

Latest Advice and Information for Parents, Students and Staff 2021 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 can all use in keeping students safe.

I'm Mr Hart, the Designated Safeguarding Lead for school. Working with me I have a highly trained 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.

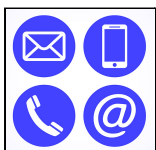
The **Think!** campaign website has some excellent resources for you to help your child become more aware of road safety - either as a pedestrian or cyclist. You can visit their website [here](#).

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

COVID-19: Keep up to date by visiting the NHS 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 the website [here](#).





Did you know that you need to be 13 to use the TikTok app?

Why do students love TikTok? It is a way to express themselves and create short-form video clips to gain a following and build a community around their passions. It also features some great special effects that users can apply to their videos to make them more unique. You can also cross-post the content on other platforms (such as Instagram) to share it with more people.

Family Safety Mode is an in-app feature designed for parents to help keep their children safe whilst using TikTok. You can get more information about Family Safe Mode [here](#). If you would like more information then please look at this presentation [here](#).

Safeguarding in Focus : Mobile Phones, Group Chats and Banter



Many of the safeguarding concerns we deal with in school start out of school - usually on social media. **Most often it is when a “group chat” has been created and the conversation goes wrong and students start to say things which are hurtful and negative.**

When we talk to our students they often say that it started out as a bit of “banter” in a group chat. As a school we want to ask parents to help by checking your child’s phone regularly - not to be negative but to have a **positive constructive conversation about their use of social media.**



As parents you are in charge! Here is a 5 steps to make sure you know what is happening on your child’s phone now and in the future and also a [Mobile Phone Health Check](#) for you to use:



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! 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.**



If you have an **immediate concern** about a child then please call **999**