



Autumn 2022

Fairmead School—Safeguarding

Fairmead Schools first Safeguarding Newsletter.

Welcome to our first edition of our Safeguarding Newsletter. We aim to bring to you relevant help, advice and latest news on issues that we feel will be important to you.

The October half term is now a distant memory and the second half of the Autumn term is well underway, this always proves to be a busy part of the year. This first issue will be concentrated on online and social media issues which currently dominate young people across all educational settings.



*Mrs Felstead—
Designated Safeguarding Lead*



*Mrs Barratt —
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead*

To report a Safeguarding

Concern:



Please call the **school office** on **01935 421295** and ask to speak to a Safeguarding Lead. If it is **outside of school hours** please call Mrs Felstead on **07860 912587** or Mrs Barratt on **07592 504653**.

To report an urgent Safeguarding concern where the young person is at risk of harm:

Please call the **Police** on **999** or

Children's Social Care (Somerset Direct) on **0300 123 2224**.

For an out of hours service please call the **Emergency Duty Team** on **0300 123 2327**.

Online grooming

Talk.iwf.org.uk is helping parents to support their children and young people from online sexual abuse.

TALK to your child about online sexual abuse. Start the conversation and listen to their concerns.

AGREE ground rules on how to use technology.

LEARN about the platforms/apps your child uses.

KNOW how to use tools, apps and settings that can help keep your child safe online.

At Fairmead School, **Mrs Morris** is our Online Safety Lead.





Parental online safety tips!

Young people are spending a lot more time on-line gaming and socialising and it's important we all consider how we can help keep young people safer online. Here's some information about what your child may enjoy online and what you can do to help keep them safer!

Sharing images and videos

Young people often share images or 'selfies' and there is potential for some of those to be nude or nearly nude images.

For information about the context in which images are shared and how best to respond, look at [Nude selfies - a parents guide](#)



internet
matters.org



NSPCC

Links to resources & tools

[Safer internet - Parents & carers resources](#)

[National online safety - guides to apps](#)

[Internet Matters](#)

[thinkuknow - help for parents & carers](#)

[NSPCC - online-safety & online-wellbeing](#)

Online gaming

Online games have features that allow young people to chat to others as they play.

For information on the risks of 'in-game chat' and measures you can take to help protect your child watch this short video: [In - game chat: A guide for parents and carers](#)



Your child's first device!

Christmas is on its way and you might be buying your child their first device or even a new update for existing devices. It is a big decision and can be worrying whether it be a phone, a tablet or laptop, the responsibility and freedom that comes with owning a device is a huge step for children – and you! It could even be their first 'grown up' responsibility. As a parent or carer, it's important to remember that every child should be taught how to be tech-safe. Online safety experts have created five useful steps to help you make that first device or updated device safer for your children or young person in your care. [Keeping my child safe - first device](#)



Attendance at Fairmead

My name is Gilly Smith and I am the Attendance Officer at Fairmead School.

As a school we promote good attendance for the students and wish to use this newsletter as an opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of this, as research shows there is a direct link between good attendance and attainment in school. Please be aware that even if an absence is authorised (illness/medical appointments/visits), percentage attendance is still affected.



As parents, we need your continued help and support to ensure your child reaches their full potential. Attendance at school is a legal requirement and a crucial aspect in preparing your child for the future. Here at Fairmead School we are very proud of our attendance record.

Parents Information:

We understand that school mornings can be hectic but school gates open at **8:40am**. If your child becomes too unwell while at school, a member of the senior leadership team would approve and you will be contacted by the School Office.

Any absence from school, should only be when the child is too unwell to attend school. In this case please call the school office on **01935 421295 (Option 1)** from 8am to record your child too unwell for school **EACH morning**.

Parents should try to make medical appointments outside of school hours wherever possible. If your child must attend a medical appointment, advance notice via email office@fairmeadschool.com is requested (Please state child's full name, class and attach medical evidence to support the absence).

Please note: They are still required to be in school both before and after the appointment.

Warning: If you do not make contact daily, the absence will be recorded as **unauthorised**.

Warning: A parent who takes their child out of school during term time leave after the Head teacher has refused to authorise, could receive a Penalty Notice or a Penalty Fine.

If you have any other issues regarding attendance, and would like to speak with me please feel free to contact me on **01935 421295**. Thank you.

Percentage Attendance	Attendance Information	Learning Hours Lost
Above 98%	Excellent Attendance Students with attendance above 98% have had less than 4 day's absence in the year.	0-20
Above 95%	Good Attendance Students with Attendance above 95% have had less than 9 days absence in a	47.5
90%	Improvement required Students with 90% attendance = 19 days absence over the year. Students with this attendance are missing a month of school per year and may drop	95
Below 90%	Persistent Absentee Students with 90% attendance = 19 days absence over the year. Students will find it difficult to keep up and may	105+
Below 80%	Inadequate Students with 80% attendance have missed a whole year overall. There is an extreme risk of under achievement and this attendance may result in court	142