woolfenden



Head of Sixth Form

OTHER DEPUTY DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS

Serenea Tsekiri



SENDCO

Andrew Pyner



Personal
Development Lead

Matthew Martin



SLT / Director of
Teaching and Learning

Mark Taylor



Interim Principal

Peter Phebey



Vice Principal



The Chair of Governors and link governor with the responsibility for safeguarding is Kevin Hinde

Email: kevin.hinde@eastlondonscienceschool.co.uk