

The Batt Safeguarding Newsletter



THE BATT C OF E SCHOOL

2019/20 No. 1

Dear Parents/Carers

Last year we introduced a safeguarding newsletter to introduce features and tips, or articles, to keep your children safe, both online and in their day to day environment.

Attendance

Remember, if your child is not going to be in school, please call the school office, or email office.3605@batt.oxon.sch.uk before 9am to report their absence.

If we have not heard from you by 9.30am we will attempt to contact the home by phone. We will continue to call the telephone numbers in order on your child's contact list.

If we still haven't been able to get a response then we will report it to the police as your child will then be classed as a 'missing child'. This is to ensure that we know where your child is and that they are safe. Please let us know in good time.

Young Carers

Who are Young Carers?

A young carer is a person under 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person. As many as one in 12 pupils in the UK could be a young carer.

It would help us to know if there are any family circumstances which may mean that your child provides care for someone

at home, such as a brother or sister, or a parent, and would benefit from additional support at school. Please let Mr Payne know if this is the situation.

Childline Kids

There is now an area on the NSPCC website dedicated to supporting children under 12. Childline Kids allows young children to access child-friendly advice covering a wide range of topics, such as bullying, self-esteem and staying safe. The site also features games, videos and friendly illustrations, providing a fun, reassuring and safe space for children online. www.childline.org.uk/kids

Social Media

We tell children it's good to share, but online is different. The internet is constantly changing and it can be hard to keep up with the latest apps and trends.

Talk to you child, get them to think about who sees what they share. Use examples that are easy for them to understand: "You wouldn't give your phone number to a stranger on the street, so is a stranger online any different?" Explain how everything they share online builds a picture of who they are, and that not everyone is who they say they are online. Encourage them to choose usernames that don't reveal personal information.

Having regular conversations about what your child is doing online, just like you would their day at school, is the best way to keep them safe. Find sites and apps you think are suitable and check them out with your child. Net Aware – a guide to the social networks children use is a great place to start. www.net-aware.org.uk

From time to time things can go wrong online. Your child may have 'overshared' about themselves by mistake. Whatever has happened your child needs to know that they can talk to you about this and it is not necessarily their fault.

Reminder of Age Restrictions:

Age 13+ – Facebook, WhatsApp, YouTube, Snapchat, Instagram and Twitter.

What is TikTok?

TikTok (formerly known as musical.ly) is a popular social media app that gives users the opportunity to share 15 second videos with friends, family or the entire world. It is intended for users age 13 or over. By default, all accounts are public so anyone on the app can see what your child shares. However, only approved followers can send them messages. You can set your child's account to 'Private' so that all videos can only be seen by the creator and no one else on the platform. Even with a private account, your child's profile photo, username, and bio are still visible to all users on the platform.

What is bullying?

Bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face-to-face or online, and comes in many different forms:

Verbal – name calling, teasing, threats

Physical – violence or intimidation

Emotional – humiliation or ridiculing

Cyber bullying – misuse of social media

What is NOT bullying?

One off incidents – bullying is generally persistent and repetitive

Mutual conflict - an argument or fight where both parties have equally participated

Information & Online Resources:

Childnet – helping to make the internet a great and safe place for children – www.childnet.com

Advice and resources on how to talk to children about online safety issues – www.childnet.com/have-a-conversation

NetAware – Advice for parents and carers on the most popular social networks and interactive apps and games used by children – www.net-aware.org.uk

Young Minds – The UK's leading charity committed to improving the wellbeing and mental health of children and young people – www.youngminds.org.uk

What is the role of the DSL at The Batt

The Designated Safeguarding Lead has a crucial role in taking lead responsibility for child protection issues in school. The Batt have four DSLs, see below, with Mr Payne as the senior lead. A DSL is always available during school hours, and beyond, for parents, or staff, to discuss any safeguarding concerns. DSLs are trained to take on this role and training is updated every two years with additional training and conferences in between.

The Designated Leads at The Batt School are:

Mr Chris Payne Headteacher	Mr Mark Peacey Deputy Headteacher	Mrs Sharon Bark School Business Manager	Mr Dom Baker
-------------------------------	---	---	-----------------

