

Stanburn Primary School



Safeguarding Newsletter Autumn 2



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, Child protection officer or Deputies straightaway.

If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police on 999

Meet the Designated Safeguarding Team:



Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs R. Malik



Child Protection Officer

Mr M. Lynch



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

Mrs K. Hartland

Miss C. Crane

The Safeguarding Team oversee and coordinate 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.

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the second edition of our Safeguarding Newsletter this year. It's hard to believe how quickly the term is flying by and how much the children have already achieved since returning in September. Their enthusiasm and progress continue to make us proud every day.

As the evenings draw in and the days grow shorter, we're reminded that winter – and Christmas – are just around the corner. This busy and exciting time of year also gives us a chance to pause and reflect on how we can continue to keep our children safe, supported, and happy both in and out of school.

Next week marks Anti-Bullying Week, which offers a valuable opportunity to reinforce our ongoing message that kindness, respect, and inclusion are central to everything we do at Stanburn.

At Stanburn, safeguarding remains at the heart of our school community. This newsletter aims to keep you informed about key updates, helpful resources, and ways we can work together to ensure every child feels safe and supported. In this edition, we'll be highlighting some of our recent safeguarding initiatives and sharing practical tips to help you support your child's online safety at home.

Mrs R. Malik (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Useful contacts

[Harrow Safeguarding Children Partnership](#) 020 8901 2690

[Childline](#) 0800 1111

[NSPCC](#) 0808 8005000



Spotlight on Safeguarding

What are AI chatbots?

Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbots – such as ChatGPT, Google Gemini and others are becoming more common in everyday life. Children may encounter them at school, in games or even through websites and apps. While these tools can be useful and fun, it's important for parents to understand how they work, the potential risks and how to keep children safe. AI chatbots are computer programmes that can hold a conversation with a person.

They can:

- answer questions (e.g. helping with homework or explaining a tricky topic).
- spark creativity (e.g. helping write a poem, story or quiz).
- support hobbies and interests (e.g. generating recipe ideas, sports facts or coding tips).
- provide entertainment (e.g. riddles, jokes or role-play style games).

When used wisely, chatbots can be a helpful tool for learning and fun.

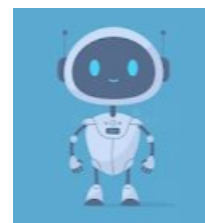
When conversations can become concerning

Although conversations may start out innocent, there are risks to be aware of:

- **Unpredictable responses:** chatbots sometimes give inaccurate, confusing or inappropriate information.
- **Role-play risks:** a child may ask the chatbot to pretend to be a friend, character or even a parent figure. This can blur the line between fantasy and reality.
- **Sensitive topics:** children may explore personal worries with a chatbot and the answers they receive might not always be supportive, accurate or safe.
- **Over-reliance:** a child might start turning to a chatbot for advice instead of trusted adults.



Click on the [link](#) for more information on how AI Chatbots affect children .



Key message: AI chatbots can be a useful tool, but they are not a replacement for safe, supportive human relationships. With guidance, supervision and open conversations, parents can help children explore this technology in a safe and balanced way.

Spotlight on Safeguarding

Online safety

Children and young people are skilled in using computers, mobile phones and gaming machines such as Wii or PlayStation Portable (PSP). New Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is offering a new world full of opportunity and potential, with children able to express themselves, play and learn in fantastic new ways.

This 'cyber world' offers knowledge, personal growth, extensive friendships and fun. But there are also new, exclusive dangers and challenges, particularly for children and young people. There are many concerns, such as:

- Bullying
- Addiction
- Health risks
- Gambling and debt
- Child sexual abuse
- Desensitising children to violence and intimacy.

Everyone who is responsible for children's welfare needs to understand the strengths and the dangers of cyber world. For further information please click on this [link](#).

Social Media

If your child has access to social media and chat facilities, or is likely to receive a device this Christmas that gives them access, please practice safe use by installing parental controls and regularly monitoring activity. Please check the chat groups that your child is in and the content being posted. Please block access to any unsuitable material, take screen shots as evidence and report any safeguarding concerns. For further information click on the [link](#).



Roblox: Grow a Garden



Roblox is a platform consisting of a collection of games. Grow a Garden is one of the games available on Roblox and is extremely popular. The game is labelled as '**minimal**' for content maturity, which Roblox define as "*may contain occasional mild violence, light unrealistic blood, and/or occasional mild fear.*"

Roblox believe that the game play is suitable for everyone. However, as the game is on Roblox, it is important to be aware of the following:

Chat – strangers can interact with your child.

In-game purchases – this game does include in-game purchases.

Screen time – set limits for how long your child is playing.

Most of the content on Roblox is user generated, which may mean not all games will be suitable for your child to view/play. If your child is playing Roblox, it is important to monitor what your child is accessing, ensure they know how to use any reporting tools and set up appropriate parental controls.

Spotlight on Safeguarding



We are sure that, like us, you as parents and carers realise the importance of attendance and punctuality. At Stanburn we continue to work hard to maintain our excellent attendance levels and to reduce incidences of lateness.

Attendance facts:

- Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure that their child receives a full-time education.
- Parents can be issued with a fixed penalty notice for failing to ensure their child attends school regularly – this includes taking a child out of school on holiday.
- The local authority has the power to prosecute parents in the magistrate's court for the offence of failing to ensure their child attends school regularly.

There is much evidence to show that good attendance plays a vital role in helping your child to achieve their potential. We also know that poor attendance can lead to other problems for children.

Children who do not attend school regularly are more likely to:

- Fall behind in their school work
- Find it difficult to make and keep friends
- Be unhappy at school
- Misbehave so that others cannot see that they are finding the work difficult
- Learn poor attendance habits that follow through to secondary school and future employment

Poor punctuality can also disadvantage children in many ways:

- Being frequently late adds up to lost learning.
- When children are late they find it harder to settle in to the routine of the day
- Poor punctuality disrupts the class and can be embarrassing for the child

