

Safeguarding Newsletter

Spring Term 2 | Parkside Primary School



Important Information for Parents and Carers

If you believe a child is at risk of harm:

If a child is in immediate danger, call 999.

School
Office: 0208 559 4278

Local Children's
Social Care: 0208 496 2310

NSPCC Helpline:
0808 800 5000

You do not need proof to report a concern. Trust your instincts.

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility.

We thought it might be helpful to send out a newsletter with helpful hints and reminders.

Recent national data and safeguarding reports highlight increasing risks linked to road use, online activity, inappropriate gaming access, and lack of supervision in the home. We ask that you read the following information carefully.

Road Safety

Children of primary age are still developing awareness of speed, distance, and danger. They rely entirely on adults to keep them safe.

- Children should be supervised near roads at all times.
- Children under 8 should not cross roads alone.
- Car seats and booster seats should be used appropriately.
- Children should exit vehicles on the pavement side only.
- Helmets should always be worn when cycling or scootering.
- Children should not play near roads or car parks.

Please remember: **poor parking and unsafe drop-off practices place all children at risk.**

Online Safety

Primary-aged children are increasingly exposed to serious online risks including grooming, exploitation, inappropriate content, and cyberbullying.

We are seeing an increase nationally in safeguarding concerns linked to:

- Unrestricted access to smartphones
- Unmonitored gaming platforms
- Group chats
- Social media use below legal age limits

We are also seeing an increase in the number of children that are getting involved in online arguments. This impacts the children in school and staff are spending time sorting out issues that have arisen in the evenings and weekends.

Legal Age restrictions

Most social media platforms have a minimum age of 13, including:

- WhatsApp
- TikTok
- Instagram
- Snapchat

Parents and carers should:

- Know all passwords for devices.
- Remove devices from bedrooms overnight.
- Use parental controls.
- Monitor group chats and gaming interactions.
- Speak regularly with children about online behaviour.

For guidance, please visit:

- NSPCC
- CEOP
- Internet Matters

Children of primary age should not be using these platforms.

Safety in the home

Many accidents and safeguarding incidents occur inside the home environment.

Please ensure:

- Medicines and cleaning products are locked away.
- Knives and sharp tools are stored safely.
- Young children are not left unsupervised in baths.
- Ensure magnets and batteries are locked away.
- Matches, lighters, and vapes are inaccessible.
- Age-inappropriate films or TV shows are not viewed.

Children should not be left home alone if they are not mature enough to take care of themselves.

**If you have any safeguarding concerns, please speak to
School Designated (DSL) or Deputy Designated (DDSL) Safeguarding Lead:**

Lisa Cousins (DSL)

Amanda Warriner (DSL)

Lynne Wearing (DDSL)

Phil Smith (DDSL)

Will Humphrey (DDSL)

Deborah McDonald (Safeguarding Governor)



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