



PRINCEETHORPE
INFANTS AND NURSERY
NEWSLETTER
0121 475 2874

Hello Mums, Dads and Carers,

Safeguarding is about keeping children safe. Safe from harm. It ranges from crossing the road, bullying, sun-safety and Health and Safety issues, all the way to neglect, abuse, *Prevent* and internet safety.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We all have a duty of care to the children in our community. As a school, we have a particular duty, as laid down by the Safeguarding Board of Birmingham.

Each school is required to have a Designated Safeguarding Lead. **The safeguarding leads in our school are SarahJane Wright and Jayne Allen.** If you have any concerns about children in school, you should report them to one of us. If you have any concerns for children in our community, the telephone number for the city's Children's Services is 0121 303 1888.

Most of the time, if we have a concern about your child, you will be contacted and clarification sought. However, there may be a time when we contact Children's Services and we do not tell you, following the guidelines laid down by the Birmingham Safeguarding Board. Often, we are calling them for advice.

Happily, most of our children at school are well-cared for and safe at home, and we adhere to the procedures to make school a happy and safe place to learn, for all our children.

If you read this newsletter and anything worries or concerns you, or you want further advice or clarification, remember parenting course are run from local **Children's Centres**, your **GP** is a good source of advice, or you can always contact me or Mrs Allen on 0121 475 2874.

SarahJane Wright, Headteacher

It is NOT OK to:

- Swear, shout or behave badly in children's company - or to swear AT them;
- *Allow your child to see, hear or play anything that is meant for an adult;*
- Give them poor quality food - or to miss mealtimes;
- *Allow them to wear inappropriate clothing, such as a thin fleece in winter or ill-fitting shoes;*
- Send them to school without wellies/ PE kit;
- *Ignore them, eg on your phone all the time;*
- Let them run on ahead near a busy road;
- *Regularly miss school or bring them late.*

Types of Abuse

There are four types of abuse that the staff are trained to look out for:

1. Physical abuse
2. Emotional abuse
3. Sexual abuse
4. Neglect

The definitions of these are overleaf.

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Physical abuse is deliberately hurting a child, causing injuries such as bruises, broken bones, burns or cuts. It is not accidental: children who are abused suffer violence such as being hit, slapped, kicked, burned or having objects thrown at them. Shaking or hitting babies can cause damage and head injuries.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Emotional abuse can involve trying to scare or humiliate a child, or isolating or ignoring them. It is often ongoing and can cause serious damage to a child's emotional health and development.

SEXUAL ABUSE

A child is sexually abused when they are forced or persuaded to engage in sexual activities. This does not have to be physical contact and it can happen online.

NEGLECT

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs.

It is likely to result in the impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect is about the relationship a parent has with their child.



Children have a right to:

- nurturing, safe and happy relationships;
- enough sleep and regular bedtimes;
- firm, fair rules and appropriate guidance;
- a clean, happy, safe home;
- nutritious food and drink;
- access to appropriate books and toys;
- respectful conversations, valuing their contribution;
- an education;
- quality time with loving people.

We are trained to look for the signs of neglect: the child who..

- is wearing inappropriate clothing for the weather, for example a thin jacket in the winter;
- *misses a lot of school or is always late;*
- is smelly or dirty;
- *is often hungry;*
- often falls asleep during the school day;
- *is sad, withdrawn or very quiet;*
- does not bring the right equipment to school;
- *is too friendly, especially with strangers;*
- has a speech delay;
- *is unkind to others and displays inappropriate behaviour;*
- is not taken to medical appointments.



We must keep our children safe.

Here are some useful websites to help you.

Safety in the Home www.rospea.com/home-safety

Road Safety www.think.direct.gov.uk

Fire Safety www.firekills.campaign.gov.uk

PANTS Rule (personal safety) www.nspcc.org.uk

Water Safety www.rlss.org.uk

Sun safety www.nhs.uk/livewell/skin

Online Safety www.nspcc.org.uk 0808 800 5002

NSPCC: 0800 800 5000

CHILDLINE: 0800 1111

Women's Aid (domestic abuse): 0808 2000 247

If you want to talk because you are worried or concerned about anything in this newsletter, I am usually available and Mrs Allen is a very good listener; she knows a lot of experts. She will probably be able to find the right person to help you.

SarahJane Wright

Headteacher