



# Safeguarding Newsletter

## Spring Term 2026



### 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 the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies straightaway.

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

#### Meet the Designated Safeguarding Team:

The Safeguarding Team oversee and co-ordinate all aspects of the school's work to ensure that children are kept safe. They regularly attend training to ensure their skills and knowledge are up to-date.

#### Designated Safeguarding Lead:

**Mrs S. Fawn**



#### Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:



**Mrs K. Patterson**



**Miss D. Richardson**

All can be contacted via the office or by telephone on: 01472 691887

For a copy of our school's Child Protection Policy, please visit the Safeguarding page on our school website:

[Child Protection Policy](#)

### 3 WAYS DEVICE USAGE CAN NEGATIVELY IMPACT CHILDREN

#### EFFECTS ON BEHAVIOUR

Just like any addiction, the use of devices can easily become a habit for children. This may lead them to neglect spending time with friends and family, and might cause them to become upset if they are asked to put away their devices to participate in other activities.

#### EFFECTS ON SLEEP

Electronic devices emit blue light that can deceive the brain into believing it's daytime. As a result, using these devices before bed or during the late hours of the night can significantly impact sleep quality, which can have a negative impact on a child's behaviour, both at home and at school.

#### EFFECTS ON THE BRAIN

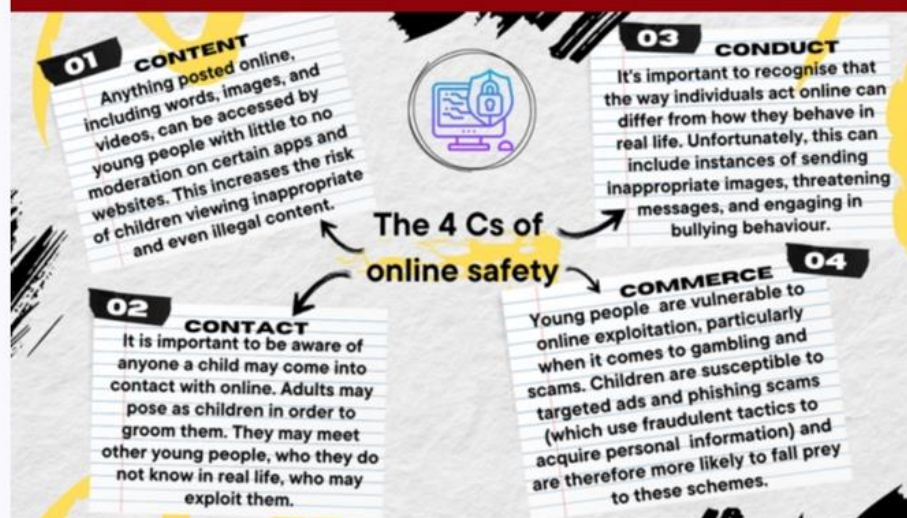
Spending too much time looking at screens can negatively impact a child's ability to engage with traditional learning experiences. This may lead to difficulties focusing on non-electronic activities, such as those found in school. Additionally, children may avoid activities that promote the use of their imagination and social skills.

THE ENLIGHTENED PARENT

For more help and advice visit NSPCC Keeping Children Safe Online [NSPCC Keeping Children Safe Online](#) or contact the NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 5000 to discuss any concerns.

## Online Safety

### Spotlight on Safeguarding



The Online World  
As parents, it's natural to want to know where our children are and what they're doing when they're not with us. However, it's equally important to be aware of their online activities, including the content they're viewing and who they're communicating with.

### How to Discuss Your Child's Online Activities with Them

Talking to your child about their internet use is crucial in understanding what they view online. Start by sitting with them while they use their device and ask them to show you what they're doing. Using phrases like "I'm a little concerned about this app" as a way to communicate that you are interested in their safety. Additionally, asking if they have encountered anything negative will encourage them to come to you if they have any concerns. Regularly discussing this issue will keep the conversation open and ongoing.

### SPOTTING THE SIGNS ONLINE GROOMING



#### Change in behaviour

The young person now spends more time online than before, preferring to stay connected and engaged with their devices.

#### Being secretive

The young person becomes secretive about their online activities and no longer allows you to look at their devices.



#### New relationships

The young person has made new friends, some of whom might be older than them.



#### New ideas

The young person has a new curiosity for ideas and uses language you wouldn't expect them to know.

#### Withdrawn

The young person separates themselves from their usual friends, choosing to spend time online and with new friends.



### The Dangers of Online Grooming and Radicalisation

Online grooming, with the intention of radicalising children and young people, is more common than many people assume. Social media and gaming platforms have made it easier for children to access extremist material, which can be used to promote hateful views towards others. This can be especially dangerous as algorithms can suggest more and more similar content to young people who engage with this type of material. Even if you believe your child is too young and not susceptible to online grooming, they may have 'friends' who are vulnerable. Children and young people may be unaware that they are being groomed as they believe they have made friends online rather than being recruited. Therefore, it is essential for parents and caregivers to understand the warning signs of online groomers.

### How to Keep Your Child Safe Online

As a parent, the best way to protect your child online is through open communication. Discussing the dangers of online grooming and extremist content with your child is a good way to raise awareness. It is also crucial to emphasise that not everything they read online is true.