



# St Oswald's CE Primary School

## Safeguarding Bulletin

### Spring 2022

Welcome to the spring edition of St Oswald's Safeguarding Bulletin. This is an opportunity for us to share information and guidance regarding safeguarding both within our school setting and through other agencies.

Please contact the school office if you require any help or advice at any time.

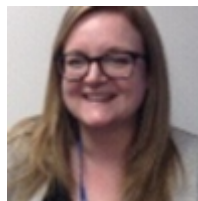
### Early Help Offer for Children and Families

At St Oswald's we recognise the challenges that families face in bringing up children. There may be times when you need extra help and support. Early help simply means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the Foundation Years through to Year 6. We want you to know we are here to help.

The document we have created called 'Early Help Offer for Children and Families' can be found on our website in the Safeguarding section.

Our Pastoral and Safeguarding Team always discuss any concerns raised by parents/carers or school staff and together we can find ways to support in school. Alternatively, there are external agencies that we can signpost families to.

The Pastoral and Safeguarding Team includes:



Mrs Reece – Head teacher – Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Miss Taylor – Deputy Head teacher – Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Mrs Smedley – SENCo/Mental Health Lead

Mrs Hipkins - EYFS Lead

At meetings we discuss:

How the child presents	Behaviour	Attitude to learning
Friendships	Family issues	Additional needs
Any support they receive	General progress	Other agencies involved

Always talk to us. We want the best for our children and families.

## Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)

Police Community Support Officers ( PCSOs ) work with police officers and share some, but not all of their powers. Special constables are volunteers who have the same powers as police. The role of a police community support officer (PCSO) is to reduce crime, fear and antisocial behaviour in the community.

PCSOs aim to provide a visible and reassuring presence in the neighbourhood. This means they spend around 80 per cent of their time patrolling their patch on foot or bicycle.

At St Oswald's we are well supported by the PCSOs who give their time to talk to the children about a variety of topics including Stranger Danger, E-Safety and Road Safety. This term Y6 has been involved in the STAR programme (Stop, Think, Act, Respond). The PCSO led a discussion about drugs and peer pressure. The children came away with a greater understanding of the consequences of being involved in these activities and during their feedback strongly recommended that next year's Y6 had access to the same programme.

There are always people to talk to if help is needed:

<b>West Mercia Police</b> www.westmercia.police.uk Webchat us or report crime online	<b>Fearless</b> www.fearless.org Anonymous 24/7
<b>West Mercia Police</b> 101 in a non-emergency 999 in an emergency	<b>CrimeStoppers</b> 0800 555 111 100% anonymous, always
<b>Victim Support</b> 0808 1689 111 www.victimsupport.org.uk	<b>Childline</b> 0800 111 Online, on the phone, anytime

## Social Media

This is another area that the PCSOs deliver lessons about.

Please take time to monitor your child's use of social media. We frequently deal with issues arising from children using social media sites, especially WhatsApp and Tik Tok. Remember that the age from which children are allowed to access Whats App is 16; the age at which children are allowed to access Tik Tok, Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram and Twitter is 13.

## Online Gaming Tips

**Conversation starters to help parents discuss online gaming and how to stay safe:**

- Ask your child what games they know about and/or enjoy playing online. Why do they like them/ think they are popular?
- Ask your child how they would explain their favourite game to another young person, and how they could help play them safely.
- Ask about who they talk to and how in an online game. What would they do if they felt worried about a conversation? Make sure they know they can tell you if anything in the game makes them feel worried or uncomfortable.

**Online Safety Action:**

- Visit the Thinkuknow website ([www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)) and search for tips on how to be safe when playing games for different ages, by typing 'games' or 'gaming' into the search box.
- Visit [www.askaboutgames.com](http://www.askaboutgames.com) and look for advice on how you can set up family controls to limit who children talk to, how much they spend in game and time spent online.
- Visit NSPCC's Online Games webpage ([www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)) webpage to find out more about the risks, and ways to help make online gaming safer.

# Safeguarding Awareness Squad (SAS)

Well done to the Safeguarding Awareness Squad (Daniel, Phoebe, Logan and Imogen) who prepared and presented a Safeguarding Assembly to the whole school this week.

The SAS shared why St Oswald's is a safe place to be:



The SAS also carried out research prior to the assembly to learn what the children already knew about safeguarding. Below is a sample of the results from their pupil interviews:

## Question: Do you feel safe at school? How?

Y6 - Yes

- Fences around the perimeter
- Alarm system
- Safety rules
- Children are always supervised
- There is only access to safe websites and we are closely monitored
- Adults help us to make good choices and we can talk to them

Y5 - Yes

- There are first aiders to help you
- We learn how to keep ourselves safe
- The PCSO teaches us how to look after ourselves
- Adults wear red or blue lanyards
- We practice fire drills and lockdown

Y4 - Yes

- Other children can help us, like the play leaders and SAS
- We have lessons about online safety and learn about keeping safe in PSHE

Y3 - Yes

- There are fences around all of the school
- Teachers check equipment and outdoor areas before we use them
- We learn how to use equipment sensibly and safely
- We tell someone if anyone is being unkind

Y2- Yes

- The doors are locked so no one can get in
- Teachers sign in and visitors do too
- People wear lanyards
- Adults are always with us; they supervise and help us

Y1- Yes

- Teachers look after us
- Teachers help us to learn to be kind

Well done to the SAS for working hard and being part of the process that keeps everyone at St Oswald's safe.

