# **Keston Primary School Safeguarding Newsletter**





#### Keeping Safe Week.

On week of the 1st July, as part of our Wellbeing Curriculum, we will be celebrating Keeping Safe week. During this week, children will be discussing important safety skills, how we can keep safe in different situations and who can keep us safe. They will also be discussing how to stay safe by learning the PANTS rules, which the NSPCC have developed.

PANTS stands for:

**P**rivates are private.

Always remember your body belongs to you.

No means no.

Talk about secrets that upset you.

**S**peak up, someone can help.

If you would further information on this please visit: <a href="https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/">https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/</a>

## What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding can be defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment from inside or outside the home, including online.
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development.
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.
- Providing help and support to meet the needs of children.

#### **Key Dates**

National Walking Month – May
Mental Health Awareness Week - 13th May
Carers Week – 10<sup>th</sup> June
Keeping Safe Week – 1<sup>st</sup> July
Grief Awareness Day – 30<sup>th</sup> August



#### Safeguarding In Our Curriculum

Throughout our Wellbeing curriculum, we provide many teaching opportunities for children to understand how to keep themselves safe. Children are taught who keeps them safe in and outside of school, the role of trusted adults, how they can keep themselves self-safe in various situations and the importance of keeping safe online. Children are supported with the language they should use to ask for help and support. Our curriculum is progressive and adapted to the age of the children. Look at our website to see how our Wellbeing curriculum is covered across the school:

https://www.kestonprimary.org.uk/wellbeing/

## <u>Attendance</u>

We are sure that like us, you as parents and carers realise the importance of attendance and punctuality. At Keston, we continue to work hard to try to raise attendance levels and to reduce instances of lateness.

There is much evidence to show that good attendance plays a vital role in helping your child to achieve their potential. We also know that poor attendance can lead to other problems for children.

How can you help your child attend school regularly?

- Talk to your child about school. Take a positive interest in your child's work, including homework;
- Make sure your child understands why school is important;
- Get everything ready for school the night before;
- Arrange appointments before or after school or during the school holidays;
- Take holidays during school holidays and not during term time;
- Set your alarm and your child's alarm clock- see who can beat the clock!
- Only grant days at home for genuine illness (you will know!)
- If your child is slightly under the weather, still send them into school- children often start feeling better as the day goes on and they get busy, and if the school is worried, we will call;
- Children can attend school if they are taking medicines
   speak to the school office. We can give children certain medications with your permission.

#### A new school year

Starting a new school year can be daunting for children, here are some ways to support your child:

- Acknowledge their feelings and communicate with them about these.
- Engage with the school if you notice your child is having difficulties.
- Set daily routines.
- Prioritise sleep.
- Talk about the new school year and what they will be learning.
- Set small, realistic daily goals.
- Create fun, calming activities when they feel overwhelmed.
- Speak to their class teacher if you have any concerns.

### Social Media

An increasing number of children are using social media apps on devices. We urge you to check your children's phones and accounts. Please be reminded of the guidance information below, which shows account holders on these social media sites and apps to be a minimum of 13 years old.



# WhatsApp Group Warning

Whilst WhatsApp has an age rating of 13, a BBC investigation has found that children as young as nine have been added to WhatsApp groups and seen inappropriate content. If your child is using WhatsApp, check their group settings, as default, group privacy settings are set to 'everyone,' which means anybody can add your child to a group without their approval. You can change this setting to 'My Contacts' so only contacts can add them to groups without their approval.

Please see below external services to support children and families.

#### Support for children

**NSPCC** 

Young Minds

Centre Point

Croydon Talk Bus

Croydon Drop in

# **Support for Families**

Barnardo's Family Space

Gingerbread

Family ACTION

Action for Children