



SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER – MARCH 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

Safeguarding Governor

With the formation of the new Interim Executive Board (IEB) which replaces the school Governing Body, we are pleased to share that our new school Safeguarding Governor is Lynn Campbell. Lynn brings with her a wealth of experience and knowledge in relation to safeguarding. Lynn is The Local Authority's Head of Safeguarding and Quality and the Principal Social Worker for Children's Social Care.

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.

Operation Encompass

Throughout the school year we have sent out information 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 have two members of staff, known as a Key Adults, 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. At Woodchurch CE Primary, the named key adults are Mrs Davies and Mrs Blundell.

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

Arrival to and collection from school.

We politely request that parents remain with their children until the school gates open at 8:45am, We are having an increasing number of younger children who are being dropped off with no adult present when school opens. We do ask that younger children are not left with their older siblings to be seen into school.

We recently contacted you in relation to the end of the school day arrangements. A reminder that if your child is being collected by somebody else, please do let us know. If it is someone we do not recognise or if we have not been informed of collection changes, school staff will contact you as part of our safeguarding procedures.

If your child is not collected at the end of the day and nobody had arrived by 3:40pm, they will be passed over to the care of Whizz Kids.

Online safety

We continue to receive concerns from parents in relation to social media activity by children outside of school. We would again ask that you ensure that parental controls are in place and that you regularly monitor your child's social media activity. We continue to reinforce online safety messages to children and will contact you directly should the need arise.

We ask that you remind your children about the importance of consent. We have had a number of children taking photographs or videoing friends or posting or sharing their friends' details without their permission. Whilst some might see this as harmless fun – there is an important lesson and message here – as those who have been posted without their knowledge or had their details shared, may not see it that way. We continually emphasise with the children the importance of consent and ask that this message is reinforced by yourselves. We thank you in advance for your support with this.