MULLION SCHOOL Safeguarding Newsletter

November 2023



News on SNAPCHAT - AI CHATBOT

Does your child have Snapchat? Did you know that Snapchat have introduced an Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbot called My AI? It is designed to help users with their with various tasks through their messaging section in the Snapchat app. However, this comes with some safeguarding concerns. My AI is a computer program designed to have conversations and dialogue with users like a person. As you input information, either by typing or speaking, it responds to you. If you ask it a question, it searches available databases, gathers information, and formulates a response. As you engage with My AI, it grows in knowledge and becomes more specific to your interests and interactions. There can be a huge impact on mental health as users begin to consider this to be a real person. Get more information by following this link:

https://www.childnet.com/blog/snapchats-new-ai-chatbot-and-its-impact-on-young-people/

Just before half term, Years 10 and 11 had a visiting speaker come to deliver a presentation called 'SMASHED'. It educated them on the effects of alcohol and binge drinking. This has been followed up with lessons on Psychoactive Substances (NPS) and risk taking behaviour. For more information, follow this link https://www.unodc.org/LSS/Page/NPS

An excellent organisation for supporting young people with drugs and alcohol issues is YZUP:

www.wearewithyou.org.uk



In PSHE, Year 11 are receiving a series of lessons on mental health. We have been discussing the different strategies they can use to improve their own mental health which includes getting outside, exercising and eating healthily.

If you know of anyone who would benefit from talking to someone, KOOTH is a good starting point.



Anti-bullying week - 13th November 2023

In tutor time this week, pupils will be engaging with resources from the Anti-Bullying Alliance. This year the focus is on 'BANTER' and the fact that banter can turn into something really hurtful and upsetting. We will also be discussing not standing by and being silent when witnessing bullying or banter.

At home, please discuss how 'banter' can be hurtful and upsetting and is a form of bullying.





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