



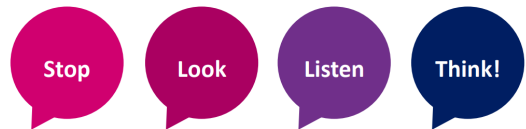
Welcome!

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: Road Safety

Road safety is a really important aspect of keeping children safe. The last few decades have demonstrated that effective and comprehensive road safety strategies can reduce the number of people killed or injured on the road, despite increasing traffic. Walking and cycling to school are an important part of keeping active and have huge environmental benefits. Parents and carers play an important role in preparing children to become independent travellers. The guide below provides advice on what age specific road safety information children should be taught and simple techniques for doing this. Road safety is best taught in a practical setting, meaning that parents are ideally placed when walking their children to school to discuss road safety topics such as safe and dangerous places to cross the road. Children often mimic the behaviour of their parents and carers, so it is vital to be consistent and put into practice safe crossing techniques. The guide focuses primarily on teaching these skills to children aged between 4 and 11.

<https://www.rosipa.com/media/documents/road-safety/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>



Focus on: Children's Services

We are very aware that school may form parents and carers easiest route to reporting concerns during term time, and that staff are not available in this way during the summer holidays. It is important to know that anyone can report a concern to the children's safeguarding team at Lincolnshire County Council.

If you believe that a child may be a victim of neglect, abuse or cruelty call:

Children's safeguarding on - 01522 782111 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm) or 01522 782333 (outside office hours)

You do not need to know everything about the situation. You may just be worried or feel that something is not right.

If you have a concern about domestic abuse, call EDAN Lincs on 01522 510041.



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 Julie-Anne Leak. 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: Artificial Intelligence (AI)

We're coming up to a quarter of the way through the 21st century, and AI is all around us, even if we may not realise it. Every time you open your phone with Face ID, click on a personalised advert online, or ask your device about the weather – you are engaging with and receiving information from AI.



Over the years, AI has become smarter in terms of listening, learning, and solving problems – all while drawing on a massive database of information.

ChatGPT is one such AI platform and is hosted online, it is available as both a desktop application and can be accessed on a web browser. There is no set minimum age restriction for using ChatGPT, but it requires you to sign in with an email address and to accept the site terms and conditions before you begin using it. On ChatGPT you can type in a question or topic that you'd like to learn more about. For example, you could ask "What is the tallest mountain in the world?"

You can have multiple ongoing conversations which you can revisit, and ChatGPT uses information you have given it in the chat to tailor each answer it gives. This is different to other chat bots where answers are limited to each question rather than the chain of questions and information as a whole. ChatGPT gets its data from a variety of sources on the internet, such as websites, books, and other documents.

As much as some of the newer AI (e.g. photo manipulation, ChatGPT etc.) can be exciting and interesting, it is not without its concerns. One of these is AI voice manipulation where a bad actor can, through the use of AI, mimic a voice to sound like somebody else (think video deepfakes but just using voice). This bad actor then makes a phone call and pretends to be that person with a pre-recorded message. You can only imagine the consequences with this technology and the harm that will be done, it is well-known that criminals are usually the first to embrace newer technologies leaving law enforcement behind.

Click the link below for a guide for parents and carers about ChatGPT:

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/what-do-i-need-to-know-about-chatgpt-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers>