



Stay Safe @ Upton

LEARNER SAFEGUARDING BULLETIN • OCTOBER 2026

FOCUS: HATE SPEECH & STAYING SAFE

HATE SPEECH HAS NO PLACE IN OUR SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY

What is hate speech?

Hate speech is language that attacks, insults or encourages hostility towards people because of who they are or are perceived to be. It may involve racism, antisemitism, anti-Muslim hatred, sexism, misogyny, homophobia, biphobia, transphobia or abuse linked to disability. It can happen face-to-face, in messages, on social media or in gaming chats.

Not every hurtful comment is a crime, but prejudice-based bullying, threats and harassment can cause serious harm. We take these concerns seriously.

What can you do if you see or hear it?

- **Do not join in.** Do not laugh, repeat hateful words, like or repost abusive content.
- **Speak up safely.** If it feels safe, say "That's not OK" or offer support to the person targeted. Do not put yourself at risk.
- **Report it.** Tell your Form Tutor, Head of Year, Pastoral Support Manager or any trusted member of staff. You can report something that happened to someone else.
- **If it happens online,** stop engaging, block and report the account, and keep messages or screenshots if safe to do so. Do not share hateful or extremist content more widely.

How does this link to Prevent?

Some extremist individuals or groups use hateful messages, conspiracy theories or online communities to divide people and draw them towards supporting terrorism. Be cautious if someone pressures you to hate a group, glorify violence or engage with extremist material. Tell a trusted adult if you are worried about yourself or someone else.

Important: Having different views, practising a religion or asking difficult questions does not mean someone is being radicalised. We should never make assumptions about a person's identity or beliefs.

If you are targeted or worried about someone

You deserve to feel safe and respected. Tell an adult you trust, even if you are unsure whether what happened "counts". We will listen, take the concern seriously and explain what happens next. Staff may need to share information with safeguarding colleagues to keep people safe.

WHO CAN I SPEAK TO AT UPTON?

Any trusted adult • Form Tutor • Head of Year • Pastoral Support Manager

Mr Keegan – Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) | Mr Rutter – Deputy DSL

Outside school: Hate crimes can be reported through True Vision at www.report-it.org.uk or to the police on 101. In an emergency, call 999.

WE WILL LISTEN TO YOU, TAKE YOU SERIOUSLY AND HELP YOU STAY SAFE

