



WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN 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

Meet the Designated Safeguarding Team:

The Safeguarding Team oversee and co-ordinate all aspects of the school's work to ensure that children are kept safe. They regularly attend training to ensure their skills and knowledge are up-to-date.

Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs V Prowle



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:

Mr C Pickard
Miss N Chinnery
Mrs L Bright

School Safeguarding Governors:

Mr S Leary
Mr H Uddin

All can be contacted via the office or by telephone on:
01582 728262

For a copy of our school's Child Protection Policy, please visit the Safeguarding page on our [school website](#):

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

This half-term should see a return to longer days and, with them, better weather and more opportunities to get out and about. With that in mind, the focus of this edition of our newsletter is on car-seats and in-car safety for children following feedback from some of our parents about this issue.

Following our very successful Internet Safety Day, I have also provided some information about the various sessions that took place as well as some interesting statistics about what our children are getting up to online.

If there is anything you would like to see featured in this newsletter around safeguarding or wellbeing, please let me know via the school email address: enquiries@putteridgeprimaryschool.org.uk

Mrs V Prowle (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Useful Safeguarding Acronyms and Vocabulary

- DSL:** Designated Safeguarding Lead
- MASH:** Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
- CP:** Child Protection
- CiN:** Child in Need
- CEOP:** Child Exploitation and On-Line Protection Centre
- KCSIE:** Keeping Children Safe in Education
- PREVENT:** Part of the Government's Counter-Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn in to extremism
- CAMHs:** Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- SEND:** Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

Report any concerns if you suspect a child is being abused or is in danger of being abused, please contact a Designated Safeguarding Lead, or any member of staff. You can also contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on:

☎: 01582 547653

Out of Hours service: 0300 300 8123

✉ MASH@luton.gov.uk

Or make an online referral via the website:

https://directory.luton.gov.uk/kb5/luton/directory/service.page?id=aJZE_QSgZfQ

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility



Types of Child Abuse





Car Seat Awareness

We have been made aware that there are some children arriving at school in cars without any safety restraint, including some who have been standing between the front seats of the car.

With this in mind, I thought this month's newsletter would be a good opportunity to highlight the UK law on use of car seats and child-safety in cars as a reminder.

Did you know?

"Seat belts did not become a legal requirement for rear passengers until 1987? Even more remarkably the use of children's car seats wasn't made a legal requirement until 2006!

*Since then, all infants from birth until a certain age or height **must** be in a specially designed car seat. This is a legal requirement and failure to do so will likely result in you receiving a £500 fine but, of course, the threat of a cash fine pales into insignificance when compared to the realities and outcomes of an accident."* www.incarsafetycentre.co.uk

Main points of the law:

- 1) Height based seats are required to used REAR FACING for a minimum of 15 months.
- 2) A suitable* child car seat **must be used** until the child reaches a height of 135cms or 12 years old, whichever is reached first.

*suitable = a seat that is intended for the child's height, weight and the vehicle it is to be used in.

The purpose of the regulations and the law is to improve levels of safety for children in vehicles. It is our responsibility to ensure our children are protected to the best of our ability.

What are the legal requirements for rear-facing car seats?

New laws dictate that children must travel in rear-facing car seats until they are 15 months old. **Furthermore, you must never fit a rear-facing car seat in the front of your car where there is an active passenger airbag.**

What are the legal requirements for forward-facing car seats?

From 15 months old onwards, it is believed that your child's neck will be strong enough to more reasonable handle the impact of an accident and, therefore, forward-facing car seats may be used. **However, it is recommended that rear-facing seats are used for as long as possible.**

What car seat is legally required for my child?

There are two categories of seats: those that are manufactured to the latest **EU standard ECE R129**, known as i-Size and are based on a child's height; and those manufactured under the **EU standard ECE R44-04** which are weight-based.



Here is a simple guide to seat categories.

Categories	Height Based	Weight Based	Approximate Age
Infant Carriers	Birth to 75 or 87cm	Birth to 13kg	Birth - 15mths
Toddler Seats	76 to 105cm	9kg to 18kg	15mths - 3 1/2
Combination Seats (Infant and toddler combined)	Birth to 105cm	Birth to 18kg	Birth - 3 1/2
Child Seats	100 to 150cm	15kg to 36kg	3 1/2 - 12 years
Combination Seats (Toddler and child combined)	n/a	9kg to 36kg	3 1/2 - 12 years

When can a child legally travel without a car seat?

In the UK, children **must** be restrained in a car seat until they are 12 years old or at least 135cm tall. From that point onwards, they must use a seat belt like all adults.

There are a few exceptions to this:

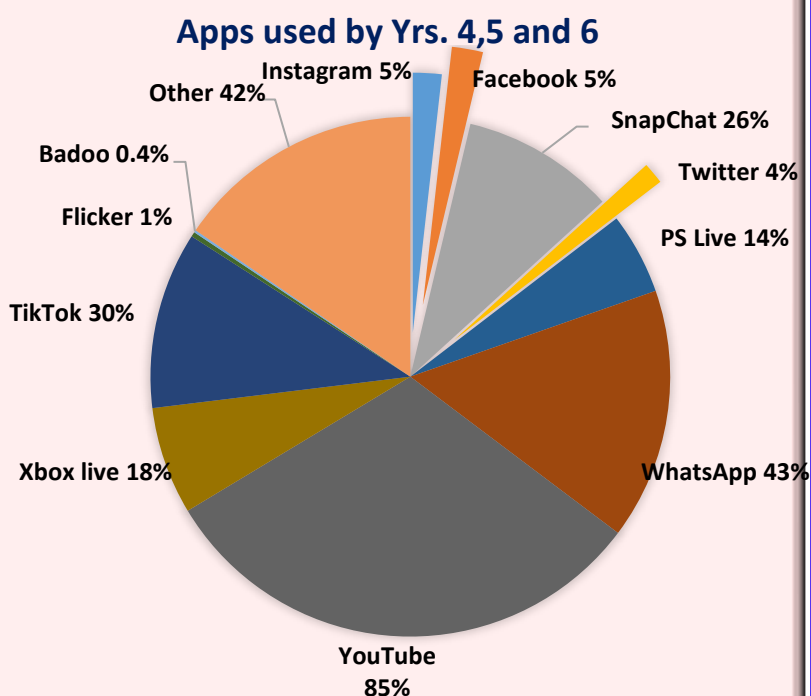
- A child can travel in a taxi or mini-cab without a car seat if the driver doesn't provide one however, they **must** wear a seat belt.
- The same rule applies for coaches and minibuses – children **must** travel in rear seats and use seat belts.
- If you have to make a short, unexpected journey as an emergency, it is legally acceptable to restrain your child with just a seatbelt instead of a car seat providing your child is 3 years or older.
- Children with special or additional needs or medical conditions will have bespoke requirements outside of normal laws. Usually, they are required to be restrained by means designed for their needs.

While these exceptions exist, it is advisable not to take any unnecessary risks. Accidents happen in buses and taxis too.

ONLINE SAFETY – PUPIL VOICE

Prior to the online safety day, I asked children to take part in an anonymous survey to find out more about their Internet habits and some of the results were quite striking. You will have received the results for your child's year group/s in ParentMail before half-term but I have included two key headlines here which are concerning:

38% of KS1 and 59% of KS2 children who responded said they had seen something online that made them feel uncomfortable.





Online Safety Day

21st February 2023



As you know, the children from Y1 to Y6 took part in workshops throughout the day to further their understanding of how to keep themselves safe online and this was followed up by a staff training session after school which brought the adults in school up-to-date with the latest trends in young people's Internet use along with the potential risks and pitfalls that go along with these and ways to support our children as they learn to live in a virtual world.

Lots of parents also logged on to the free recorded session provided by ECP and we have received some very positive feedback regarding this:

"Very useful and much appreciated"

"Well run and good information"

As well as good ideas for what to do with the information moving forward:

"Check privacy settings, even on Spotify"

"Discuss with the children about protecting themselves and how to deal with what might be seen"

"More communication with children and monitoring"

The slides from the presentation can be found on our website at:

<https://www.putteridgeprimaryschool.org.uk/page/ECPOnlineSafety>

They are well worth a look as there was plenty of information about new risks, including some associated with Spotify which wouldn't normally be considered a Social Media platform.

For more information on keeping your children safe online, please see the new and improved e-safety pages on our website where there is lots of information and further links to websites that can support you at home, including useful 'What Parents Need to Know' factsheets on all things gaming and social media.

<https://www.putteridgeprimaryschool.org.uk/page/onlinesafety>

'What Parents need to know'



The National Online Safety Website publishes excellent guides for parents about all aspects of online safety. Some of these are shared here under various categories.

On each page there is a list of the relevant guides for that section with the National Online Safety website's summary to help you find what you need. The actual PDFs are then towards the bottom of the page.

Keep checking back for more!

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