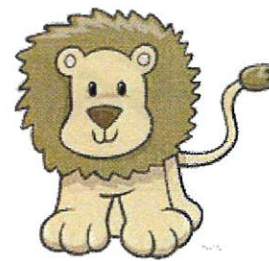


Safeguarding Newsletter



Spring 2019 edition

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to the first 'Safeguarding Newsletter' at St. Mark's Catholic Primary School. I will be sending this newsletter out half-termly and keeping you informed of any issues, debates or updates. It will hopefully be a reminder of who you can go to if there is a problem and will be a good source of information in how we are keeping your child/ren safe and how you can keep them safe too. If there are any concerns, or if you are interested in learning more about a particular issue, please let me know and we will feature information in the next newsletter.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Mrs Linley

What Parents Must Do:

Parents are the most important people to keep their children safe. You should always

- Feel confident to raise concerns about your child.
- Talk to school if you need help or support.
- Let school know if your child has a medical condition.
- Let school know if you have any court orders relating to the safety of your child.
- Let school know if there is a change in your circumstances such as a house move, a new contact number, a change of name, a change of parental responsibility.
- Let us know who will be dropping off or collecting your child and two other emergency contact names and numbers. You must inform school of any changes to agreed arrangements.
- Let school know if your child is going to be absent and the reasons why.

What School Must Do:

A child should be able to go to school and feel safe so that they can achieve their very best.

- Anybody who works or volunteers at St. Mark's will be checked by the Police (vetted) to make sure they are safe to work with children then trained to identify child abuse and what to do if they are concerned.
- The school has a Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs D Linley, and three other DSL's in school, (see bottom of the page.)
- We will always listen to you and work closely with you if we are concerned about your child but, sometimes, we may not be able to discuss our concern and a referral may have to be made to Children's Services or the Police. The school has a Child Protection Policy which tells you more about this and this is available on our school website.
- We will help your child to learn about keeping themselves safe. Lessons can include healthy eating, anti-bullying, drug and alcohol awareness. As part of the lessons your child will be told what to do if they are worried or concerned about their safety.

Lead Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Linley

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Dykes

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Grant

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss Allen

E-Safety

Set up parental controls offered by your home internet provider

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-andresources/parents-and-carers/parental-controls>

CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) –

Help and advice for parents/carers and young people.

Make a report to CEOP.

<http://ceop.police.uk/> <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Get Safe On line - Advice for adults and young people

on a range of topics including protecting your computer, scam emails, online shopping, banking, identity theft, safeguarding children.

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/>

UK Safer Internet Centre - Help and advice for parents/carers and young people.

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-andresources>

The Parent Zone – Digital Parenting magazine & articles.

<http://www.theparentzone.co.uk/parent>

http://www.theparentzone.co.uk/parent/information/digital_parenting

How to nurture a child's mental health



Actively listen before offering your advice

Be patient

Share your feelings and validate theirs

Tell the truth

Model healthy behavior

Surround them with healthy adults

Be consistent and follow through with what you promise

Teach them how to be safe

Believe them and in them

Use open ended questions

Practice relaxation exercises together

Have scheduled Family time

Limit electronic time for everyone

Reach out and hug them

Model forgiveness

Recognize positive choices

Respond calmly when their emotions are elevated

View their behavior as a window to their needs and feelings

Make play and exercise a requirement

Attendance & Punctuality Matters

A polite reminder to Parents and Carers. Please call school office on 0121 357 9892, on each day your child is absent. In the unlikely event that we are unable to contact a family to ascertain where the absent child is, the Education Welfare Office (EWO), Mrs S Beasley, will carry out a home visit and other diligent enquiries, in order to make contact with the family.

It is important you let us know if your child will not be at school, or if you need to collect them for appointments. We require medical evidence for medical appointments.

We cannot allow pupils to leave the school without permission, as we are responsible for their safety and this is our responsibility under safeguarding.

If we have not heard from you, we will attempt to **contact the home by phone**. We will continue to call the telephone numbers in order of your child's contact list. Please ensure we have **at least two UP TO DATE** phone numbers on your child's contact form and let us know immediately of any changes.

It is important to be aware that days missed soon add up!

- Attending school every day = 100%
- Absent for half a day a week = 90% = 4 weeks a year.
- Absent for 1 day a week = 80% = over half a term during the course of the year or 2 full years over the course of the school career.
- Absent one and a half days each week = 70% attendance = over a quarter of the school year.

Remember for every day that your child is absent they will miss up to five lessons.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Together, we can keep our children safe.

St. Mark's Catholic Primary First Aid Team:

Mrs. J. Smith
Miss. Dorsett
Mrs. S. Smith
Mrs. M. Hussain

