



SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

Sir Graham Balfour School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and we will continue to provide materials/newsletters for parents and carers outlining how schools and parents can work together to keep children safe.

It is key to remember that safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility.

All of the School's safeguarding policies and procedures are available on the school website and we encourage parents to view these documents to get an understanding of how we keep children safe.

STAY SAFE WITH TECH THIS CHRISTMAS!

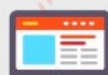
IPADS



Be careful what you download
Play games appropriate for your age
Ask to set up agreed parental controls with you to help



LAPTOPS



Make sure to take care with what information you share!
Be careful about online games - are they appropriate?
Make sure you know who you are talking with



CONSOLES



Take close care who you play with online!
Try to play games that are suitable for your age.
Make sure to take it in turns playing games with others

SOCIAL MEDIA



Use social media appropriate to your age
Use a safe profile picture
If you are pressured into sharing something you aren't comfortable with ask an adult

PHONES



Ask permission before taking a photo or video
Do not show off your phone in public
Make sure you keep enough credit to make calls

FAKE NEWS



Don't believe everything you read online, including email
If unsure, ask a trusted friend or adult
Don't share stories that aren't true

Parental controls are an important way to keep your child safe online.

Parental controls can be used to block upsetting or harmful content, control in-app purchases or manage how long your child spends online.

And the good news is parental controls are really easy to set up.

Innocent searches sometimes reveal not so innocent results. So if you're worried about what your child is searching for online, who they're talking to or what they're seeing, there are some simple rules you can take.

It's simple to get started. And, along with talking to your child regularly, using parental controls is one of the best ways to help keep children safe online.

What are parental controls?

Parental controls are software and tools which you can install on phones or tablets, games consoles or laptops – and even your home broadband.

You can also use them to help you block or filter the content your child sees when searching online. And family-friendly public WiFi can help when you're out and about.

Parental controls are also available to help you to:

- plan what time of day your child can go online and how long for
- stop them from downloading apps they're too young for
- manage the content different members of the family can see.

So whatever your child is doing online, there's a way that you can help keep them safe.

Mobile & Tablets

Lots of mobiles and tablets come with settings that can help you manage what your child can and can't see or do online.



When using parental controls, make sure to check things like location settings and what information your child is sharing with others. It's most important to talk to your children about what they're doing online

Home Broadband

Your internet provider may offer a free filter so you can control the content that you and your family see. You'll need to manually set-up any device connected to your home broadband.

How you do this will depend on your provider and you'll need to access your home router or hub. It's really easy and simple to do.



Games Consoles

Most games consoles are internet-enabled. Which means your child can go online and chat with other players or make in-game purchases.



Like with mobiles and tablets, the controls on your games console help you to manage what your child can and can't do.

Some devices allow you to:

- Set up different profiles for each family member
- Deactivate the internet
- Turn off chat functions to stop your child from talking to strangers

Search Engines

Sometimes innocent searches lead to not so innocent results.



Make sure the content that your child sees online is appropriate for their age by using controls available in search engines like Google and Bing.

Setting up filters like Google SafeSearch helps to protect your child from seeing inappropriate or adult content. Or you could use a child-friendly search engine like Swiggle and Safe Search UK.

If your child accesses the internet at home through 3G or 4G rather than using the WiFi then they won't be subject to the parental controls.

*If you are unsure how to do any of these things above, please call the NSPCC helpline on **0808 800 5002**.*

Other Useful Guidance/Information

ROAD SAFETY

Students have been reminded to keep themselves safe on their journey to and from school, including observing basic road safety. Sadly, we have received a number of concerned calls from members of the public who have expressed worry about the number of youngsters running across roads directly in front of travelling vehicles.

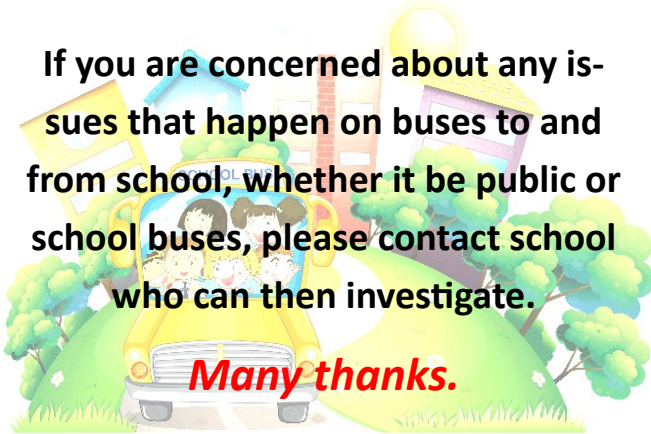
Thank you for your support in this matter.



TRANSPORT TO AND FROM SCHOOL

If you are concerned about any issues that happen on buses to and from school, whether it be public or school buses, please contact school who can then investigate.

Many thanks.



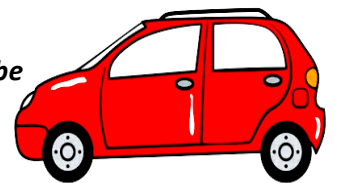
DROP OFF / COLLECTION OF STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL

Please be reminded that if you drop your child/ren off and collect them from school, please can you do so at the end of the school drive. This is to keep **ALL** our students safe on their way to and leaving from school.

It also alleviates congestion around busy times, especially when school buses are on the drive.

Your co-operation with this would be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks.



The HUB: A central point of access

The Hubs give families and young people advice and support from professionals within the 0-19 services and are the point of access for professionals and other health care services.

HUB Contact Numbers:

West Hub - (Moorlands, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stafford, surrounds and Seisdon)

Telephone: 0300 303 3923

East Hub - (East Staffordshire, Tamworth, Lichfield and Cannock)

Telephone: 0300 303 3924



Trans-Staffordshire

Trans-Staffordshire is a grassroots organisation to bring the Trans community of Stoke & Staffordshire and providing opportunities for trans people to meet socially, provide support and offer peer advise for trans people navigating the legal and medical obstacle course surrounding transition.



For further information please call **01785 283425** or **07470 485425**, visit www.trans-staffordshire.org.uk or email info@trans-staffordshire.org.uk