



SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2024

Welcome to the latest edition of our Safeguarding newsletter. We hope that you continue to find it useful and informative.

Safeguarding Leads.

Safeguarding is an integral part of school life and it is the responsibility of all involved in the lives of children to ensure that they are safe.

We have three Safeguarding Leads in school at this time – you can contact any one of them to discuss any safeguarding concerns or questions that you may have.

Name	Role	Safeguarding Role
Mrs J. Davies	Acting Head Teacher	Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs S McCurdy	Family Support Worker	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs D Blundell	HLTA/ Whizz Kids	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

As part of our commitment to ensuring staff are kept up to date in their safeguarding awareness all school staff have taken part in safeguarding training around Operation Encompass and the PREVENT duty.

Attendance

Just a reminder that as part of safeguarding procedures, we ask that all parents contact school if their child is absent, please call the school office on **0151 677 4788** and leave a message on the answer machine or email schooloffice@woodchurch-pri.wirral.sch.uk with the reason your child will not be at school. Please be aware, it is also part of our responsibility to ring parents during a child's absence, even if you have notified us of their absence.

All holidays should be requested via the Holiday request form which is available from the school office or can be downloaded from the school website.

In addition, if your child arrives late and needs signing in, we ask that they are accompanied by a parent or adult to the school office.

Online Safety

We are continuing to receive concerns from parents about the use of social media by the children outside of school, particularly across Key Stage 2 in relation to online gaming. Whilst we will continue to work with the children on the importance of e-safety, we encourage all parents to reinforce these messages and ensure that they monitor their children's use. Many of our older children have indicated that there are no parental controls on their devices and gaming consoles – if this is something that as parents you would be interested in us holding some information sessions on, please contact Mrs McCurdy.

We have also had a number of concerns raised about children posting images and videos on social media without the other person's consent. Whilst this may seem like harmless fun, this is extremely serious. In school we address the issue of consent from F2, but also we want children to be aware of the impact it can have on other people.

We would therefore again ask that you remind your children on the importance of not sharing other people's details or adding the children to groups without their permission. Additionally, that they do not post any images or videos without anybody's permission.

Road Safety

Since the start of term there have been a couple of near misses involving cars and children in front of the green outside the main school entrance.

We kindly request that any parents parking or driving in this area are mindful that children may just appear and be extra vigilant. We also ask that cars do not drive up onto the grassy area.

We do try to reinforce road safety messages with the children, but would ask that as parents you could also do this.

Operation Encompass

Earlier in the school year we sent out information to you explaining that as a school we are part of Operation Encompass. This is a scheme that operates jointly between schools and the police.

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced domestic abuse. As a school we will ensure that a member of our staff, known as a Key Adult, has been trained in the Operation Encompass procedures allowing us to then use the information that has been shared, in confidence, to support the child/ren in our care.

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 identifies children who experience domestic abuse as victims of domestic abuse in their own right.