

St Mark's Catholic School

Safeguarding Bulletin



Issue 145 - 9th October 2026

Racism is a Safeguarding Issue

At St. Mark's, safety extends beyond physical protection. It fundamentally encompasses emotional well-being, identity and belonging. Racist behaviour is a direct safeguarding risk. Every student has the right to learn free from discrimination, prejudice, and fear.

Black History Month & School Assemblies

To coincide with Black History Month, we are re-affirming our complete commitment to being an active Anti-Racist School. Anti-racism requires us to proactively challenge stereotypes, educate our community, and respond decisively to any form of targeted bullying.

Anti-Racism Assemblies

This week all year groups will participate in anti-racism assemblies focused on:

- Understanding racism.
- The impact of microaggressions and language.
- Empowerment: Moving from bystander to active ally.
- How our school acts on reported concerns.

Student Guidance: Standing Up Against Racism

We empower all students to foster an environment where everyone feels safe and celebrated:

If you Experience Racism

- **You are not to blame:** Racism is never acceptable
- **Reach out:** Talk to an adult you trust immediately
- **Keep evidence:** Save messages or screenshots if online
- **Know your voice matters:** Action will be taken

How to be an Active Ally

- **Speak up safely:** Call out unfair treatment if safe to do so
- **Support peers:** Stand alongside those targeted
- **Report it:** Tell a member of staff or use our online portal
- **Include others:** Champion belonging in daily routines

**BUILDING A SAFE,
INCLUSIVE & ANTI-RACIST SCHOOL**

Remember: No concern is too small. If something feels wrong, hurtful, or unfair, tell us immediately.

HOW STUDENTS CAN REPORT CONCERNS

Three Easy Ways to Report Racist Incidents or Bullying

1

Any Staff Member

Talk to your Form Tutor, PPL, Teacher, or any trusted adult in school



2

Safeguarding Team

Report concerns to any member of the safeguarding team



3

Online Reporting System

Submit an online report via the link on Google Classroom



Parent & Carer Guidance: Partnering with Us

Parents play a crucial role in promoting anti-racism and supporting children to navigate sensitive conversations. Below are key recommendations grounded in anti-bullying research:

Open Conversations at Home

- **Discuss current issues:** Use Black History Month as a catalyst to talk about culture, diversity, and equality.
- **Listen actively:** Create a safe space for your child to express feelings about racial fairness or incidents observed.
- **Model inclusive behavior:** Reinforce respect and empathy in daily conversations and media consumption.

If Your Child Reports an Incident

- **Reassure them:** Validate their experience and assure them that the school takes racism seriously.
- **Gather details:** Note down dates, names, locations, or online content where applicable.
- **Contact us immediately:** Inform the PPL or Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) directly.