

Welcome to the third Safeguarding newsletter which outlines progress made over recent months.

## **Learner Protection Disclosures.**

Since the last newsletter we have received three new cases involving domestic violence, bullying and one disclosure by a girl in Grimsby to a student here via Facebook. This involved liaison with the Grimsby Police Force and was certainly a good example of inter-agency working on a wide scale!

## **Safeguarding Strategy**

A draft Safeguarding Strategy has been written and this is now being considered by the Senior Leadership Team.

## **Training for staff**

The mandatory training for new members of staff has continued to run through March and April. A further 36 staff, including part-time examination invigilators, have attended sessions in recent weeks and now have knowledge of the College's policy and procedure and know how to handle a safeguarding disclosure.

## **Anger Management**

The Youth Service has been approached to deliver training to selected staff in order to help some vulnerable students manage their anger and behave in a safe and responsible manner.

## **e-Safety Conference.**

In April the Local Safeguarding Children Board held a conference for Somerset Colleges about e-safety. Five members of staff from Yeovil attended and were given a fascinating insight into the digital world and how it can influence a young person and potentially put them at risk of abuse.

An e-safety training session will be offered on 2<sup>nd</sup> June at Staff Development Day by the conference facilitator. In addition an e-Safety Group will be set up to develop policies and procedures and ensure that Yeovil College offers a safe learning environment.

The question was posed:

*Are you a digital native or a digital immigrant?*

For most staff at Yeovil College the answer will be the latter. If you have not grown up with the internet, as most of our students have, you are classed as an immigrant!

## **Conclusion**

The last academic year has seen good progress in terms of Safeguarding at Yeovil College. We look forward to working with you all in the new academic year to ensure we continue to provide a safe environment for everyone.

*Ruth Morgan*  
Safeguarding Officer

*Angela Coward*  
Deputy Safeguarding Officer

## **The Five Rs**

As reported previously, Safeguarding now has a really high priority in all Ofsted inspections and the College has recently been working with a consultant from LSIS to review its practice. Advice from LSIS is: 'If Safeguarding is to impact on all aspects of the operational life of learning providers, it must become the informed responsibility of all. All staff, governors and board members, volunteers, partners and others have a responsibility actively to make the learning environment safe and secure for all. To do so providers will find it helpful to consider and act on the **5 Rs**: –

### **Recognition**

The ability to recognise behaviour that may indicate abuse is of fundamental importance.

### **Response**

Appropriate response is vital. No report of or concern about possible abuse should ever be ignored.

### **Reporting**

Report your concerns to your line manager in the first instance. This should be the "default" action to be taken. Should this be inappropriate for whatever reason, you should not hold back from reporting, but do so directly to the member of staff with specific, designated responsibility for dealing with all issues relating to Safeguarding.

### **Recording**

You should record precisely what has been alleged, using the words of the complainant.

### **Referral**

Only the designated Safeguarding Officer or their deputy can make a decision to refer a complaint or allegation, having gathered and examined all relevant testimony and information.

For more detail on each of the 5Rs – please click here for the [5 R's](#) link.

## **Moodle – Do you need Help? Button**

Student Support Services have introduced a new 'Help' button on Moodle. It will allow all students to report any incidents of bullying and gives information and contacts for many agencies that can be contacted outside normal college hours

