



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 Governor:

Mr L Donohoe

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,

As another school year draws to a close, it's a perfect opportunity to reflect on how much has been achieved since September of last year:

- Miss Chinnery's hard work with the OPAL project has radically changed the way our playtimes and lunchtimes are perceived and enjoyed by staff and children alike.
- Staff and children alike have worked hard incredibly hard on a variety of topics from our new, improved curriculum.
- Lots of extra-curricular opportunities have been provided and Mr Horton has introduced a number of exciting activities including the Christmas treasure hunt in January!
- Of course, across the school we have seen lots of high-quality work from the children of which they and you should be proud!

None of what we do would be possible without you as parents and carers so, as 21st July and a six week break approaches, I would like to say thank-you: for the time you devote to helping your children at home; for encouraging them when things get tough; for getting them to school each day ready to learn and, of course, for your support of the team of dedicated professionals here at Putteridge.

I hope you have a wonderful summer and look forward to the challenges that lie ahead as we work together in the next academic year!

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=aJZEOSgZfQ>

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility





Supporting your child with Transition?

Just like adults, children cope with changes and transitions in different ways. Some people breeze through with excitement and others feel anxious and need more support. At Putteridge, we are very mindful of these differing needs so we plan our transitions to high schools and new classes carefully and with a great deal of thought. However, you as parents/carers play a vital role in making sure this is a positive experience for your children. Here are some tips for supporting us with this:

1. Be positive! – How you react to change will strongly influence your child and if you feel anxious, so will they. Talk about the positive elements of change – new experiences, new opportunities, new topics and meeting new people.
2. Focus on the constants for your child, the things that will be the same. Those in EYFS through to Y5 will be moving class with their peers so their friends will still be with them, they will still see familiar adults and many routines will be the same.
For those in Y6 moving to High School, they too will have constants in terms of life at home and, for some, they too will still be with their peers in their new school.
3. Look at our curriculum information on the school website to check out the topics they will be covering in their new year group to help them feel excited about the year ahead.
4. Listen to any concerns that are forthcoming but don't go looking for them – remember that most children will be excited about the move and are more than ready for it.
5. If your child is moving from KS1 to KS2, talk about what this will look like at drop-off and pick-up times – you could even do some practice runs!
6. Keep in touch with friends during the holidays so that those connections stay strong.

The Power of 'Thank-you'

It's been said that since we are given the gift of 84,000 seconds every day, we should use at least one of them to say 'thank you'. That's not bad advice and a simple thank you does more than you might think, for you as well as for those on the receiving end.

Research shows that being grateful can make us happier, healthier and more optimistic. Gratitude reduces anxiety and generates positivity; it helps us build healthy relationships with others as well as handle adversity more effectively. Feeling grateful towards others benefits you and them simultaneously. If you say 'thank-you' it's good for your own wellbeing as well as theirs and, if all it takes is a few seconds out of your day to do that, it's got to be worth it.

Who would you like to say 'thank you' to?

Thank you!



School Summer Holidays

Whilst it is lovely for families to spend quality time together during the summer holidays, it can also be a time that causes stress due to clashes with work or financial pressures. This is a link to a useful article from 2021 which includes tips and ideas for parents /carers to make the long break easier:

<https://www.guidetolife.co.uk/summer-break-wellbeing/>





Vaping amongst Children

The supply of disposable vapes has exploded over recent months. The child-appealing design of the packaging and the fruity flavours have made vaping more appealing to children and we are hearing more and more about primary age children using these outside of school. What is more, the knock-on effect of the popularity of vaping amongst children is that perpetrators of Child Sexual or Criminal Exploitation and abuse are giving vapes to individuals as part of their grooming tactics. If you know of any local businesses selling vapes to underage children, please report this to the police so that it can be shared with the regional intelligence unit.

Here are some facts and figures on the topic taken from Sky News:

In May 2023, data for Action on Smoking and health (ASH) showed there had been a **50% rise in the proportion of children trying vaping** in Great Britain in the last year.

The proportion of children who said they had tried vaping once or twice **roughly doubled in nine years from 5.6% in 2014 to 11.6% this year.**

There has been a rise in experimental vaping among 11-17 yr olds from **7.7% last year to 11.6% this year.**

In 2021 current child vapers were least likely to vape disposables (7.7%), but in 2022 they became the most used (52%) and the trend has **continued to rise to 69% in 2023** with purchases of these e-cigarettes being made mostly from corner shops.

“Youth vaping is fast becoming an epidemic among children and I fear that if action is not taken, we will find ourselves sleepwalking in to a crisis.”

Dr. Mike McKean (Vice President for Policy and paediatric respiratory consultant at the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health)

For the full ‘ASH’ report see:

<https://ash.org.uk/resources/view/use-of-e-cigarettes-among-young-people-in-great-britain>

