

# OLDHAM COUNCIL



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Head teacher  
Mr M Roberts

## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2023

Dear Parent/carer,

Please find details of some of the main reports and 'other' relevant information at Limehurst and the wider Community. This also includes information in regard Oldham 'winter' support packages:

### Hate incidents, hate harassment, and hate crime.

**It is with great sadness and disappointment that I have to detail a report of a hate incident that has taken place on the school grounds.**

I take this opportunity to remind parents and carers that Limehurst is a Multicultural School. We provide multicultural education which is a set of educational strategies developed to provide pupils with knowledge about the histories, cultures, and contributions of diverse groups. **At Limehurst we celebrate difference and condemn ALL forms of hate, as defined below:**

**A hate crime is any behaviour that someone thinks was caused by hostility, prejudice, or hatred of:**

- Disability (including physical impairments, Mental Health problems, learning disabilities, hearing, and visual impairment)
- Gender identity (people who are transgender, transsexual or transvestite)
- Race, skin colour, nationality, ethnicity, or heritage
- Religion, faith, or belief (including people without a religious belief)
- Sexual Orientation (people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or heterosexual)
- Alternative Subculture/ Lifestyle (the way a person looks or dresses) - Groups that are described as subcultures often include punk rockers, ravers, metalheads, goths, emo and indie.

There are lots of several types of hate crimes. These could include:

- Physical attacks - such as physical assault, damage to property, offensive graffiti, neighbour disputes, and arson.
- Threat of attack – including offensive letters, abusive or obscene telephone calls or text messages, groups hanging around to intimidate and unfounded, malicious complaints.



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- Verbal abuse or insults – offensive leaflets and posters, abusive gestures, offensive and derogatory comments, and/or name calling, dumping of rubbish outside homes or through letterboxes and bullying at school or in the workplace.

A victim is any person who is subjected to a hate motivated incident or crime. A victim is also someone who witnesses another person being subjected to a hate motivated incident or crime.

A perpetrator or offender is any person who commits acts of hatred against other people because of their race, colour, ethnic origin, nationality, faith or religion, age, gender, sexuality, or disability.

**We state in the strongest possible terms. Limehurst will not tolerate hate in any of its guises. All hate incidents, incidents of hate harassment and hate crimes will be reported to the appropriate bodies, including the Police.**

**A phrase that we use in school may be pertinent: if you have nothing nice to say, just say nothing.**

**You can report a hate crime to any of these agencies:**

Police

- Emergency: In an emergency you should phone 999
- Non-emergency: You can phone Greater Manchester Police on 101 or you can go to any police station.

Stop Hate Helpline

If you do not want to call the police or if you want extra support, you can call the Stop Hate Helpline.

- Phone 0800 138 1625 for the free confidential 24-hour hate crime reporting service.

Further information may be found at:

[https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200321/crime\\_and\\_safety/865/report\\_crime/2](https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200321/crime_and_safety/865/report_crime/2)

## **Mental Health & Wellbeing**

### **Family Information Service Update**

The Family Information Service Online Directory is regularly updated with new services or activities, 128 have been added over the last year.

**Website:** [www.oldham.gov.uk/FIS](http://www.oldham.gov.uk/FIS)

Recently the following two new records were added, these will be useful for sign posting anyone who is experiencing a mental health crisis. Please share the links with Mental Health First Aiders.

- No.93 Crisis Café
- [Bluesci at Night](#)

**Point of contact:** [familyinfo@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:familyinfo@oldham.gov.uk)



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## **ZCard – Here to Help | Winter Campaign**

### **ZCard winter campaign (please see attached information)**

Greater Manchester Integrated Partnership have updated the 'ZCard – Here to Help' which provides details of services in Greater Manchester that can support with mental wellbeing. Hard copies are available from Public Health

**Point of contact:** [Muzamil.Khan@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:Muzamil.Khan@oldham.gov.uk)

### **Family Hubs Website**

The new Family Hubs (0-19 years (0-25 years SEND) website is being regularly updated.

**Website:** [www.familyhubs.oldham.gov.uk](http://www.familyhubs.oldham.gov.uk)

Family Hubs are one-stop-shops for all the family's needs.

Offering a range of services, support and activities including support from maternity and health visitors, infant feeding support, speech and language support, parenting, activities, and lots of help from our partners such as Home-Start, Dad Matters and POINTSEND.

### **Dadly Does It**

Positive fatherhood improves the happiness and life chances of children. That is the key message of a new resource launched in Greater Manchester.

[Unlimited Potential](#), a community benefit society, has been exploring the impact of positive fatherhood in different neighbourhoods for more than ten years.

It has now launched a new resource for both communities and organisations. The [Dadly Does It](#) website shares the key learning, and also offers free resources for local people and professionals to use.

Dadly Does It - funded by the NHS in Salford, the [Lankelly Chase Foundation](#) and [Greater Manchester Combined Authority](#)

### **Stop Loan Sharks Christmas Campaign 2023 #ShopSmartNotShark**

England Illegal Money Lending Team have developed a Christmas campaign toolkit to raise awareness and to stop Loan Sharks.

With the closure of many legal lenders over the past couple of years there is a real fear of more families turning to borrowing from a loan shark, especially over Christmas.

The SLS campaign toolkit gives examples of messages that sign post to support available.

The toolkit provides messages for your social media posts. Add them to your newsletters for staff and families to access. Social media:

- Facebook [#StopLoanSharksEngland](#)
- Instagram [@StopLoanSharksEngland](#)
- LinkedIn [#StopLoanSharksEngland](#)

Do not forget to use [#ShopSmartNotShark](#)



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## The Big Oldham Conversation

Oldham Council are seeking to recruit a group of residents that are representative of the population of Oldham.

- Are you a resident of Oldham? and want to make a difference?
- Are you aged sixteen or over?
- Do you want to represent your community?
- Do you want your views heard by Council decision-makers?

### **How does it work?**

Every so often, you will be contacted to take part in a brief survey, telephone interview, or face-to-face focus group. They will ask you a few questions about your priorities, your views, and experiences, and the kinds of services and support you access in the local area.

The information received is collated and analysed to understand how residents feel about a particular issue. You will remain anonymous and will not be identified in any way.

A report that details all the information and views residents have shared is shared with the relevant service area. This will be crucial in helping to inform their decisions.

### 'Welcome to our building'

**We remind all parents and carers of our 'Welcome to our building' statement. We welcome visitors to our building and act to ensure it remains a safe place for staff and other members of our community. We trust that our respect and politeness will be returned.**

**However, should anyone act in abusive or threatening manner they will be required to leave the building. Further action will be taken and may result in a banning order or Police prosecution.**

### Celebrating Academic Success at Limehurst

**All 'externally' published 2023 academic data has now been validated by the DfE. 2023 was an amazing year for Limehurst but especially in Reading. Our Year 1 and Year 6 children's results were superb. A huge well done to all the pupils involved. Please see attached 'Pupil Achievement 2023' reports for full details.**

### Merry Christmas from Limehurst

**With all our scheduled Nativities and the Nursery activity afternoon now complete, we take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. On a personal note, it was fantastic to see so many former pupils in the audience. It was also great to speak with Fern (school leaver in 2002), Karl (school leaver in 2005) and Melissa (also a school leaver in 2005), all of whom now have their children here at Limehurst.**

Let's work together.

Yours sincerely,

***M Roberts***

**Mark Roberts**  
**Head teacher**



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