7. EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL SAFETY AT SCHOOL

Rationale
Schools are required by law to provide a safe environment for all students.

Purpose
- To outline how we provide a safe environment for students.
- To ensure students are aware of what to do if they feel unsafe or are aware of others who are unsafe.
- To provide an environment where staff and students can ask for help.

Guidelines
- A safe environment is actively built and maintained by staff acting ethically and maintaining a strong duty of care, with the support of pastoral, restorative and punitive processes as applicable.
- A safe environment is also actively built and maintained through regular promotion and explanation of the School Values (in particular "*We respect each other*" and "*We treat all people fairly*") and School Rules (as outlined in the Student Handbook).
- Students are advised regularly in assemblies, Health programmes or individual guidance sessions:
  - About keeping themselves safe
  - About valuing themselves as individuals
  - About acceptable and non-acceptable behavior/communication – to them and by them
  - To **speak up** if they are being harassed or abused.

Procedures
- Health programmes will identify good communication practices. Students will be made aware of helping networks within the school, through assemblies and health programmes.
- Staff of all levels will use restorative and/or punitive processes as appropriate.
- Any form of bullying (emotional, physical, racial, sexual, text or cyber etc.) is regarded as unacceptable and dealt with both by working with the offender and supporting the victim.
- School Values and Rules are clearly communicated and regularly promoted.
- Parents/volunteers on overnight trips will be safety checked.
- Staff are made aware of professional boundaries.
- On site Contractors likely to spend unsupervised time with children during school hours will be Police vetted.

Ratified by Board of Trustees
25th July 2019