



Welcome!

Welcome to Witham St Hughs Academy's Safeguarding Newsletter. Keeping children safe is of course, our key priority here at school. Safeguarding takes many forms including: Protecting children from harm; preventing impairment of children's health and development; enabling safe and effective parenting and giving children equal opportunities in life. We do many things every day in school to ensure pupils are safe including: ensuring all staff are trained in safeguarding; having clear policies and procedures in place to keep children safe; monitoring pupil attendance; ensuring a safe and healthy site; ensuring the behaviour of pupils is in line with the Academy behaviour policy and using our curriculum to teach children about risk taking, diversity, healthy lifestyles, managing relationships, online safety and much more. Our safeguarding policy is always available to view via our website.



Focus on: World News

The ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine has escalated recently. The news is constantly changing, but many older children will be increasingly aware of this conflict. As with many events in world news, this may lead to feelings of worry, and some potentially difficult questions to answer at home.

As always, how families choose to address world news events with their children - or not - is entirely their choice and dependent on the age, understanding and maturity of the children involved. ChildLine have some useful tips including:

- Focus on reliable news
- Talk about what is happening
- Think about what you watch or read

Secondary-age siblings with access to social media may be able to access 'news' content or videos that are unreliable, biased or generated using AI. It is important to monitor their consumption of this, but also any information that may 'trickle down' to younger siblings.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/your-feelings/anxiety-stress-panic/worries-about-the-world/worrying-israel-gaza/>

Focus on: Bullying

The anti-bullying alliance defines bullying as: *'The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological. It can happen face-to-face or online.'*

Bullying behaviour can be:

Physical – pushing, poking, kicking, hitting, biting, pinching etc.

Verbal - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, threats, teasing, belittling.

Emotional – isolating others, tormenting, hiding books, threatening gestures, ridicule, humiliation, intimidating, excluding, manipulation and coercion.

Sexual – unwanted physical contact, inappropriate touching, abusive comments, homophobic abuse, exposure to inappropriate films etc.

Online /cyber – posting on social media, sharing photos, sending nasty text messages, social exclusion

Indirect - Can include the exploitation of individuals.

Bullying is never acceptable and must always be reported. At Witham St Hughs Academy, any reported incidents of bullying are always taken seriously and acted upon promptly. Staff cannot however, deal with situations they do not know about. Please ensure that any concerns are always reported. There are some useful resources linked below:

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/tools-information/all-about-bullying/understanding-bullying/definition#:~:text=The%20repetitive%2C%20intentional%20hurting%20of,to%2Dface%20or%20online!>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/types-bullying/>



Who can help?

Every school has a 'Designated Safeguarding Lead'. At Witham St Hughs Academy, these are: Richard Stock, Emily Broadley, Hannah Younger and Michelle Dexter. Our safeguarding governor is Marcus Capell. If you have any concerns in relation to a safeguarding, please feel free to speak to a safeguarding lead at any time.

Useful phone numbers

Social Services: 01522 782111
 ChildLine: 0800 1111
 Lincolnshire Prevent Team: 020 7340 7264
 Young Carers Helpline: 01522 553275
 NSPCC whistle blowing helpline: 08088 005000
 FGM helpline: 08000 283550
 Samaritans: 01522 528282
 Family Services Directory: 0800 195 1635

Online Safety: Google Family Link

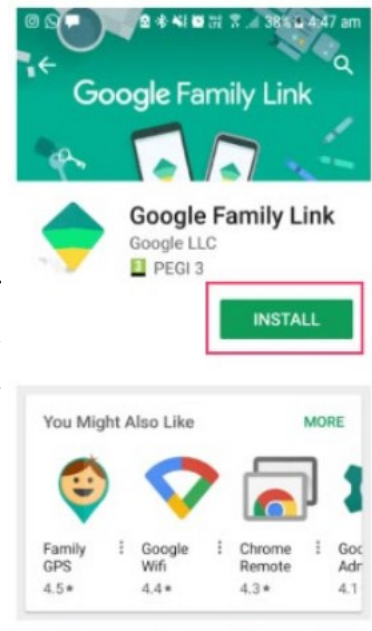
The 'Google Family Link' app helps manage a child device user by allowing parents to set digital rules. You can manage app access, set screen time and device bedtime remotely to help them build good online safety habits.

This useful app allows parents and carers greater control over the devices their children have access to. It is a quick and easy way to ensure parental controls are in place across a range of platforms including Google Play, search engines, location settings, screen time and daily usage limits.

InternetMatters.org have created an easy to use guide for parents and carers to support the set up of this app on devices within the home.

Please click the link below to access the PDF guide:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/parent-controls-docs/parental-control-google-family-link.pdf>



What do I need?

A Google account (username and password)

Restrictions you can apply

- Apps Access
- Browser Access
- Downloading file sharing
- Mobile devices
- Purchasing
- Timer

