



Welcome back!

Welcome back to our Safeguarding Newsletter, we hope you found last term's update useful and informative. As you already know, safeguarding is at the heart of all we do here at Witham St Hughs Academy and many of the everyday routines and the ethos of the Academy underpin the importance of keeping children safe. School assemblies, the tolerance curriculum, playtimes, our life skills curriculum as well as the ongoing pastoral support the Academy offers all work together to ensure our children understand how to keep themselves safe. This multi-faceted approach to safeguarding ensures that the Academy is proactive in terms of keeping children safe.

Focus on: Knives

Know

Find out about the law. Before talking to your child about knives, you might want to consider the following points: It is illegal to carry any knife if there is intent to use it, even defensively, as a weapon. Carrying a knife could mean being arrested, going to court and ending up with a criminal record or even a prison sentence. Children can be given a criminal record from age 10.

Talk

Have a chat with your child and see what they think about carrying a knife - you may have seen something in the news about knife crime that you could discuss. This can be a tricky conversation, your child may be scared or unwilling to talk about this but it is never a bad thing to talk and it's important to be clear that your child does have a choice, even when they think they may not. Think about raising these points with your child, by carrying a knife you: Have a false sense of security; could be arming your attacker, increasing the risk of getting stabbed or injured; are breaking the law.

Work Together

You're not alone! Have a chat to your child's friends' parents. If you're worried, they probably are too and it's always good to talk about these things. Other parents may see your child when you don't and you see their child - by working together you can keep a better eye on their behaviour.



Who can help?

Every school has a 'Designated Safeguarding Lead'. At Witham St Hughs Academy, this is Mrs Griffiths and Mrs Broadley. Our Safeguarding governor is Mrs Trisha Wells.

If you have any concerns in relation to safeguarding, please feel free to speak to Mrs Griffiths or Mrs Broadley 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



6 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

SCREEN TIME



 <p>1. RULES Agree on a clear set of rules in your home about screen time.</p>	 <p>2. LEAD BY EXAMPLE Do as you say! Modelling behaviour is the most powerful way you can influence your child's behaviour</p>	 <p>3. PHONE FREE ZONE Restrict the use of TV's, mobile phones and computers in the bedroom!</p>	 <p>4. CHARGING PHONES Buy an alarm clock for your child's room and charge mobile phones in your room!</p>	 <p>5. DIGITAL DETOX One evening a week have a family digital detox and plan a family activity!</p>	 <p>6. JOIN IN Play your child's favourite computer game and discover the online world together.</p>
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Online Safety Update

We all know that choosing the games and apps our children access can be a minefield of conflicting information and advice. We wanted to share a great website for parents to use to support this decision making. www.commonsensemedia.org helps parents make informed choices about the media content their children consume. The website provides reviews of games and apps giving information on legal age limit, parental advice, children and parent's reviews and ratings across a wide range of categories including: 'Educational Value', 'Language', 'Violence', 'Consumerism' and 'Positive Role Models' amongst many more. We hope that this website will serve as a useful platform to both research games and apps your child may want to access as well as open up conversations about the age-appropriate content of some games that younger children may wish to play.



A LOT OR A LITTLE?

The parents' guide to what's in this game.

A+ Educational Value	Positive Messages	not present Positive Role Models & Representations
Ease of Play	Violence & Scariness	not present Language
Consumerism		



USER REVIEWS

PARENTS SAY		KIDS SAY	
Parent Written by bayareamediamaven May 30, 2012	age 11+ ★★★★★	<input type="checkbox"/> Report this review	Beware Minecraft is a Mindgame Minecraft is like virtual legos when used in "creative" mode. Depending on the server, there can be enjoyable collaborating between players. I caution... Continue reading
Adult Written by EAKugler April 22, 2011	age 4+ ★★★★★	<input type="checkbox"/> Report this review	A box of blocks I would recommend being careful allowing kids on a public server, but the game can be played solo, and a smart parent with the resources could set up a controll... Continue reading

[Add your rating](#) See all 244 parent reviews.

