

Watlington Primary School

Safeguarding update

Term 4: 2023/24

WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD

If you are worried about a child's safety please do not hesitate to contact any of the Designated Safeguarding Leads straight away.

The following members of staff are Designated Safeguarding Leads for Watlington Primary School:

- Mr Gale (DSL)
- Mrs Sterjo
- Miss Sharman
- Mrs Doran

They can be contacted via the school office, or by telephone on 01491 612474.

You can also contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on:

0345 050 7666.

If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police immediately on 999.



Children's Mental Health Week 2024

We had a great time celebrating Children's Mental Health week in school. The week, which was based on 'My Voice Matters'. The school was a hive of activity!

Our Hedgehogs and Robins classes re-visited their colour / worry monster work, continuing to develop their skill of communicating how they feel. Children in Key Stage One thought about what makes them proud using their voice both in school and out of school to develop their learning and friendships. Key Stage Two thought about that matters to them, and how they can share this in a positive and productive way. Classes across the school had discussions about how we can use our voices to stay safe when we are online.

The week culminated in our 'Dress to Express' day, with the highlight being the mental health photo booth which was back by popular demand for the second year running! We are really pleased to let you know that £203 was raised for the mental health charity, Place2Be. Thank you to the School Council for organising this event.

Jigsaw PSHE

Our Jigsaw focus for the following two terms are:

Term 4: Healthy Me:

This covers two main areas of health: Emotional health (relaxation, being safe, friendships, mental health skills, body image, relationships with food, managing stress) and Physical health (eating a balanced diet, physical activity, rest and relaxation, keeping clean, drugs and alcohol, being safe, first aid) in order for children to learn that health is a very broad topic.

Term 5: Relationships:

This a wide focus, looking at diverse topics such as families, friendships, pets and animals, and love and loss. A vital part of this Puzzle is about safeguarding and keeping children safe; this links to cyber safety and social networking, as well as attraction and assertiveness; children learn how to deal with conflict, their own strengths and self-esteem. They have the chance to explore roles and responsibilities in families, and look at stereotypes. All Jigsaw lessons are delivered in an age- and stage-appropriate way so that they meet children's needs.

A reminder that, we have access to a parent portal, which allows parents and carers to view the standard lesson plans for their child's year group. Due to copyright reasons, we are unable to send out a blanket login code to parents, but we are able to set up individual parents with access, should they wish to view the materials. If you would like to have access to this, please email the school office (admin.2459@watlington.oxon.sch.uk) and we can arrange this for you.

Filtering and Monitoring at Watlington Primary School

Watlington Primary School aims to:

- Have robust processes in place to ensure the online safety of pupils, staff, volunteers and governors
- Identify and support groups of pupils that are potentially at greater risk of harm online than others
- Deliver an effective approach to online safety, which empowers us to protect and educate the whole school community in its use of technology, including mobile and smart technology
- Establish clear mechanisms to identify, intervene and escalate an incident, where appropriate

Why do we need a filtering and monitoring system?

The internet is now used daily in education and has become fundamental. It acts as a key learning tool for children however, it can also be an area for concern due to the nature of potentially harmful content available online.

There are many reasons why filtering and monitoring are required. In school the purpose is to ensure that children do not access unsuitable/inappropriate content. One example is around radicalisation. The Prevent Duty is a statutory obligation for schools to keep children safe from the risk of radicalisation and extremism.

Content filtering works by applying specific parameters to content retrieved via the internet, restricting access to certain materials on websites, Apps, emails or other suspicious items. It can be a hardware or software solution and can often be part of a firewall setting.

Monitoring combined with content filtering alerts us to any activities that need to be acted upon, but the information is also used to determine which sites and keywords need to be filtered out. For example, if a new craze appears, the monitoring and filtering system will help us know what associated terms the children are searching for, and what websites they are accessing.

To safeguard and promote the welfare of our children, we provide them with a safe environment in which they can learn and flourish, by ensuring that they are not exposed to any online risks associated with using the internet. We have comprehensive filtering and monitoring systems in place for all devices used in school, and regularly review their effectiveness.

Parents can be reassured that at Watlington Primary School we employ the Filtering and Monitoring systems to mitigate any risks to our children's online safety. The school uses Securly Filter, helping to keep our pupils safe. Securly Filter provides visibility into all online activity, provides downloadable reports, and block inappropriate sites instantly.

The Securly Filter Monitoring and Filtering system, employs a continuously updated series of keywords and watchwords to filter the content of the internet from any of the devices within the school system.

Although no system is perfect, this has provided the highest quality of control on internet provision in school. All school devices, including pupil laptops, iPads and staff devices, are part of the school's Securly Filter. The system monitors keyboard entry and reports key words and watch words as they are typed on any child's keyboard. This provides real time and highly effective monitoring of all users on the school system. Mrs Sterjo and Mr Gale have instant access to the Securly Hub which provides instant reports.

This should provide parents and carers with confidence that their children's experience of the online world is safe and backed up by a broad curriculum of online safety guidance.



