



## Welcome to our Summer safeguarding newsletter

Here at Jesson's we take the safety of your child very serious, therefore from September we will be sending out a regular newsletter. It will include aspects around safeguarding, raising your awareness and how to access services to support you and your child.

This first newsletter will be focused around summer safety, policies and procedures, hope you find it useful...



## Policies and procedures



There are many different policies and procedures that staff adhere to, you can view them on the school's website.

The main aim of the 'Child Protection Policy' is to ensure that all pupils are safe in school and staff are aware about the measures that are in place to support any child who is at risk of harm. All staff are provided with information and training in order to carry out their duty of care responsibly towards every child.

### **"When we are concerned.... What we will do..."**

Staff follow the procedures set out by the Dudley Safeguarding Children Board indicated within the policy. If they are worried about a child they initially report their concern to the pastoral team. After discussion and a written record has been made they will,

- In the first instance speak to parents/carers and share their concerns. They will seek their consent before a referral is made to external services.
- **However, there may be occasions when the school will contact another agency before informing parents/carers because it considers that contacting them may increase the risk of significant harm to the child.**

[www.jessons.dudley.sch.uk](http://www.jessons.dudley.sch.uk)

### **Useful web links/addresses**

[www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/) [www.safekids.co.uk](http://www.safekids.co.uk)  
[www.safe4summer.com](http://www.safe4summer.com) [www.shorething.rnli.org](http://www.shorething.rnli.org) [www.CanalRiverTrust.com](http://www.CanalRiverTrust.com)

**Cooking outside...** Children are naturally curious about barbecues! They want to see what's going on, how well lit it is, what's cooking and are always keen to know when it's going to be ready to eat. Yet that's the most dangerous place to be. In fact, each year about 1,000 people suffer injuries, such as burns, caused by barbecues. So ensure children are supervised well.



### The dangers of water and sea

During the school holidays, and in particular in hot weather, increasing numbers of children put themselves at risk of drowning. On average 40-50 children drown per year in the UK.

To keep yourself safe, when you are around or in water, always follow the *Water Safety Code*. Water may look safe, but it can be dangerous.

The dangers of water include:

- it is very cold
- there may be hidden currents
- it can be difficult to get out
- there may be hidden rubbish, e.g. shopping trolleys, broken glass
- it is difficult to estimate the depth.



### **What if you are worried about a child, who do you contact?**

Safeguarding is about protecting children, young people and adults who are at risk of being abused or neglected.

However, if you are worried about the way someone is being treated, please don't ignore it. You may think it's not your responsibility to report it but... **IT IS.**

**It is everybody's responsibility to keep our children safe and happy.**

Call children's services for advice:  
**0300 555 0050**  
(during office hours)  
**OR 999**



### What the law says on.....Home Alone

Strange as it may seem, there's no set age for leaving children home alone. The law simply says that you shouldn't leave a child alone if they'll be at risk. There might not be a specific legal age to leave children alone but it's safe to say babies, toddlers and young children should **never** be left alone, even if it's just while you pop down the road. Instead, the choice is left to parents. They know their children best and can use their own judgement....**BUT...** That's not to say that there are no laws on leaving children home alone. Under the [Children and Young Persons \(England and Wales\) Act 1933](#), **parents and carers can be prosecuted for neglect**. This means that they can be fined or sent to prison if they are judged to have placed a child at risk of harm by leaving them at home alone, regardless of where in the UK the child lives.

### What the law says on.....Smacking your child

It is not illegal for a parent to hit their child as long as the 'smack' amounts to 'reasonable punishment'. There is, therefore, a difference between punishment and what can feasibly be termed 'abuse'.

Unreasonable punishment is classed as a smack that leaves a mark on the child, or the use of an implement to hit the child, such as a belt or cane.

**There are many other ways to sanction your child for example: sending them to their room, having a naughty step and giving them time out or removal of their favourite toy/game (for a reasonable time).**



We value your feedback and suggestions in helping us keep your child safe and happy.

If you have any pastoral concerns and wish to speak to one of the team please contact school on:

**01384 816825** or email [info@jessons.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@jessons.dudley.sch.uk)

**Mrs Anslow** – Designated Safeguarding Lead/Pastoral Manager  
**Mrs Sharma** – Pastoral Member/attendance officer  
**Miss Cope** – Pastoral Member/family support worker

**Enjoy your holidays and see you in September..**