



SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER 7

December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the 7th edition of our Safeguarding newsletter.

Each term we aim to share information and advice for parents and carers on issues we feel may be important to you.

The Leys School Safeguarding team are

- Mrs Khangura (Headteacher)
- Mrs Clibbon (Family Worker)
- Mrs Pomroy (SEND coordinator)
- Mrs Barr (Deputy Head)

If you need to discuss an urgent safeguarding concern please contact a member of the team.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SEASON

Children love the magic of Christmas but for some, it is not a happy holiday to look forward to at all. For some children and their families, there is no sparkle in the December festivities because it isn't filled with happiness, family and friends, joy and peace. The sad reality is, Christmas can be a time when children struggle as their perception of things is not the same as that of an adult.

Some things to please remember during December

- expectations are often high and not always fulfilled
- don't make comparisons about who has spent the most/least
- family relationships can be fraught
- separated parents arguing about Christmas arrangements is distressing for children
- The children should never be encouraged to 'take sides' - agree ground rules in advance
- Step-siblings can be the cause of huge anxiety to children
- some children feel isolated from their friends and school adults
- overindulgence resulting in changed behaviour can cause children to feel very unsafe





The Leys Primary & Nursery School

Ripon Road, Stevenage, Herts SG1 4QZ

T: 01438 314148 F: 01438 721364 E: admin@leys.herts.sch.uk W: www.leys.herts.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs D Khangura

Learning Today . . . Leading Tomorrow

- children should not be left unsupervised - how would the child cope in an emergency situation?
- What are your children doing online? The predators are fully aware children may be online more and will be working to befriend them. Other adults/visitors may not have the same parental controls on devices they are offering for your child to use.
- Is a home you are visiting as safe as your own? Are medicines securely locked away? Is that unfamiliar top bunk a safe place for your small child to sleep?
- One in ten accidents involving children happen in the kitchen, mainly burns and scalds - keep them occupied elsewhere whenever you can
- Even small amounts of alcohol can poison children - make sure it's not accidentally accessible
- Check smoke alarms prior to the festivities. Always ensure candles and cigarettes are fully extinguished after use.
- Button batteries and other small parts can be lethal to small children and pets if swallowed.

The NSPCC are there to help 24/7 and children can call the [Childline](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/childline) number on 0800 1111 adults concerned about a child can call 0808 800 5000

[Shout](https://www.shout247.com/) is a 24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis anytime, anywhere. It's a place to go if you're struggling to cope and you need immediate help. Text 85258

Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable Christmas break and a very Happy New Year.

See you on Friday 5th January 2024



Empathy Inclusivity Respect Aspiration Determination Empowerment

