



Red Oaks Primary School

Safeguarding Newsletter



April 2023

Welcome to our Term 5 Safeguarding Newsletter. At Red Oaks, we are committed to ensuring a culture of safeguarding in our school and it is paramount in all we do. We hope that our termly safeguarding newsletters will give you an overview of our approach, offer some useful guidance and information and inform you of what your children are learning in school about how to keep themselves safe. For more information about safeguarding, please look at our website: [https://www.redoaks.org/celebrating_children Staying Safe Intro.php](https://www.redoaks.org/celebrating_children_Staying_Safe_Intro.php)



At Red Oaks we will be running a new child safety initiative called 'Clever Never Goes' during Term 5. The 'Clever Never Goes' programme has been developed to replace the out-dated 'stranger danger' approach. Research shows that teaching children simply to avoid strangers fails to keep them safe. Strangers are often more likely to help a child than to harm them. Conversely, it can often be people known to children that pose the greatest threat.

'Clever Never Goes' moves the focus away from strangers and instead teaches children to recognise when someone (whether they are known to the child or not) is trying to persuade them to go with them. The programme is designed to be fun and positive, whilst at the same time delivering a serious message and giving children practical safety skills and confidence to engage with the outside world.

In addition to the school lesson, **you too can help your child to understand the Clever Never Goes message**. You can download (free of charge) a Clever Never Goes home pack at the website www.clevernevergoes.org/parents. The home pack contains some great ideas for how to approach this topic with your children as well as games and activities. On the website, you can also see a series of cartoon sketches which are a good way of reinforcing the Clever Never Goes message and checking that your child has understood the key Clever Never Goes message. Please do make use of these resources.

Families

Children in Foundation Stage and Reception will also be learning about different families and will discover that no two families are the same. The lessons have been designed to provide starting points for discussions about different families, including same gender parents and foster and adoptive families

Citizenship

Children in years 3-6 will take part in some citizenship themed lessons. Each year group will have a different focus:

Year 3 – Family Life

Year 4 – Gender Stereotypes

Year 5 – What is a Citizen?

Year 6 – Discrimination

Contact details – always keep us up to date!

It is vitally important that we have the correct contact details for every parent/carer. If you change your phone number, email or move house, please let the school office know. We also need at least two emergency contacts for your child.

Telephone – 01793 493920 Email – office@redoaks.org.uk

Useful contacts:

Swindon MASH (Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub) if you have concerns about a child and want to speak to a social worker - 01793 466903 or email swindonmash@swindon.gov.uk

If you have concerns that a child is at immediate risk of harm, please call the Police on 999

School Nursing Team – for support to help children with their physical, mental and emotional well-being and referring to other specialist agencies.

Tel – 01793 465050 or email snn@swindon.gov.uk





Online safety guidance for parents - <https://swgfl.org.uk/>



The NSPCC website has a wide range of support and tips to help you keep children safe. This includes advice on children’s mental health, staying safe online, support for parents and what to do if you’re worried about a child. Follow this link for further information: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/>

There is also a Mental Health and Well-Being section on our school website, with many links to other useful websites and services https://www.redoaks.org.uk/well_being.php

Our Safeguarding Team:

			
Becky Taylor Designated Safeguarding Lead	Emily Maxfield Deputy Safeguarding Lead	James Lee Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Caroline Henham Link LAB Member for Safeguarding

If you have a concern about the safety or well-being of a child, please speak to one of our Safeguarding Team.