

This is a link that was sent from the safeguarding team. It may be of interest.

With just a week to go until [Safer Internet Day](#) on **9th February** – this year the UK Safer Internet Safety team has come up with some ways for schools and other settings to [celebrate remotely](#). They have also come up with safeguarding advice for educators who are celebrating the Day either in school or remotely <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/safeguarding-safer-internet-day-posh-helpline>

The Public Health Agency NI continues to promote the **Psychological First Aid Programme** for use with pupils, parents or staff as needed. The resources and e-learning webinar helps individuals and teams to support people with whom they are in contact during and after the COVID 19 pandemic. It is designed for anyone to use – not needing any special skills or training – just following some basic humane steps <https://www.hsclearning.com/course/view.php?id=1042>

We know from police statistics and other sources that the incidences of **domestic abuse** increased significantly over previous lockdowns. You may have noticed posters at bus stops and billboards across NI raising awareness about this. A UK wide launch of an additional ‘lifeline’ to victims was launched in January - a **pharmacy ASK FOR ANI codeword scheme**. Currently all Boots pharmacies have signed up to the scheme and independent pharmacies are being encouraged to join. Essentially the scheme offers those at risk or experiencing domestic abuse to signal that they need help in pharmacies that display the ‘Ask for ANI’ [poster](#). By asking for ANI, a trained pharmacy worker will offer a safe space for victims to sound an alarm if they are isolated at home with their abuser and unable to get help in any other way <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pharmacies-launch-codeword-scheme-to-offer-lifeline-to-domestic-abuse-victims> Please pass this information on to all staff.

The HSC Regional Integrated Support for Education NI (RISE NI) has launched a [RISE NI website for Parents](#) – giving access to information, useful leaflets, how to contact the team and how to access a parenting programme. This might be very useful to the share with parents and as a resource for the Safeguarding team and SENCO.

And finally, BARNARDOS has launched a new [Barnardo’s Education Community](#) website – to help in supporting pupils during the pandemic. There are some free

helpful bitesize 'how to' videos, staff wellbeing ideas, and training event opportunities.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that our virtual training schedule continues and our **CPSS HELPLINE (028 95985590)** is available every weekday from 9:00 -4:30 for any safeguarding issue you wish to discuss – however small or pressing.