Westgate - Summer 2024 Safeguarding Newsletter

Our safeguarding newsletter intends on sharing information with you regarding the school's safeguarding procedures and protocols as well as providing you with current safeguarding updates.

We hope you will find the following information useful.

Westgate DSLs

Miss C. Bethell
Acting Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs C. Jones
Pastoral Support/FLO
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs S. Maidment
SENCO
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child please speak to one of our DSLs as soon as possible.

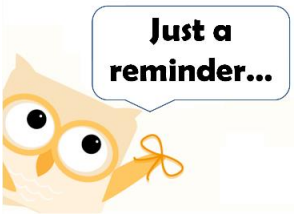
Speak out. Stay safe - Did you know?

In the average primary school class, at least two children have suffered abuse or neglect which is why the NSPCC have developed the 'Speak out. Stay safe' programme which empowers staff to tackle difficult topics with their pupils and helps children understand:
- Abuse in all its forms and the signs of abuse
- Abuse is never a child's fault
- Sources of help available to them, including Childline

This term, the whole school will hear these important messages via virtual assemblies provided by the NSPCC and our curriculum regularly allows us to explore some of these themes in more detail.

As a result, the children will be able to identify safe adults they can speak to if they are worried about themselves or a friend. They understand that by speaking up, they can get the help they need and are aware of the NSPCC ChildLine phone number as an extra source of support.

For more information about the programme and how you can reinforce these messages at home, please visit: https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/our-services/working-with-schools/



Packed Lunches – Polite Reminder

Please remember to NOT send in any food items containing nuts/traces of nuts within your child's packed lunches because there are some children in the school with a nut allergy.

Thank you for your co-operation.

For a copy of our school's Child Protection Policy, please visit the Safeguarding page on our school website: https://westgateprimary.org/About_Us/Policies/

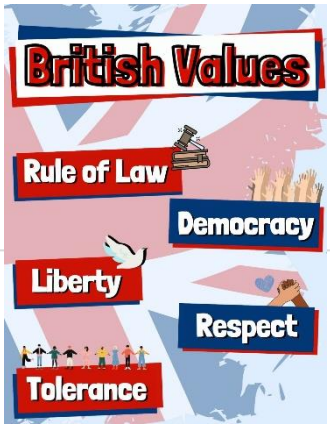
Useful Safeguarding Acronyms and Vocabulary

DSL: Designated Safeguarding Lead
KCSIE: Keeping Children Safe in Education
CP: Child Protection
SEND: Special Educational Needs & Disabilities.
CiN: Child in Need
MASH: Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
CEOP: Child Exploitation and On-Line Protection Centre
PREVENT: Part of the Government's Counter-Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn in to extremism
CAMHs: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CYPMHS: Childrens and Young People's Mental Health Services

What is the PREVENT strategy?

Prevent is a government strategy designed to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorist or extremist causes. The Prevent Strategy covers all types of terrorism and extremism, including the extreme far-right wing and extreme Islamist groups. From July 2015 all schools have a duty to safeguard children from radicalisation and extremism. This means we have a responsibility to protect children from extremism and violent views the same way we protect them from drugs or gang violence.

The Prevent strategy is not just about discussing extremism itself, which may not be appropriate for younger children. It is also about teaching children the British Values: the Rule of Law, Democracy, Individual Liberty, Tolerance and Mutual respect. We do many age appropriate things in school to help students become positive, happy members of society, which also contributes to the Prevent Strategy.



Safety in the School Car Park

Recently, a few parents have expressed their concerns regarding the entrance to our school car park with cars driving in and out of school quite quickly. To reassure you and keep everyone safe, the school are looking into improving this by having the road signs repainted. We are also hoping to involve the children asking them to design a road safety awareness poster for outside the school.

Please can we ask that all drivers are mindful when driving through and parking within our school car park, particularly at the start and end of day pick up and drop off times.

National Online Safety App

You can download the free National Online Safety app which can help you keep up to date with new developments in keeping your child/ren safe.

Available on the Google Play

Download on the App Store

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Attending School Matters

All schools have a duty of care for all pupils; this includes monitoring attendance. We work closely with SEAAS and the Local Authority to monitor and track all pupils attendance and seek advice where required.

Did you know?

One day of absence could be as many as **six missed lessons**, as well as time spent with friends and doing extracurricular activities. When a child is late to school by 10 minutes every day, this adds up to **1 full day** of missed learning time across a term.

You can support your child's physical, social and mental wellbeing by ensuring they are in school every day and on time. We know that parents and carers can sometimes worry about their children's mental health and not bring them to school. Please remember to let us know about your concern so we can then work together on supporting your child.

Everyone has a responsibility to keep children and young people safe.