



PSHE Education

STOKE-ON-TRENT & STAFFORDSHIRE

VIOLENT DISORDER - SPECIAL

WHY?

Whilst PSHE education should follow a planned programme, we recognise that PSHE and Citizenship provide space and opportunity for timely support for children and young people when difficult and upsetting things happen in our world.

Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, we have recently seen local disorder, including violent attacks on police colleagues and arson attacks on hotels that host asylum seekers. The BBC reports that the violent disorder in towns and cities since Tuesday 30th July - the day after three young girls were killed in Southport - is due to false claims on social media that someone who had arrived in the UK illegally was the alleged suspect.

We wanted to provide further information, advice and resources to help professionals manage conversations with children and young people about these events and also increase digital literacy to help children and young people identify misinformation and fake news.

BEST PRACTICE - SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

It is important that we create a safe learning environment to support children and young people to engage with the news safely. [Our best practice guidance document](#) provides advice on how to create and maintain a safe learning environment in the classroom to help children and young people to engage effectively.

RESOURCES

As with all of the resources we share, please check the suitability for your own setting before using them.

- [Extremism & PSHE](#) - For professionals delivering PSHE, showing the links between extremism and the curriculum, develop subject knowledge around extremism
- [Communities & PSHE](#) - For professionals delivering PSHE, showing the links between communities and the curriculum, develop subject knowledge around communities
- [Pan-Staffordshire PSHE Education Service and USAH](#) - Spiral curriculum on Hate Crime, one lesson per Key Stage that explores Hate Crime can be found in the resource library under Similarities and Differences (prejudice and discrimination) - sign up to the resource library is required, this is free and gives access to hundreds of resources.
- [NYA](#) - Speak Out Toolkit - creating safe spaces to challenge narratives of division and hatred
- [Educate Against Hate](#) - Recommended by the Department for Education
- [Topical Talk](#) - News and media literacy resources suitable for young people aged 10+.
- [Childnet](#) - Digital Leaders Programme, empowers children to educate their peers about online safety.
- [Digital Matters](#) - a range of lesson plans to support online safety

Check out the [Resource Library](#) Online Safety, Extremism and Similarities and Differences for more age-appropriate, quality-assured resources.

MANAGING EMOTIONS

[Action for Children](#) is the commissioned provider for Staffordshire and provide funded workshops for schools across the county to help children and young people to manage their emotions.

[Stay Well - Changes YP](#) is the commissioned provider for Stoke-on-Trent and provide funded workshops for schools across the county to help children and young people to manage their emotions.

[The Guardian Foundation](#) has a, PSHE Association Quality Assured, lesson plan on Managing Feelings about the News. This is suitable for 7-11 years old.

PARENTS AND CARERS

- [Fake news, facts and questions guide for parents/carers](#) from Internet Matters aims to help parents/carers teach their children to develop digital literacy and critical thinking
- UK Safer Internet Centre has a guide for parents and carers on [Supporting critical thinking and reliability online](#)
- [BBC Bitesize](#) provide information to help talk to children and young people about Fake News

AGE APPROPRIATE NEWS SOURCES

The following news sites provide stories on current affairs in an age-appropriate way, not just on this topic but in general.

- [Newsround](#) - Discusses the arrests that have been made following violence across the UK.
- [First News Live](#) - free weekly news broadcast presented by young people made by Sky News and First News

TOP TIPS FOR UNDERSTANDING/SHARING INFORMATION ONLINE

With thanks to RBL Safeguarding:

- Source - make sure the story is written by a source you trust, with a reputation for accuracy. Consider the credibility of the person/organisation making the statement.
- Headline - always read beyond the headline, if it sounds unbelievable, it probably is. Headlines are there to draw us in - sometimes they are sensationalized or completely wrong
- Analyse - make sure you check the facts, seeing the same story several times does not make it true,. Use fact checking website and other reliable sources to help.
- Retouched - check if it looks like an image could or has been manipulated. AI and Deepfakes can look extremely real. Think about the context, sometimes the image is real but has been taken out of context.
- Error - Many false news stories have phony or lookalike URLs. Check for spelling, grammar.