

Safeguarding- Everyone's Responsibility, every day

Parent and Carers Newsletter

Spring 2 (March 2024)

Welcome back to our Safeguarding Newsletter from the Greasbrough Primary School Safeguarding Team. We aim to bring you all the latest, relevant help and advice on issues we feel will be of importance to you.

Dear Parents/Carers

Safeguarding our pupils is of the utmost importance here at Greasbrough Primary and all staff are committed to safeguarding all members of our school community. We have a comprehensive safeguarding curriculum which teaches our children how to stay safe in different situations and what to do if they are worried or concerned.

We also work closely with other agencies and support our families through difficult times. We are here to support everyone.

Meet the Team

If you have any concerns regarding a child's welfare or safety, please speak to a member of our school safeguarding team.



Mrs Fearnley - Designated Safeguarding lead (DSL)

Mrs Cook - Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Mrs Jenkinson (Deputy Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)
(01709) 740751

If you are concerned that a child is in immediate danger please dial 999 and ask for the Police.

'Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility'

Spotlight on: Whatsapp

We are dealing with an increasing number of incidents in schools whereby issues have started on Whatsapp. Children are setting up group chats with their peers and then inviting other people to join (from other schools etc). This can sometimes lead to inappropriate language being used and inappropriate content being shared.

Please note that the age rating for Whatsapp is 16+ (changing to 13+) in April 2024.





Social Media

According to a recent Ofcom report*, what percentage of children have had a social media account setup for them by a parent below the age of 11?

Fifty-eight percent - the top five most popular being: YouTube (33%), TikTok (18%), WhatsApp (17%), Snapchat (14%) and Facebook (9%). *It's worth noting that on 11th April 2024, WhatsApp is changing their minimum age to allow children aged 13+ to use the service (down from 16). WhatsApp offers end-to-end encryption - a security feature that scrambles messages to ensure no one can view the contents.*

How much do children (aged 8 - 17) spend on video games (including in-app purchases)?

The Insights Family* data (Ofcom, 2023) suggests that children aged 8-17 who spent money on video games (including in-app purchases) had spent an average of £38 in the past month.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Concerns have been raised within schools regarding children using AI apps. Within these apps, children can talk to AI characters with the information shared by the child prompting the algorithm to respond in a personalised way. This is concerning as the response can be inappropriate for children and children may not be aware they are not talking to a human.

Please see below a link to Better Internet for Kids

<https://www.betterinternetforkids.eu/teacher-corner/deep-dives/generative-ai>

Spotlight on: With Me in Mind

With Me in Mind is the name of the Mental Health Support Team based in Rotherham. They are committed to ensuring that mental health support reaches those most in need.

The service focuses on early prevention and intervention; ensuring children and young people, their families/carers are able to access appropriate support and improve and maintain positive emotional wellbeing, to expand and widen positive self-esteem and to increase their self-efficacy in order to create resilience.

If you feel that you or your child may benefit from accessing this service, please speak to your child's class teacher or Mrs Jenkinson.

You can access further information on their website by visiting:

<https://withmeinmind.co.uk/>





Spotlight on: 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 to have the best outcomes.

Child protection is one part of the safeguarding process. It focuses on protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer from significant harm. Safeguarding children and child protection applies to all children up to the age of 18.

Keeping your child safe means:

- The health and safety of all children.
- Making sure that all adults who work here have undergone relevant checks.
- Protecting children from deliberate harm.
- Being an 'anti-bullying' school.
- Being proactive against racist or homophobic behaviour.
- Protecting children from harassment and discrimination.
- Having a positive approach to behaviour management - Restorative Practice.
- Meeting the needs of children with medical conditions.
- Meeting the needs of children with Special Educational Needs.
- Providing first aid.
- Protecting children from drug and substance abuse.
- Providing safe, educational visits.
- Caring for children's personal needs.
- Keeping children safe when using the internet.
- Making sure school is safe and secure.
- Being a 'listening school' to worries and concerns,

All staff have regular safeguarding training updates.

Our key documents in line with current updates can be found below and on the school website:

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023:

[Keeping children safe in education 2023 - GOV.UK](#)

Willow Tree Academy Safeguarding Policy 2023

<https://greasbroughschool.files.wordpress.com/2023/09/gps-safeguarding-policy-sept-2023.pdf>