



**CONFIDENTIALITY
AT RGS:
GUIDANCE FOR
STUDENTS**





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Newcastle upon Tyne Royal Grammar School

SEE ALSO COMPLAINTS POLICY

Sometimes your concerns might be medical or very personal. You can be sure that the staff you talk to will be sensitive and not shocked by what you say. You should approach anyone whom you feel you can trust and are comfortable talking with. Anything you say will be treated with discretion and things will be kept private.

Sometimes you may tell us information which we will have to pass on to other professionals to support you effectively. If this is the case, we will tell you what is happening and who will have access to the information. Depending on your age, maturity and nature of the problem, **WE ARE NOT OBLIGED** to pass on information to your parents, although we will encourage you to talk to them and can help you start the conversation with them if you wish.

You may hear the term *safeguarding* used in connection to student welfare or pastoral care. Safeguarding refers to the policies and procedures in place to protect or safeguard students from significant hurt or harm including bullying, sexting, mental ill-health and sexual exploitation, as well as a result of sexual, physical, emotional abuse or neglect. Safeguarding you is our top priority and if you or someone you know needs help to stay safe we will do what we can to assist you and discuss confidentiality with you if this is part of the problem. You can use Tootoot as a means of confidentially communicating your concerns to someone at school.

The doctor, nurses and counsellors in school have professional codes of confidentiality that means that you can be sure they will not break your confidence, unless you are at **SIGNIFICANT** risk of harm.

If you know someone is being hurt in some way then it is important that you tell someone about what is happening so that they can help it to stop. Remember, it is not your fault if you are being hurt; whoever is hurting you is to blame.

The person responsible for making sure your concerns are dealt with is **MISS LONGVILLE, THE DEPUTY HEAD (PASTORAL)**. Her official role in this area is **DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD (DSL)**. She is based in the Heads of Year office and she is happy to talk to you at any time.



CONTACT DETAILS

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