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December 2023



Safeguarding @alsagerschool.org

Parent volunteers wanted

We would like to develop a parent friendly version of our child protection and safeguarding policy. If you are interested in being involved with a working party to develop this, please email the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr R Pearce, on

Lockdown drill

Following the requirement for several schools both locally and nationally to go 'into lockdown' we felt it was beneficial to practice going through this process should the need ever arise at Alsager. The pupils responded superbly, staying calm and following the advice of staff. Hopefully it will never be needed but we feel confident in our process should we ever have to call upon it in the future.

The safety and welfare of your children is our main priority



This issue:

- Working one-to-one with young people
- Parent volunteers wanted
- Lockdown drill
- Online safety
- Head of College e-mail address update

Safeguarding advice for parents

Welcome to the first edition of our termly Safeguarding Newsletter from Alsager School's Safeguarding Team. The aim is to bring you the latest, relevant help and advice on issues we feel are important and keep you up to date with any changes we implement in school to help keep your child safe.

Working one-to-one guidance

We have developed new guidance for our teachers when working one-to-one with pupils. We only work one-to-one with a child when necessary. Sometimes working one-toone is essential and benefits our pupils. For example, when acting as a scribe in exams, or when supporting (mentoring) a student with their behaviour or progress. When this work is planned in advance and when a member of staff meets the same child, this work will be done with the knowledge and consent of parents. Occasionally one-to-one work will happen that is unplanned, or infrequent, for example, supporting students with their classwork or speaking to a student about a behaviour or safety concern. The new guidance will ensure both your child and our staff are kept as safe as possible.

Online safety

Age ratings are in place to help protect your child, so we thought we'd provide you with a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing. Did you know that WhatsApp has an age rating of 16?



More information can be found on our website here: https://www.alsagerschool.org/e-safety/
It has numerous links to websites such as https://www.askaboutgames.com/ which is a website dedicated to offering advice about gaming. So, if you are buying the latest Xbox for your child for Christmas and want to know more about setting up the safety controls this is the place to go. There are also a whole host of one-page guides from

https://nationalonlinesafety.com/ which offer safety advice on social media platforms such as TIKTOK, Instagram and Snapchat.

Heads of College e-mail address update

Please note that we have updated the contact e-mail addresses for our Heads of College.

Mr Woods <u>dod@alsagerschool.org</u>; Mrs Richardson <u>lovell@alsagerschool.org</u>; Mrs Broad <u>moreton@alsagerschool.org</u>; Miss Monaghan <u>royce@alsagerschool.org</u>