

A Young Person's Guide to Understanding our Safeguarding Policy

We want you to feel safe, valued and respected during your time with SOHK. This guide outlines some key parts of our safeguarding policy, so you can understand how we are working towards this. The full policy can be read at www.schoolofhardknocks.org.uk/policies-and-reports

It is important that you know:

- You have a right to be kept safe
- What we are supposed to do to keep you safe
- How to protect yourself and stay safe
- How you can get help if you need it

SOHK Staff

Anyone working for SOHK is expected to:

- Keep you safe during sessions
- Be a positive role model and treat everyone fairly
- Understand different types of abuse and harm and their responsibilities for reporting any concerns

SOHK Staff should not:

- Form personal relationships with any pupils, or contact you outside of school
- Be aggressive, threatening, embarrass or bully you, or touch you inappropriately
- Take photos or videos without your consent

If you have any complaints or concerns about SOHK staff, you can email info@schoolofhardknocks.org.uk

Abuse and Harm

SOHK staff are really passionate about keeping you safe while you are with us and trying to help you be as safe as possible outside the school environment.

It is important you understand what types of abuse and harm are, so that you can recognise these in yourselves and others. Types of abuse include: physical (hurting you), sexual (being pressurised, forced or tricked into sexual activity), emotional (seriously and deliberately hurting your feelings), neglect (not giving you your basic needs, like food & clothes). Other types of harmful behaviour toward children can include: bullying & cyber-bullying, gang-related initiations and activities, discrimination.

For more information on all of these and what you can do about them, visit www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety.

What happens if I tell SOHK?

If you decide to speak to SOHK staff about any abuse or harm that you or someone else is facing, SOHK staff will:

- Listen carefully, take you seriously and not grill you with questions
- Ensure that you or the person in question gets the help you need
- Need to pass this information on to your school safeguarding team, or in an emergency, the police

Other sources of help

You can contact Childline to get help and advice about anything from abuse and bullying to exam stress and relationships. Visit www.childline.org.uk or call 0800 1111.

You should contact the Police by calling 999 if you or anybody else is in any sort of danger.