

Thursday 9th July, 2020

**End of term safeguarding update, July 2020:**

Dear Parent/ Carer,

As we conclude this most unusual of summer terms, I would like to draw your attention to the following services and themes for your information.

The increase in young peoples' screen time was inevitable as learning became remote and we socially distanced ourselves from one another. With this in mind please check your child's Tik Tok, Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp on a regular basis. If you see any reference to BLUE WHALE anywhere, please be aware that this is a site where young people are being manipulated into completing 'challenges' which involve acts of violence and self harm and get increasingly more dangerous. The advice is to delete and block this. Please report any online concerns directly to [CEOP](#) or us via our Whisper button at the bottom of the school webpage: [REPORT A CONCERN](#).

During the holidays, we will still be monitoring safeguarding communications and providing ongoing support to parents and pupils. If during the holidays, you have a non-urgent safeguarding concern, you are welcome to email us at: [\*\*summersafeguarding2020@hdhs.school\*\*](mailto:summersafeguarding2020@hdhs.school). Please bear in mind that we may not be able to respond immediately. If there are any urgent matters that require an instant response, please refer to the government's support and guidance link: [Advice to parents and carers on keeping children safe from abuse and harm](#).

Finally, there are also local agencies available to provide immediate support where appropriate:

- Teentalk 01255 504800 [www.teentalk1@hotmail.co.uk](http://www.teentalk1@hotmail.co.uk)
- Family Operations Hub 03456037627
- Essex Police 101/999

We hope you and your families are safe and well and we look forward to welcoming you back to school in September.

Yours faithfully,

J. W. Loten  
Deputy Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead