

# Safeguarding Newsletter

*keeping our community safe*

## **Safeguarding Disclosures.**

The college continues to work closely with external agencies such as the Police, Social Services, Probation, Mental Health Services and Housing in order to ensure that safeguarding disclosures are handled in a timely, appropriate and sensitive manner.

## **Safeguarding Information**

For the second year running students will be issued with three small information cards, one per term. These have the "Stay Safe" theme and cover the topics of bullying, abuse and drugs and alcohol. The cards give key advice and contact numbers. The first of the cards will be distributed, via tutors, to coincide with Anti-bullying Week.

## **Health and Wellbeing Report**

The 2011 Health and Wellbeing report has been produced and will be available on the website together with new action plans for 'Sexual Health' and 'Health and Wellbeing'. These are linked to the

"You're Welcome" and "Healthy FE" accreditations which the College holds.

## **E-Safety**

Sessions for students continue to be available through the new academic year. Additional resources for use by all staff and students have been placed on Moodle. This includes information about email safety, passwords, social networking and identity fraud.

## **Local Safeguarding Children's Board**

The Designated Officer regularly attends the Somerset Colleges' LSCB meetings. At the October meeting information was provided about College inspections by OfSTED, forced marriages, sexual exploitation of young people, homelessness assessments for 16 and 17 year olds and record keeping for Safeguarding.



### **Safeguarding Group**

The Safeguarding Group met in September and discussed the Safeguarding incidents recorded. The group reviewed the Safeguarding Policy and Procedure which will be presented to the Corporation for final approval at its November meeting. The group also reviewed the Safeguarding Action Plan for 2010/11. The majority of actions had been completed. A new action plan has been drafted which will be discussed by the Group in November.

### **Safeguarding Training**

LSIS, the Learning and Skills Information Service, has some excellent online Safeguarding training which staff can access. The training consists of a number of modules which can be completed over a period of time. The training is also certificated. The course can be accessed on the LSIS site at

[www.leadershiplearning.org.uk](http://www.leadershiplearning.org.uk) (search for the Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment course.).

### **Conclusion**

So far the Autumn term has been very busy for the Safeguarding Team. There is a higher awareness amongst staff of the need to refer cases as quickly as possible. We continue to work very effectively with external agencies and all cases are moving towards positive outcomes for the young people concerned. We should like to thank all staff for their ongoing support and for giving safeguarding issues priority.

**Ruth Morgan**  
Safeguarding Officer

**Angela Coward**  
Deputy Safeguarding Officer

