

## Safeguarding Update - March 2022

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Hi everyone

I hope you are all well and remembering to indulge in some self care as the term moves on and we head towards assessments and exams.

### **Time to Talk Day**

Thank you to everyone who got involved in this year's Time to Talk day that we held last half term. Although it was a particular day to highlight the importance of talking about mental health, I would encourage you to do so all the time. Continue to look out for your friends and family and speak to us at college if you are struggling. Just a reminder that all pastoral tutors, the safeguarding team, learning support assistants and Lin Bingley have completed mental health first aid or mental health champion training. Also 3 of our teachers, Elisha Burner, Joe Black Ardy and Sam Price, have recently completed mental health awareness training.

Our next national event is Mental Health Awareness week 9 - 13 May which we are already planning for. We would like to have activities running all week so please get in touch with me if there is anything you would like us to consider. We are hoping for the return of the therapy dogs in college that week so watch this space!

### **Mental health peer support training**

In total 32 students took part in the training. We do have recordings of both sessions, so e-mail Lisa Watson [lisa.watson@wsfc.ac.uk](mailto:lisa.watson@wsfc.ac.uk) if you missed one or both and would like the recorded version. It is great to know that students are able to support their peers. You may see some of our students wearing yellow MH Ambassador lanyards around college. Please do speak to them if you need any help or just want to talk to someone.

### **Survey about sexual harassment**

Before Christmas we sent out a survey about sexual harassment and 313 of you responded. The survey asked you to consider whether you knew what form sexual harassment could take, whether you had experienced or witnessed sexual harassment and, if so, whether this was reported. Whilst it is positive that those of you who said that you had experienced or witnessed sexual harassment felt that the College

responded appropriately, it is disappointing that 81% said the incident had not been reported.

As a consequence of your feedback and, further to discussion with our student Safeguarding Focus Group, we have been able to identify the following priorities:

- Promoting ways to report sexual harassment so that everyone feels confident that any concerns will be taken seriously by the College;
- Installing CCTV in the cafeteria
- Delivering tutorials on sexual harassment, healthy relationships and consent
- Offering personal safety sessions later this term
- Working in partnership with local schools and colleges, the Sports Centre, Police, a local Councillor and Worcester's Safer Streets team.

If you would like to discuss safeguarding issues that affect you or the student body more generally and you would be interested in joining the student focus group or in finding out more, please email me ([julie.ferman@wsfc.ac.uk](mailto:julie.ferman@wsfc.ac.uk)).



**Report bullying, harassment or victimisation**

At Worcester Sixth Form College we will not tolerate any form of bullying, harassment or victimisation. Always REPORT by doing any of the following:

- > tell a tutor, a Head of Year or any member of college staff
- > tell Julie Ferman (DSL) [julie.ferman@wsfc.ac.uk](mailto:julie.ferman@wsfc.ac.uk)
- > use the reporting tool on our website in the safeguarding tab or scan the code here >>



Bullying, harassment or victimisation In the community:

- > Visit police online ([www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk) - click 'Report')
- > Call police 101 or if you are in immediate danger call 999
- > On a train or at a station? Text 61016. Include the nature of the incident, the location and the time.

You can also report online abuse using the CEOP button on social media platforms.



## Knife Angel, Worcester

And finally.... as many of you will be aware, the Knife Angel is in Worcester in Cathedral Square until the end of March. The Knife Angel is a national

monument against knife crime, violence and aggression. The sculpture, made from over 100,000 seized blades, was specifically created to highlight the negative effects of violent behaviour whilst solidifying our critical need for social change. Not only does the Angel act as a catalyst for turning the tide on violent and aggressive behaviour, but it also acts as a beautiful memorial designed to celebrate those lives who have been lost through these violent and thoughtless actions. It is an incredible, thought-provoking sight so please go and see this if you can. See the below poster and click on the button to see the events timetable and find out more about this and the events planned in Worcester this month.

**THE KNIFE ANGEL WORCESTER**  
**1 - 31 MARCH 2022**

Worcester City Council welcomes all to come and visit this beautiful monument located in Cathedral Square

Worcester City Council is delighted to welcome the Knife Angel to Worcester, the national monument against knife crime, violence, and aggression. Whilst on display, we have several local organisations joining us in a marquee next to the Angel (please see events timetable for more details).

Held in the Cathedrals Undercroft Learning Centre, we have also put together education workshops for local schools to take part in.

Two dates to keep in your diary:

**YOUTH DAY**  
**SATURDAY 19 MARCH**  
From 12 noon to 4pm Cathedral Square we welcome any young person, families, and passers-by to join us for our very own Youth Day where we have planned a whole host of free interactive games and entertainment. Check out our event planner for more details.

**A REMEMBRANCE VIGIL**  
**WEDNESDAY 30 MARCH**  
To say farewell to the Knife Angel, there will be a gathering at 6pm to remember all the lives lost nationwide to knife crime. Everyone is welcome to join this moving moment, which will last for around 15 minutes.

If you would like any more information on the Knife Angel please email [ann.nicholls@worcester.gov.uk](mailto:ann.nicholls@worcester.gov.uk) or call 07788570288

 Worcester CITY COUNCIL

[Knife Angel Events Calendar](#)

Take care and stay safe

Julie Ferman

Senior Lead for Student Wellbeing, DSL & Head of Year