Westgate - Spring 2025 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.

Supporting your child online and helping them stay SMART

Our pupils are regularly taught about online safety across our curriculum in different ways. This term, we celebrated Safer Internet Day. We revisit and refer to our SMART rules when using the internet in school. But how can you help at home?

- **Engage in Conversations:** Where possible, talk to your child about their online activities. Understanding their digital world is key to helping them navigate it safely.
- **Resources for Parents:** Read through the Wake Up Wednesday resources from National Online Safety that we share via email. These can help you understand potential risks and how to mitigate them.
- There are also useful Online Safety websites including:

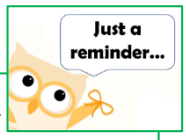
• National Online Safety – safety guides on ALL aspects of internet use: https://nationalonlinesafety.com/

• Internet Matters – wide range of online safety advice for parents to keep their children safe online: https://www.internetmatters.org/

• NSPCC – Keeping Children Safe Online: Teaching Your Child about Internet & Online Safety Online safety resources and guides | NSPCC Learning

School Car Park – Staying Safe

Thank you for your cooperation in adhering to our car park boundaries and parking safely within our school car park. Please ensure your child is brought directly through our school gates in the morning and that they are walked to the second gate where our Westgate staff will greet them. **Our school gate opens promptly at 8:30am. Children remain parent/guardian responsibility until they are handed over at the bottom gate. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.**



Smart Watches - REMINDER

Students are not permitted to wear any form of Apple Smart Watches or other recording devices during school hours. These devices compromise the privacy and security of our students and staff and are distracting for the pupils wearing them. We kindly ask for your cooperation in ensuring that your child adheres to our policy on this. Please ensure that these devices are left at home.

Who are the Westgate DSLs?

Mrs L. Crosley
Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss C. Bethell
Deputy Head
Deputy 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.

What is AI?

Artificial intelligence (AI) is the use of computer systems to solve problems and make decisions. As you may already be aware, Artificial Intelligence has become a buzzword, and its use is becoming part of everyday life.

Popular AI tools like chatbots, text and image generators and content summarisers are quickly appearing across popular online apps and services, e.g. ChatGPT, Google Gemini and Copilot.

As a school, we are currently looking into AI and how it can be used effectively and safely to support both teachers and pupils in school. We want to ensure our staff are appropriately trained in how to use AI so they have an awareness of both the positives and negatives of using it within our school setting and how best to share this knowledge with our pupils.

Please be mindful that AI can impact other safeguarding issues, such as hacking and scams, fake news and misinformation and/or the sharing of AI generated fake photographs and images.

Visit the NSPCC website to find out more and read their top safety tips for parents and carers:

[Artificial intelligence safety tips for parents | NSPCC]

If you have any further questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to speak with our Computing Lead, Mr Hudson, or one of our DSLs.

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: Children and Young People's Mental Health Services

Getting to school on time really matters. Did you know ...

If your child is late every day by ...	They would have lost approximately...
5 minutes	3 days from school
10 minutes	6.5 days from school
15 minutes	10 days from school
20 minutes	13 days from school
30 minutes	19 days from school

Please be punctual to maintain your child's attendance.

Holidays should not be taken during term time.

Remember...

Lost minutes = lost learning opportunities

It is crucial that your child is in school every day and on time.

Dartford Family Hubs

Timetable

24th Feb 2025 - 4th April 2025

Dartford Family Hub can help you and your family. Here are their services for this term:

	Morning	Afternoon
Monday	Dartford Stay & Play 9.30-11.00am Swanscombe Stay & Play 9.30-11.00am Knockhall Drop-in Clinic & Breastfeeding Support 9.30-11.30am	Swanscombe Baby Group 1.00-2.30pm Swanscombe Baby, Family and You 1.00-3.00pm Dartford Communication Tree 1.30-2.30pm Swanscombe Resilience Information, Advice & Guidance 4.00-6.00pm
Tuesday	Dartford Talking Walk-ins 9.30-11.30am Dartford Baby, Family and You 10.00-12.00pm	Swanscombe Drop-in Clinic & Breastfeeding Support 1.00-3.00pm Dartford Pathway Play 1.30-2.30pm Virtual Adolescent Parenting 5.00-6.00pm
Wednesday	Knockhall Stay & Play 9.30-11.00am Dartford Communication Tree 9.30-10.30am	Knockhall Communication Tree 1.30-2.30pm Swanscombe Little Talkers 1.30-2.30pm Dartford Resilience Information, Advice & Guidance 4.00-6.00pm
Thursday	Dartford Active Tots 9.30-10.30am 11.00-12.00pm Swanscombe Baby Massage 10.00-11.00am	Dartford Baby Group 1.30-3.00pm Swanscombe Healing Together 4.00-5.00pm
Friday	Dartford Baby Massage 10.00-11.00am	Swanscombe Book Start 1.30-2.30pm

https://www.facebook.com/DartfordFamilyHubs/?locale=en_GB

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