

Safeguarding Snapshot - 28.03.25

Talking to your child about sexual harassment

Talking to children about sexual harassment is important for ensuring they understand boundaries, respect, and how to protect themselves. Here's some advice for parents on how to approach this sensitive topic:

Start to conversations early

It is important to discuss body boundaries and respect from an early age, using age-appropriate language. Talk to your child about their body and how it belongs to them, and that they should never feel uncomfortable or pressured to touch others or be touched in ways they don't like.

Define Sexual Harassment

Explain what sexual harassment is in simple, clear terms. It can be touching, comments, jokes, or actions that make someone feel uncomfortable, threatened, or unsafe. Teach them that harassment can happen at school, in public spaces or online.

Use Examples

Use real-life situations that are age-appropriate to explain different types of harassment. This can help children recognize behaviors that are inappropriate, such as unwanted comments, touching, or being forced to do something against their will.

Address Boundaries

Explain the importance of respecting others' personal space and boundaries. Make sure they know that no one has the right to touch them inappropriately, and they have the right to say no at any time if someone makes them feel uncomfortable.

Empower Them to Speak Up

Encourage your child to tell you or another trusted adult if something happens that makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe. Emphasise that they are not to blame for harassment, and they should not be afraid to speak out.

Reinforce Consent

Talk to them about consent: that it is not only about physical touch, but also about verbal and emotional boundaries. Emphasise that consent is important in all types of relationships, whether they are friendships, family interactions, or future romantic relationships..

Online Safety

Discuss online harassment and inappropriate behaviour on the internet. Teach them how to recognise harmful behaviour online, how to protect their privacy, and the importance of reporting anything uncomfortable to a trusted adult.

If you have any questions or need further support, please email your child's Year Leader or a member of the safeguarding team via office@vynersschool.org.uk.

Additional resources

- [Action for children - Parent Talk - How to talk to your child about sexual harassment.](#)
- [Childline- Sexual Harassment](#)