

## Safeguarding

In these unusual and difficult times, we need to be as aware of our safeguarding responsibilities as always.

With the country being on lockdown, so many people will be finding things more stressful than normal and may be struggling with anxiety. Anxiety UK have lots of really helpful information on their website so if you or someone you know is struggling, or even have a specific 'coronxiety' there is a page with helpful links and webinars at <https://www.anxietyuk.org.uk/>.

Unfortunately, the lockdown has also meant that people who may be in an abusive relationship may be locked in their homes with their abuser. The National Domestic Abuse Hotline has reported a 25% increase in calls since the beginning of Covid-19, and in April, The Guardian newspaper reported at least 16 suspected domestic abuse killings since the beginning of lockdown. If you need help, or know of someone who needs help, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-and-domestic-abuse/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-victims-of-domestic-abuse>.

In an emergency, please always dial 999.

For those of you working in a school, it is also important to keep an eye on any vulnerable pupils or their families. The government has put together some guidance on this on supporting these families, which can be found [here](#).

If you do have any safeguarding concerns, please do get in touch with our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Tara Marciniak, on 07925 691029.