

ST OSBURG'S

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

SUMMER TERM

Welcome to our second safeguarding newsletter.

As the end of term is quickly approaching we would like to remind parents about the changes regarding school attendance **starting in September 2024**. You will be aware the government is keen to improve school attendance across the whole country. This includes punctuality. There is a clear link between good attendance and children reaching their full potential.

If your child is poorly, and will be absent, please contact school by 9am to notify us. Home visits may still be carried out. We have been allocated a School's Attendance Officer by the Local Authority who will be monitoring our attendance and providing support to families whose children fall below 90%. **REMINDER:**

No holidays will be authorised during term time.



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 long summer holiday approaching we would like to remind parents of known areas within the city where children are 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.



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



Are your contact details up to date?

We have found contacting some parents difficult when their child has become unwell during school. This causes upset and worry to the child as they are already feeling quite vulnerable due to illness. If you move house or change your phone/email/mobile number, please let the office know, so that we have the most up to-date contact details.

Water Safety

During the summer months it is likely that many pupils will be visiting the beach or swimming pools. It is essential that children are taught how to stay safe in and near water. It would be really helpful to talk through with your child how they can do this.

- Stop and think - spot the dangers
- It can be very cold
- There may be hidden currents
- It can be difficult to get out (steep slippery banks)
- It can be deep
- There may be hidden rubbish, e.g. shopping trolleys, broken glass
- There may be no lifeguards there
- It is difficult to estimate depth
- It may be polluted and could make you ill.

Water Safety Code



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Water Safety Continued

- Stay together
- It is always better to go to the water with a friend or family member
- Children should always go near water with an adult
- If you fall into the water unexpectedly – float until you can control your breathing.
- Then call for help or swim to safety.
- Call 999
- You may be able to help yourself and others if you know what to do in an emergency.
- If you see someone in difficulty, tell somebody, preferably a Lifeguard if there is one nearby, or go to the nearest telephone, dial 999, ask for the Fire Service at inland water sites and the Coastguard at the beach.



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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.

Rail Safety

The safety of children on and around the railway is our priority, especially during the school holidays. Education is key in keeping our children safe so Network Rail have produced a range of age targeted films, interactive games and classroom activities, that teaches pupils to be aware of risky behaviour and develop hazard-spotting skills.



Visit the link below to watch the short video with your children.

www.networkrail.co.uk/communities/safety-in-the-community/safety-education/

Road Safety

STOP - LOOK - LISTEN

We understand parking spaces outside school are limited and Upper Hill Street being a cul-de-sac adds to the congestion but we must still follow the green cross code for the safety of any pedestrians.

- Park away from school gates and zigzag markings.
- Always hold hands with young children.
- Remember – your child will copy you.
- Every road means STOP, LOOK, LISTEN.
- Never get children out of a car roadside.
- Think of safer places to cross the road.
- Secure your child's car seat correctly.
- Think Who's Looking.



Staying Safe Online

Over the summer many children will be using their smart phones and computers for prolonged periods. We strongly advise that parent controls are set up on these devices before the children are allowed to use them. Safer Internet have lots of information for parents about setting up parental controls.

Age restrictions of Social Media Apps Please be mindful that social media apps are not appropriate for pupils under the age of 13. They also recommend having open and honest conversations with children about their online use. <https://saferinternet.org.uk/online-issue/parental-controls>

Below are the age restrictions for the most popular apps:

WhatsApp—**13 years +**

Instagram—**13 years +**

Facebook—**13 years +**

Snapchat—**13 years +**

TikTok—**13 Years +**

