

# Congleton High School Victim Support Policy



## **Background**

At Congleton High School we believe that any student who is unfortunate enough to be caught up in an incident that was not of their making, but never the less resulted in injury or upset, should be assured of appropriate support.

The school prides itself on being a friendly school where bullying is rare, however this ethos can only be maintained where there is an understanding that victims will be listened to, supported and given appropriate strategies to cope in the time immediately after the incident.

Congleton High School recognises that supporting the victim, both at the time of the initial disclosure and immediately afterwards is the only way all members of our community will feel safe, remain safe and do all that they can to help others feel equally safe.

## **Scope of the Guidelines**

A victim is described as anyone who is harmed, physically or mentally by an act, situation or circumstance.

Any student who is a victim, or perceives they are a victim, can expect to be supported by these guidelines.

## **Support Systems available at Congleton High School**

### **Form Tutor**

In all cases the Form Tutor is the first and main means of support available to students in school and is the first point of contact for parents.

### **Guidance Team Leader**

The Guidance Team Leader (GTL) will maintain an overview approach towards the care, guidance and support of their own year group. They will support the Tutor in their role where a situation involves students from more than one Tutor Group.

### **Learning Mentor Team**

The members of the Learning Mentor Team provide the On-Call system and, as such, are likely to be involved initially with any reported incident in which a student may need support. However, the team will also accept referrals from the GTLs for targeted support for students, including, victim support.

### **Head of Year Seven Student Services**

The Head of Year Seven Student Services also leads the Learning Mentor Team and will support students where an outside agency referral may be required.

### **Assistant Head – Care Guidance and Support**

The role of the Assistant Head with responsibility for Care, Guidance and Support is to direct the investigation of a serious incident, confirm decisions made concerning consequences, make recommendations to the Headteacher about more serious sanctions and also to ensure that all students involved receive appropriate support, sufficient to meet their needs.

### **Outside Agency Referral**

Where necessary, a referral for additional support can be made to appropriate outside agencies. The Head of Year Seven Student Services will do this, once an Assessment of Need has been completed.

**Parental Support**

Parents are the main means of support for any student outside school and Congleton High School will work closely with parents to support them. Parents requesting additional support should do this via the Tutor.

**Individual Support Plans**

Appropriate support will be offered to all students who are involved in a situation, not of their making, who suffer injury or upset. The nature of the support will be tailored to the individual student's needs and will be provided following discussion with both the student and the student's parents. The details of the support provided will be written into a Care Plan and copies made available to the student, parents and appropriate members of staff. A copy will also be kept on the student's file.

**Useful Links**

[www.victimsupport.org](http://www.victimsupport.org)

[www.are-you-ok.org.uk](http://www.are-you-ok.org.uk)

[www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk)



Congleton High School - Care Plan

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Start Date:</b>	<b>Area of Concern:</b>
<b>Year:</b>	<b>Review Date:</b>	<b>Care Plan:</b>
<b>Target(s):</b>	<b>Strategies for use in school:</b>	<b>Role of Parent(s)/Carer(s):</b>
<b>Success Criteria:</b>	<b>Outside Agencies:</b>	<b>Agreed by:</b>
		<b>Date:</b>