



Maidstone Grammar School
for Girls

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How MGGS Keeps You
Safe in School

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A forward-thinking community with a tradition of excellence



How MGGS Keeps You Safe In School

MGGS is our school and we want it to be a safe place for everybody who works or studies here. Staff at MGGS will do everything they can to make sure you are protected and happy. This document is to help you understand how we aim to keep you safe in school and to help you decide what could be a “problem” and whom you should talk to.

All staff at school will do their utmost to:

- Protect you from harm
- Make sure nothing stops you being healthy or developing properly
- Make sure you are safely looked after
- Make sure you have the best life chances and can grow up happy and successful.

Staff will make the school a friendly, welcoming and supportive place to spend time in – somewhere you want to be; will be there for you to talk to if you need to and know who to ask for help; will give you safe messages during your time in school to help you learn how to look after yourself both online and in the real world, and will have all the right rules in place to look after you.

What is Abuse?

When someone hurts you it can be called abuse. This is when someone does something to you, including online, that is harmful, unpleasant or painful such as:

- If someone deliberately hits you, hurts you, injures you or humiliates you in different ways.
- If someone regularly says or does something that makes you feel bad about yourself or hurts your feelings which makes you feel scared, sad, upset or frightened.
- If someone shouts, threatens, hits or hurts someone you love whilst you are around which makes you scared, unhappy or worried.
- If someone doesn't take proper care of you: so you feel abandoned, lonely or neglected. You might not be able to eat or wash regularly, or you might not be able to come to school every day or on time.
- If someone touches you in a way that you don't like, or which makes you feel uncomfortable or worried.
- If someone makes you look at things which make you feel ashamed, embarrassed, uncomfortable or guilty. They may ask you to keep it a secret or give you presents.

Child on Child Abuse

Child on child abuse can be motivated by perceived difference e.g. on grounds of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability or other difference. It can result in you feeling isolated, intimidated and afraid. Child on child abuse can take form in different ways, physical, sexual, emotional, financial or controlling behaviour between children both online and face to face. If you are concerned about the actions of another student and are feeling afraid, speak to a member of the safeguarding team. Do not brush it off as banter or someone having a laugh.



Remember: abuse is *never* OK and if you are being or have been abused **it is not your fault**. You must always tell someone and they will help it to stop. You can also report a safeguarding concern via the school website

<https://www.mggs.org/key-information/contact-us/>

In And Out Of School

All of the staff at MGGS will aim to make sure the building is safe for you to learn in and spend time in. We will make sure that we know who everyone is in the school by asking visitors to sign in at reception. You will always know who a visitor to the school is because they will have signed in at reception and will display a lanyard which will be around their neck. The buildings, outside areas and fields will be as safe as they can be for you so that you don't hurt yourself, although accidents can happen if you are not careful! If the fire alarm goes off, or if the school needs to 'secure the building' you should know what to do and where to go. When you leave school to go on a trip, the staff will make sure they keep you safe.

What We Will Do

At MGGS we will help you to keep safe in the following ways:

- We will do our best to spot if there is a problem. All of the staff in the school have had training in this.
- We will work with other people (including parents and carers) to help protect you and solve any problems you may have.
- We will always listen to you if you want to talk to us and need our help. We will always take you seriously.
- We will support and encourage you and will respect your wishes and views, and will provide information and advice whenever appropriate or necessary.

At MGGS you can talk to any member of staff, but you should know that there are a number of staff who are responsible for making sure you are safe and well cared for.

People in school who can help you:

- Mr Walker (Designated Safeguarding Lead - office is in the Maths Corridor) and/or Mrs Cox (Safeguarding Manager - office is in the Helen Keen Building)
- Any member of the Leadership Team
- Your Head of Study
- Your Form Tutor
- Learning Mentors
- Your subject teachers

Do not be scared to tell someone straight away if you are worried about your own safety or well-being or that of a friend. We will always listen.



In school MGGS support

Speak to your form tutor/ Head of Study or a trusted member of staff.

Speak to The Hub Team

Speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team or refer [online](#)

Referral to in school mentoring

Referral to in school counselling

PSHE days and Personal Development curriculum

Attendance to a variety of enrichment and wellbeing clubs

Useful Numbers and Websites

External support

[Young Minds](#)

Tools to look after your mental health. We empower adults to be the best support they can be to the young people in their lives. And we give young people the space to get their voices heard.

[Childline](#)

Get help and advice about a wide range of issues, call on 0800 1111, talk to a counsellor online, send **Childline** an email or post on the message boards.

<https://www.kooth.com/>

At Kooth, our sole purpose is to create easy to access online mental health services that work alongside a young person to provide compassionate and effective support.

[Mind](#) the mental health charity. We're here to make sure no one has to face mental health problems alone.

[Mood spark](#) is a place where young people can learn how to look after their emotional and mental health and find ways to help bounce back when life gets tough.

[Papyrus](#)

A UK charity dedicated to the prevention of suicide and the promotion of positive mental health and emotional wellbeing in young people.

[Young Minds Parents Helpline](#)

You can seek support aimed directly at parents by contacting the Helpline on 0808 802 5544, Monday - Friday 9:30am - 4:00pm.

[Kent Youth Health](#)



Kent Youth Health has lots of information and resources on feelings, sex, health and relationships for teenagers in Kent.