

Safeguarding Newsletter



Summer Term 2019

Our Safeguarding Parent Guide, sent to all parents last term and available from reception or our website, provides information about Safeguarding at Alverton School. The aim of this newsletter is to communicate key information to parents concerning Safeguarding and how as a school we aim to keep you informed to actively promote the safeguarding and welfare of all our pupils.

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Safeguarding means:

- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children and young people have the best outcomes.

Child protection is part of the safeguarding process. It focuses on protecting individual children identified as suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes child protection procedures which detail how to respond to concerns about a child. Safeguarding children and child protection applies to all children up to the age of 18.

What information is available for parents?

Our website has a Safeguarding section, as well as an Online Safeguarding section. These include:

- our Safeguarding and Child Protection policies
- our Safeguarding Parent Guide
- details about Operation Encompass
- information about the Prevent Strategy
- lots of information and guides about keeping children safe online.

We also regularly send out information with the Friday News, particularly about online safety.

We will be holding an online safety workshop for parents in the Autumn Term and we very strongly recommend that as many parents attend this as possible. The online world is continually evolving and changing and it is essential that we keep up with the risks that our children face. This workshop will focus particularly on a range of things that take the children online, including games, apps and social media.

Always remember to check the PEGI rating on the games that your children want to play. **These confirm that the content of the game is suitable for a certain age group and above.** They are not a guide for the difficulty of a game!



Rating	Description
 www.pegi.info	Suitable for persons 3 and older. General audiences.
 www.pegi.info	Suitable for persons 7 and older. Minimal parental guidance.
 www.pegi.info	Suitable for persons 12 and older. Some parental guidance.
 www.pegi.info	Suitable for persons 16 and older. Strong parental guidance.
 www.pegi.info	Only for persons 18 and older. Adults only.

Useful Acronyms and Vocabulary around Safeguarding

CP - Child Protection

DSL - Designated Safeguarding Lead

LADO - Local Authority Designated Officer (deals with position of trust safeguarding issues).

LSCB - Local Safeguarding Children Board

MARU - Multi-Agency Referral Unit

Operation Encompass - the early reporting to schools that a child has been exposed to domestic abuse.

Prevent - Part of the Government's Counter-Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn into extremism.

New Childline Website for Under 12s

Childline has launched a website aimed at children under the age of 12. This provides appropriate content on topics including bullying, family, friends, feelings, school, abuse and staying safe. It also includes games and therapeutic tools for young visitors to play and express how they are feeling.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/kids>



Domestic Abuse Support

Bright Sky is a free mobile app providing support and information to those who are in an abusive relationship, or concerned about someone they know. The app focuses on how to tackle domestic abuse, stalking and harassment, and provides advice about online safety and sexual consent. It can be downloaded from any phone's app store.



The app encourages people experiencing domestic abuse to log private journal entries in the form of text, photos and videos, which are then sent to a designated email address. This information can be sent to the authorities at a later date. The app also uses GPS to find help points nearby and offers advice for people in an abusive relationship, or for people who are concerned about someone else.

In addition, we have leaflets about Domestic Violence and Abuse and the local Women's Refuge in our reception.

Support information is available in reception and from www.womensaid.org.uk and <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/getting-help-for-domestic-violence/> or you can phone the free 24-hour National Domestic Violence Helpline on 0808 2000 247.

Who can I talk to if I am worried about a child?

If you see it, hear it or know about it - report it!
This could be a child being neglected or any other kind of abuse.

Mr Higgs is the Designated Safeguarding Lead for Alverton School and **Mrs Wicks** is the Deputy DSL. They will always be willing to listen to any concerns you may have.

If they are not available, Mrs Clemens, Mr Dawe, Mrs Daylak, Mrs Hall, Mrs Hughes, Mrs O'Neill and Mrs O'Rourke have all received additional safeguarding training and will be able to help you.
01736 364087

Cornwall Multi-Agency Referral Unit
0300 123 1116

NSPCC 
HELPLINE
0808 800 5000
help@nspcc.org.uk

