

MEET YOUR
SAFEGUARDING
TEAM AT GJPA

SAFEGUARDING AT GRAHAM
JAMES PRIMARY ACADEMY

May 2025



Mr C Mead –
Designated
Safeguard Lead
– Assistant
Head Teacher

Mrs K Lane –
Deputy DSL –
Assistant Head
Teacher

Mrs P Back –
Deputy DSL –
Head Teacher

Miss L Pulfer –
Deputy DSL –
Assistant Head
Teacher

For further
information, please
see our Child
Protection Policy.

<https://grahamjamesacademy.co.uk/key-information/policies/>

Here at Graham James, we Safeguard and promote the welfare of children, and it is everyone's responsibility.

The Netflix mini-series 'Adolescence' has sparked widespread discussions about the online spaces young people navigate, particularly the rise of the 'manosphere' and its influence on teenage boys. Particular attention has been drawn to how emojis can carry hidden or inappropriate meanings, even among younger users. While this series focuses on teenagers, it's a reminder that even younger children are seeing and copying what they encounter online.



While most emojis are harmless and fun, a growing number of them are being used to communicate hidden messages— sometimes these are linked to bullying, inappropriate content or even illegal activity, such as drugs. That's why it's essential for parents to understand the double meanings behind some of these seemingly innocent icons.

What do these emojis really mean?

Emoji	Meaning
	Body parts, often sexual innuendo
	Sexual references
	'Plug' or drug dealer
	Reference to being on drugs or emotionally numb
	Delivery, sometimes drugs
	Mischief or risky behaviour
	'Lean' or drug-laced drinks
	"Red Pill" ideology—part of online misogynistic group
	Drop the truth—sometimes linked to extremist or aggressive views
	Used to mock people who haven't woken up to Red Pill views
	Refers to the belief that 80% of women are only attracted to 20% of men – used to justify misogynistic beliefs

⚠ NOTE: THESE SYMBOLS ARE NOT INHERENTLY HARMFUL, BUT CONTEXT IS KEY. WHEN USED TOGETHER OR IN SPECIFIC COMMUNITIES, THEY CAN REFLECT EXPOSURE TO TOXIC OR EXTREMIST ONLINE CONTENT. THE SYMBOLS MAY ALSO HAVE DIFFERENT MEANINGS DEPENDING ON AREA AND AGE OF CHILDREN.

How you can support your child

1. **Talk early and often:** ask your child what emojis they like and what they mean to them.
2. **Set age-appropriate boundaries:** keep communication apps limited to age-safe platforms.
3. **Model good digital habits:** let them see you using emojis kindly and appropriately.
4. **Stay curious, not critical:** if you spot something that concerns you, ask questions gently before jumping to conclusions.

Please, look at the SAFER SCHOOLS APP for more information.



STAY JUST FINE ONLINE...

quick tips for parents for keeping kids safe online

1. Chat about it

Talking openly about why keeping safe online is important as well as talking about any risks. It can help to show an interest in what your child or teenager does with their time online. Are they talented at TikTok or Insta influencers? Finding out will help you know what they're using online and help you protect them from any dangers and create an open conversation.



2. Set up parental controls

Internet providers should offer you the option of setting some parental controls over what your child can access online. It can help to prevent age inappropriate content from being shown. The **UK Safer Internet Centre** has advice on how to set these up plus plenty of other advice too www.saferinternet.org.uk

3. Stay in the know

We know digital and online platforms change all the time especially social media, it can be difficult to keep up with the latest social trends and apps. By staying ahead of any social media trends you can talk to your child about any possible dangers to look out for. Check out www.net-aware.org.uk for information on the latest apps, social networks and online games.



4. Digital detox

Children (and even adults!) are now spending even more time online as part of doing their school work at home plus using social media or online games. Too much screen time isn't always best. One way to help limit screen time is to agree times with your kids when they won't be going online and encourage them to do other activities instead.

5. Report concerns

If you're concerned about something you've seen or your child has seen online, know where and how to report it. You can report it to the police via the **Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre** www.ceop.police.uk



Staying Home Alone

There is no legal age a child can be left at home alone, but it's against the law to leave a child alone if it puts them at risk. Every child matures differently, and because of this, it would be almost impossible to have a "one size fits all" law. As your child gets older, talk to them about how they feel about being left home alone. If they're worried, work out what parts of being home alone worry them. Do they feel safe in the neighbourhood? Are they afraid of the dark? Talk about anything that's bothering them and discuss a solution. Understanding why they don't feel comfortable will give you an idea of how to help – or why they might not be ready to be left alone. Don't do it if they are not comfortable.

The NSPCC have developed a questionnaire that may be useful in deciding whether to leave your child home alone. Click the image below for more information and to take the quiz.



Parking around the school

Please, be mindful of our neighbours when parking around the school. Parking is not permitted along the double yellow lines outside of the NHS building. Please, think about the safety of our children and families. If possible, park a short distance away and walk to our school. Unless you have permission to park in our staff car park, you should not be entering, as quite often staff are coming and going to meetings. Please, walk along the school path and please, do not be tempted to take a shortcut through our car park. Please be a good role model for our children. Remind our children that they should not be riding bikes or scooters until they are fully off school premises.