

ST OSBURG'S

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

AUTUMN TERM

Welcome to our Autumn Term safeguarding newsletter.

We thought it would be useful to remind everybody the UK law on the use of car seats and child safety in cars. Sadly, we are still being made aware of some children arriving at school in cars without any safety restraint, including some who have been standing between the front seats of the car and this is a real concern.



Main points of the law:

- 1) Height based seats are required to be used REAR FACING for a minimum of 15 months.
- 2) A suitable child car seat **must** be used until the child reaches a height of **135cm or 12 years old, whichever is reached first.**

Seat belts must be worn at all times once a child no longer requires the use of a car/booster seat. The driver can be fined up to £500 if a child under 14 is not in the correct car seat or wearing a seat belt while you're driving.



Domestic Abuse

Are you concerned that someone you know may be experiencing domestic abuse?

You can speak to:

COVENTRY - SAFE TO TALK HELPLINE

0800 111 4998

or

Coventry Haven, Women's Aid helpline

0800 111 4998

For support and self-referral requirements as their phone lines are manned by fully trained support workers.



Exploitation

With the Christmas holiday approaching we would like to remind parents of known areas within the city where children are being targeted for exploitation purposes.

The current 'hotspots' for exploitation are:

- Transport museum
- The Burges
- Signet Square
- Nauls Mill Park
- Jardine Crescent
- Lady Herbert's Garden
- Pool Meadow

Please regularly ask your children about where they are playing and who with. Discuss strategies they could use to safely remove themselves from any potential risky situations.

What Are The British Values?

We are required to provide for the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of their pupils and are expected to promote fundamental British Values. The government defines these as: **Democracy** · **The rule of law** · **Individual liberty** · **Mutual respect** and **tolerance** of different faiths and beliefs. We want all of our children to understand their voice is powerful so they should feel they have an opinion on what is important to them, speak out when they are worried or upset but also use their words for good too.

Please see opposite 5 ways you as parents, can support your child with extending kindness and respect to others.



Our Safeguarding Team

Mrs Rynott

Headteacher/DSL

Mrs Bardell

Assistant

Headteacher/DDSL

Mrs McDevitt

Assistant

Headteacher/DDSL

Mrs Fowler

Pastoral Manager/DSL

Miss Carey

Pastoral Manager/DSL

Useful Safeguarding Acronyms and Vocabulary:

DSL: Designated Safeguarding Lead

MASH: Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

CP: Child Protection

CIN: Child in Need

KCSIE: Keeping Children Safe in Education

PREVENT: Part of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn in to extremism


CAMHS: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

SEND: Special Educational Needs & Disabilities.

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British Values Continued

- **Model respectful behaviour** – Demonstrate respect in your interactions with others; listen attentively, be polite and show empathy can be a powerful example.
- **Encourage empathy** – Ask them to put themselves in someone else's shoes; ask how do you think it would make someone feel?
- **Set clear expectations** – Establish and reinforce boundaries around respectful behaviour; be consistent about speaking politely and listening to others.
- **Discuss diversity and acceptance** – We are blessed at St Osburg's with such a diverse cohort of pupils so encourage curiosity and respect for all different backgrounds and differences. It is fun learning about our different traditions!
- **Monitor usage of online devices** – Help navigate the media by having meaningful conversations about what is happening in the world or on TV shows. Promote respectful behaviour online and the importance of accepting difference of opinions. 



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Miss Carey

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If you feel that you and your family may need some support with food over the coming weeks, please contact Mrs Fowler or Miss Carey. They will be more than happy to discretely arrange some food bank vouchers for you. You can also contact your local Family Hub.

Early Help

'Early Help' is for everyone. It means identifying an issue and reaching out to services that can help you before the issue becomes overwhelming.

Below are just a few examples of situations we can help with:

- If you are worried about your child's behaviour, or social and emotional wellbeing
- If you are dealing with a difficult time in your child's life
- If older children have started experimenting with substances
- If you are living with a difficult situation at home
- If you are struggling to cope with financial or relationship difficulties
- If you would like advice and parenting support

See Mrs Fowler or Miss Carey for more information.



Physical Punishment



Parents have the right to make choices about reasonable punishments, but there is a fine line between "reasonable chastisement" and assault which is a criminal offence.

The law in the UK states a smack might be considered to be reasonable chastisement if it is **open-handed** and **not** with a fist or **any kind of implement**. We would however, always recommend an alternative way when managing behaviour at home. In the event of a disclosure being made it may not always be possible to discuss it with a parent immediately and might trigger a referral to children's services.

If you feel you and your family would like some support with behaviour management strategies please pop in so we can chat a little more.

NSPCC - Pants Rule

It is important to revise the pants rule with your children. This will empower them to understand that their body belongs to them and they can say 'No'.

- P** – Privates are private
- A** – Always remember your body belongs to you.
- N** – No means no
- T** – Talk about secrets that upset you
- S** – Speak up, someone can help you.



Privates are private
Always remember your body belongs to you
No means no
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The link below has further advice along with videos for you to watch with your child <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>