
Latest Advice and Information for Parents, Students and Staff 2020 Autumn Term Edition

Welcome to the first edition of Safeguarding News of the new year. The aim of this newsletter is to highlight some of the current themes, provide the latest advice and guidance and to link to resources that we all can use in keeping students safe.



I'm Mr Hart, the Designated Safeguarding Lead for school. Working with me I have a highly trained and fantastic team of Designated Safeguarding Officers that students can raise any concerns with. Click [here](#) to go to the page on our website where you can find our Safeguarding Team poster and past editions of the newsletter.

Road Safety : Get into good habits

1 child is killed and 37 seriously injured on England's roads every week (*Dept of Transport*). **71%** of these happen at the time students are travelling to or from school. Most accidents happen because students do not look for cars when they cross the road either because they are in a hurry or distracted, for example, using a mobile phone.



The **Think!** campaign website has some excellent resources for you to help your child become more aware of road safety - either as a pedestrian or cyclist. You can visit their website [here](#).



Nights are getting dark ...

Since the clocks have gone back recently, the days are getting shorter. **All students must go straight home after school.** We would like to ask parents and carers to ensure that all students get home as safely and quickly as possible. Students are not allowed to go to the shops after school and make their way home either by walking, on a bus or by cycle at the end of the day.

Are all your contact details up to date?

If you change your home phone / email / mobile number please let the school know so that we have the most up to date contact details. Please let the school know by calling in or emailing at office@alperton.brent.sch.uk.



Keep up to date by visiting our website

All the latest information about our response to COVID-19 and keeping staff and students safe and all other updates are on our website. Visit our website [here](#).



Be an internet legend ...

Google has a great website with videos for families to start talking about internet safety, based on a number of episodes - each one exploring a different topic. Click [here](#) for details.

At the end of the journey you can take the **Legends Family Challenge** and get your **Legends Certificate!**

Safeguarding in focus : Grooming

Do you know that your child is only talking to people they know on their mobile phone or other devices?

What is grooming? Grooming is a word used to describe people befriending children in order to take advantage of them for sexual purposes. Many parents worry about online grooming so it's important to talk to your children about how to stay safe.



With the growth of social media platforms, online games, and instant message apps, children are able to talk to anyone – friends or strangers – from around the world within minutes. This can be a benefit for many making them less isolated but for some, it can leave them vulnerable to being groomed.



How do I protect my child? The best way to deal with grooming is to prevent it happening by making sure your child is well-informed, uses privacy settings on social media and knows that they can talk to you if they feel unsafe or worried. Teach your children how to stay safe online: the key thing to remember is that by equipping children with the right advice to make smarter choices online we can minimise the risks of exposure to online grooming.

But how? As parents you are in charge! Here is a 5 step (top tips) to make sure you know what is happening on your child's phone now and in the future :

1. Check basic settings like age ratings
2. Review the apps on the phone with your child
3. Turn "safe search" on to filter out any inappropriate sites
4. Check the connection - is it safe and secure?
5. Agree, as a family, digital boundaries



I need help ... it's too technical or difficult! There is help available - lots of advice and guidance is online you can use - including family digital agreements. If you are worried then please contact your Pastoral Manager who is a Safeguarding Officer or contact us via the safeguarding email: safeguarding@alperton.brent.sch.uk

internet
matters.org

[Online Groom Advice Hub](#)

[Mobile phone health check](#)

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