



Spring 2025

Fairmead School—Safeguarding Newsletter



*Mrs Felstead—
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead*



*Mrs Barratt —
Deputy
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead*

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term has been full of activity, with our young people engaging in various projects and experiences. From innovative classroom activities to vibrant extracurricular pursuits, Fairmead buzzes with curiosity and discovery. It's heartening to see our young people embrace new challenges, support each other, and push their boundaries.

We must address the ongoing concern of online safety. The digital world presents both opportunities and risks for our young people. As a school community, we must remain vigilant and work together to ensure they navigate the digital landscape safely and responsibly.

We urge all parents and carers to maintain open dialogues with your young people about their online activities. Encourage them to share their experiences and guide them towards safe online practices. Our school is committed to providing support and resources in this area and welcomes any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership. Here's to welcoming in a Summer term filled with growth, learning, and shared successes.

With kind regards, Mrs Felstead and Mrs Barratt.

Road Safety

We are always mindful of the safety of our young people near roads and aware of how vulnerable they can be. During the summer, with more children playing outside and enjoying the longer days, your young person is even more at risk near roads. With new bikes and scooters being popular summer gifts, the temptation to go out in the evening will be even stronger. Therefore, I have included some safety tips for you to discuss with your young person/people about the importance of being visible near roads.

These tips emphasise that while brightly coloured clothing is effective in daylight, reflective clothing and accessories are far more effective in signalling pedestrians or cyclists to drivers as it gets dark.

Click [here](#) for more information and activities to do with your young people.

How can my child be seen more easily?

ON DULL DAYS...

- Children can wear bright or fluorescent colours
- High-visibility tabards and other clothing can be purchased from many retailers
- Fluorescent armbands can worn over coats and other clothes
- Use bags in bright colours or with high-visibility strips

AT NIGHT...

- Reflective clothing reflects light from car and bike headlamps
- Reflective armbands, clothes and accessories should be placed on bags and clothing, or over it
- Remember that fluorescent colours don't show up in the dark

HOW TO STAY COOL...

- For older children who may see fluorescent and reflective items as 'uncool', stickers for bags or coats can be purchased





Supporting exam and testing wellbeing—webinar

A free 1 hour virtual workshop hosted by Somerset Mental Health Support Team exploring:

- What might get in the way of wellbeing during exams and tests.
- How our brain and body might respond to stress and overwhelm.
- Ideas of how to support our children (and ourselves) before, during and after exams and tests.

Open to any parent carer in Somerset, just provide the name of your child's school on registration.

Click here:

[Supporting exam and testing wellbeing – webinar](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/events/supporting-exam-and-testing-wellbeing-webinar/)
www.somerset.gov.uk/events/supporting-exam-and-testing-wellbeing-webinar/

Supporting your child's big feelings—webinar

A free 1 hour virtual workshop hosted by Somerset Mental Health Support Team exploring:

- How to support your child's and teen's emotional resilience in the moment and for the future.
- Strategies that will help develop emotionally intelligent mindsets for all your family.
- You will go away with a range of tools (including emotion coaching) to boost your child's, and your own, emotional resilience.

Open to any parent carer in Somerset, just provide the name of your child's school on registration.

Click here: [Supporting your child's big feelings – webinar](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/events/supporting-your-childs-big-feelings-webinar/)

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Parent contact details



It is good practice for schools to hold more than one emergency contact number for every child in school.

Please ensure that we have a minimum of two, preferably three, and that all details are updated regularly.

Please remember to update us immediately if...

- You move address,
- You change your mobile number,
- You have a change of employment,
- You no longer have a land line number....



Please call the office on 01935 421295 or email office@fairmeadschool.com

Smartphone free childhood is a community of over 150,000 working together to change the cultures around children and their smart phones. They have made it their mission to provide solidarity, support and solutions to parents who are struggling with what's become of the most defining parenting challenges of our times.

For more information on this movement

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>



YouTube

YouTube is designed for users aged 13 and older, but younger children can still access it with parental or legal guardian consent. When allowing your young person to use YouTube, there are different options based on their age:



- **YouTube Kids:** This is a separate app with a curated selection of videos tailored to specific age groups: Preschool (ages 4 and under), Younger (ages 5–8), and Older (ages 9–12).
- **Supervised accounts:** This parent-managed version of YouTube lets you control the content your young person can access. You can choose from the following options:
 - Explore:** Suitable for viewers aged 9+.
 - Explore more:** Suitable for viewers aged 13+.
 - Most of YouTube:** Includes almost all content on YouTube except for videos marked as 18+ and other content that may not be appropriate for supervised experiences.

Google has created a guide to help you understand the differences between YouTube Kids and Supervised accounts: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420>.



My young person wants to be a YouTuber

Many young people aspire to start their own YouTube channel. It's important to be aware of potential risks and ensure your young person knows what information to keep private and how to handle negative comments. YouTube has provided safety tips for teens posting content: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802244>.

When posting videos, be aware of the different settings available:

1. **Public:** Anyone can view the video.
2. **Private:** Only users you select can view the video.
3. **Unlisted:** Only people with the link can view the video.



Benefits and negatives of a YouTube channel

Before allowing your young person to start a YouTube channel, review the benefits and risks. This article discusses the pros and cons and provides recommendations to help minimise any risks: <https://www.brightcanary.io/should-your-kid-become-a-youtuber-weighing-the-pros-and-cons/>

For further information

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/youtube> and <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802272?hl=en-GB>



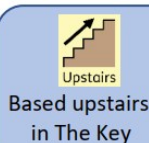
Fairmead School's Parent Hub

Our Parent Hub is open every Wednesday between 8.30am -12.30pm & 1.30pm -5.00pm.

Here you will find lots of information and resources, parent get-togethers, meetings, events, webinars and workshops.



Please contact the school office if you wish to make an appointment on 01935 421295.



Grief

Grief is the emotion (as well as others) we experience when we have to face a death or bereavement.

It is a process that can last different lengths of time and can affect how you feel physically and emotionally.

We all experience grief differently and there is no right or wrong way.

To gain support, young people can talk to any member of staff in school. You can also contact [Winston Wish](#), [Cruse](#) or [Bereavement UK](#).

Don't suffer alone there is always someone to talk to.



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](#)

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

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

Please call the Police on 999 or

Somerset children: 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.

Dorset children: Children's Social Care 01305 228866.

To report a safeguarding concern:

Please call the school office on 01935 421295 and ask to speak to a Safeguarding Lead.

Outside of school hours, if it is urgent but the young person is not at risk of harm please call Mrs Felstead on 07860 912587 or Mrs Barratt on 07592 504653. Please do not abuse these numbers—they are for urgent safeguarding only.

You can also email: safeguarding@fairmeadschool.com