



# FAIRFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Safeguarding Newsletter: Summer, 2024

*"Safeguarding... Everybody... Everyday"*



## Who to contact if you have concerns 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.

If you have urgent concerns for a child, or suspect that a child has been abused in any way and needs an urgent response, please call the Cumberland Safeguarding Hub immediately on 0333 240 1727.

## Meet the Safeguarding Team at Fairfield Primary School:



Mr. C. Steele  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Mr. J. Gale  
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs. H. Birkett  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Mrs. L. Barrow  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Mrs. C. Jones  
Safeguarding Governor

Mr. J. Gale (the Designated Safeguarding Lead- DSL) can be contacted via email ([deputyhead@fairfieldprimary.co.uk](mailto:deputyhead@fairfieldprimary.co.uk)), via Dojo or by telephoning the school office on: 01900 821133.

## Our Policies:

For a copy of our school's Child Protection Policy, and other related safeguarding policies, please visit the safeguarding page(s) on our school website: [Safeguarding | Fairfield Primary School](#)



Dear parents/guardians,

Welcome to our final safeguarding newsletter of the academic year. These half-termly newsletters aim to provide you with key information and the latest guidance in relation to safeguarding and Keeping Children Safe in Education.

As we approach the summer holiday (I cannot believe how fast this academic year has gone!), this edition outlines some key messages in relation to transition, water safety and includes a full write-up of our fantastic Safeguarding Week 2024.

As ever, if you require any support, guidance or further information, please do not hesitate to either speak to me in person or contact me directly.

Have a fantastic summer break,

**Mr. J. Gale (Designated Safeguarding Lead).**

## Supporting your child with transition:

Just like adults, children cope with changes and transitions in different ways. Some people breeze through with excitement and others feel anxious and need more support. At Fairfield, we are very mindful of these differing needs so we plan our transitions to secondary schools and new classes carefully and with a great deal of thought. However, you as parents/carers play a vital role in making sure this is a positive experience for your children. Here are some tips for supporting us with this:

1. Be positive! – How you react to change will strongly influence your child and if you feel anxious, so will they. Talk about the positive elements of change – new experiences, new opportunities, new topics and meeting new people.
2. Focus on the constants for your child, the things that will be the same. Those in EYFS through to Y5 will be moving class with their peers so their friends will still be with them, they will still see familiar adults and many routines will be the same. For those in Y6 moving to secondary, they too will have constants in terms of life at home and, for many, they will still be with their peers in their new school.
3. Look at our curriculum information on the school website to check out the topics they will be covering in their new year group to help them feel excited about the year ahead (Link: [Curriculum | Fairfield Primary School](#)).
4. Listen to any concerns that are forthcoming but don't go looking for them – remember that most children will be excited about the move and are more than ready for it.
5. If your child is moving from KS1 to KS2, talk about what this will look like at drop-off and pick-up times – you could even do some practice runs!
6. Keep in touch with friends during the holidays so that those connections stay strong.

### Summer Water Safety:

Summer is an amazing time to enjoy Britain's waterways but we should be mindful that according to the Royal Life Saving Society's National Drowning Report 2023, warmer weather is directly linked to an increase in fatal drowning incidents. Every year we hear of children who get into difficulties in our rivers, lakes and seas, often with tragic consequences.

- 46% of drownings occur in the summer months and this rises to 75% amongst 13-17yr olds.
- Rivers and lakes/lochs pose the greatest risk as there are often unseen hazards and conditions that the average person is not equipped to handle and there is a lack of professional supervision such as a lifeguard.

Dangers of playing in or near open water:

- ✓ Unknown depth - some rivers and canals may only be 1 to 2 metres deep. If you jump in from a height, you may hit the bottom much sooner than you think and cause yourself an injury.
- ✓ Currents – currents are not always visible. These can pull you under the water and can be hard to swim out of.
- ✓ Invisible submerged objects – items like trolleys, bricks and sharp objects can be found on riverbeds and in open water. If this isn't visible you may hurt yourself. Equally, the reeds and plants in open water can be hazardous if they get tangled around legs or arms preventing you from being able to swim.
- ✓ Uneven and / or slippery banks - it's easy to lose your footing and then it can be hard to get yourself back on the bank.
- ✓ Cold temperature of the water – in summer, even though the temperature outside is hot, the temperature of water in rivers, the ocean, lakes etc. is still colder than you think.

For more information and advice about keeping your children safe around water, including what the different coloured flags on our beaches mean, go to the RLSS UK website where you will find lots of parent resources.

Link: <https://www.rlss.org.uk/pages/category/summer-water-safety>

As part of Saefguarding Week 2024, all children learnt about the importance of water safety and participated in a stimulating workshop with Cumbria Fire and Rescue, where they heard safety information and advice. Further information from Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service can be found via the following link:

<https://www.cumbriafire.gov.uk/water-safety>



### **Safeguarding Week 2024:**

On the week commencing 17<sup>th</sup> June, we held a focus week with the children on safeguarding. We planned a week, where different visitors, including: a Pharmacist, Steve Wilson (First Aid), Cumbria Fire & Rescue, The NSPCC, Cumbria Constabulary, the NHS, the Cyber Security Team (Cumbria Constabulary), Cumbria's Youth Justice Team, Child Exploitation Team, Mayport Lifeboat, Network Rail etc., delivered a series of assemblies/ workshops to the children. As part of this annual event, the children also engaged with daily, afternoon reflection questions linked to safeguarding.

On the Monday, we welcomed pharmacist Nat, from Allison's Chemist, who spoke to the children in Years 1-4 about medication, including: medicine safety; where medicine comes from; why medicine is useful and important; Asthma safety; and held a question and answer session with the children. In addition, the week was launched by a special safeguarding assembly in the morning. As you all know, safeguarding is our highest priority and happens every minute of every day at Fairfield- the aim of this week was to showcase some key aspects to the children and to hear clear messages from fellow experts in the safeguarding field.

Our Safeguarding Week continued on the Tuesday with Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service visiting school. The Fire Service were in school to host two presentations to Years 1-3 and then Years 4-6 based on what to do in an emergency, fire safety, fire safety in the home, water safety and coastal safety awareness. The children learnt lots of important life lessons during the engaging sessions as well as seeing live demonstrations of safety kit/ procedures, whilst asking many thought-provoking questions. The firefighters then hosted an information session with Nursery, who naturally had to test the hoses and explore the engine too! After lunch, we welcomed Network Rail into school, who delivered a series of workshops to Years 3 and 4 based on rail safety, safety on board trains as well as the dangers both on and near the railways- including level crossings. Meanwhile, the first group of Year 5 children participated in First Aid, with a trained professional. They all passed this accredited First Aid course- vital skills for life! After school, our Mini-Police were in action monitoring the speed of passing vehicles outside of school, linked to their Road Safety initiative.

On the Wednesday, we welcomed the NSPCC into school who delivered workshops to Years 2 and 6, focusing on different scenarios to understand that abuse is never a child's fault and understand what to do in different circumstances to keep themselves safe. As part of the sessions, the children completed booklets linked to the charity's 'Speak out, stay safe' workshop. The NHS were also in school delivering a presentation to Years 3 and 4 based on Healthy Habits. A dietician was also present, who provided advice and information on a healthy, balanced diet. In the afternoon, Cumbria Constabulary visited school again to deliver engaging presentations to our Reception and Year 1 children based on Stranger Danger and Road Safety. The Police Officers also spoke about their role in the community and the children got to see the kit the Police use. The second group of excited Year 5 children participated in the First Aid workshop, with a trained professional. Finally, a local public health nurse, Charlotte, delivered an informative 'sleep' workshop to parents/ guardians in the evening providing lots of useful tips to ensure families get a good night's sleep.

The safeguarding focus continued with a very busy Thursday! The Youth Justice Team were in school to talk to Year 4 about the Law and their responsibility with links to British Values. The children were engrossed throughout and asked lots of interesting questions. Meanwhile, Matt Irving (Cumberland Child Exploitation Lead) was in school to deliver engaging workshops to our Year 5 and 6 pupils based on Child Exploitation. He explained to the children what child exploitation was, County Lines, his role, the Law/ legislation, the signs which may indicate someone is being exploited/ groomed as well as who to turn to for help and support. The talk was very informative and the children learnt lots of important information. The NSPCC were also in school again on the Thursday morning delivering workshops to our Year 5 pupils focusing on different scenarios to understand that abuse is never a child's fault and understand what to do in different circumstances to keep themselves safe. As part of the sessions, the children completed booklets linked to the charity's 'Speak out, stay safe' workshop. In the afternoon, Maryport Rescue (Lifeboat) came to visit school to spend time with our Year 1 pupils linking to their Titanic topic, Grace Darling topic and of course, Safeguarding Week. The children were taught about the importance of water safety, coastal safety and the significance of a life jacket. They got to see the boat and kit in action too! Moreover, as part of afternoon learning the whole school focused on further developing their understanding of what is meant by mental health and why it is so important. As part of this, our School Counsellor (Mrs. Fisher) delivered an engaging talk to our Reception pupils on the importance of her role in school, different feelings and how to cope with different emotions.

Our fantastic Safeguarding Week concluded on the Friday with visits from Cumbria Constabulary and the NHS. Niall, from Cumbria Constabulary's Cyber Crime Team, delivered engaging workshops to our Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils on cyber choice, online safety, cyber-crime and cyber protection. We also welcomed Charlotte (NHS Public Health Nurse) back into school, who delivered very important workshops on the 'Teen Brain' and 'Sleep' to our Year 6 children.

Safeguarding Week 2024 was a fantastic success; a HUGE thank you to all of our speakers and organisations, who visited school throughout the week.

Roll-on 2025!

Safeguarding Week 2024:



NSPCC



**Online Safety (E-Safety): Reminders of the minimum age for popular apps:**



**Facebook (minimum age 13)** – lets users create their own profiles, share status updates, pictures, videos and chat with other users and also has a messenger app.



**Instagram (minimum age 13)** – allows users to alter photos, upload them and share to other social networking sites. Photos and videos can be sent directly to specific users.



**Snapchat (minimum age 13)** – a photo-sharing app where users can send photos or videos to their friends. These will display on screen for up to ten seconds before being deleted, although it is possible to take screenshots of messages and download other apps designed to capture and save Snapchat content.



**TikTok (minimum age 13)** – TikTok users can make their own short videos on the mobile app and often like to have music accompany these. The users have creative control over the videos. Other TikTok users can 'react' to videos they see by filming their responses alongside the original video, or 'duet' by making a video alongside another video.



**Twitter (minimum age 13)** – a social network that lets users send and read 'Tweets': messages limited to 280 characters.



**Tumblr (minimum age 16)** – a social networking site where users can post blogs and follow other people's blogs. Some of the content on this site includes sexual and/or pornographic images.



**WhatsApp (minimum age 16)** – a free-of-charge, real-time messaging service. Users can share images and videos, take part in 'group chats' and share locations. As it's based on knowing the user's phone number, you can only message users if you already have this information. **Note: WhatsApp is now 13.**



**YouTube (minimum age 16)** – allows users to watch, create and comment on videos. The dislike button can create insecurities with content posted even if comments are turned off for the video.