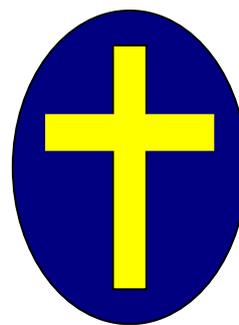


The Batt Safeguarding Newsletter



THE BATT C OF E SCHOOL

No. 1

Dear Parents/Carers

Our priority in school is to keep your child safe and healthy; there are safeguarding notices around school reminding children, staff and visitors of policies and procedures with details of who to go to if they have any issues or concerns. This is our first newsletter to give you some safeguarding tips

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.

Social Media

It can be hard to keep track of what your child is doing on social networks, apps and games, or know how to keep them safe.

We talk to children about crossing the road, bullying and speaking to strangers, but what about staying safe in the digital world?

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.

You will be able to spot any problems, encourage them to come to you if they're worried and make sure they know what's ok to share online, and what is not.

You can find out more about the social networks, apps and games your child uses using the website www.net-aware.org.uk

Reminder of Age Restrictions:

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

Bullying

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 through cyberspace, 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

The signs of bullying:

Children do not always ask directly for help or discuss their concerns openly. They may feel at fault or anticipate that there will be negative repercussions if they tell an adult.

Changes in a child's behaviour and body language cannot indicate for certain that bullying is happening. However, the following signs will certainly tell you that something may be wrong.

Unexplained injuries;
Lost or broken possessions;
Low self-esteem;
A loss of friends;
Withdrawing from social situations;
Change in attitude or behaviour;
Difficulty sleeping or bed wetting;
Truancy or feigning sickness;
Declining grades and a lack of interest in school.

The Batt School have signed up for the **Oxfordshire Anti-Bullying Charter** to strengthen the response to bullying across the county. The charter contains ten pledges on tackling bullying to ensure the

voices of children and families are always heard.

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

KidSMART – Childnet website for children, teachers, parents and carers to offer fun activities for children alongside practical internet safety advice – www.kidsmart.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

Thinkuknow - aims to empower children and young people aged 5-17 to identify the risks **they** may face online and **know** where **they** can go for support. - www.thinkyounow

Safeguarding concerns should be reported to the school so that we can provide support and guidance and, where necessary access external agency support with the aim of keeping children safe from harm.

The Designated Leads at The Batt School are:

Mr Chris Payne
Headteacher

Mr Mark Peacey
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Sharon Bark
Business Manager

