

Red Oaks Primary School Safeguarding

Newsletter July 2026

At Red Oaks we are committed to ensuring a culture of safeguarding in our school and it is paramount in all we do. It is so important for children to learn about how to keep themselves safe in different situations and we have developed our own safeguarding curriculum to ensure all of our children have a good understanding of how to stay safe.

For more information about safeguarding at Red Oaks, please see the website:

www.redoaks.org.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding&pid=12

As we approach the end of another busy and successful school year, we would like to thank all of our families for your continued support in helping us keep our children safe, happy and well.

The summer holidays are an exciting time for children, offering opportunities for rest, fun and new experiences. However, we also know that changes to routine, increased independence, more time outdoors, and greater access to technology can sometimes bring additional challenges.

In this newsletter, we have shared key information, advice and resources to help you support your child to stay safe over the summer break. This includes guidance around online safety, being safe in the community and managing transitions as we look towards the start of another exciting school year.

As always, safeguarding is a partnership between home and school. We encourage you to keep open and supportive conversations with your children and to seek help if you have any concerns. No concern is ever too small, and support is always available.

We wish all of our families a safe, happy and restful summer holiday.

Warm regards,

The Safeguarding Team

If you have a concern about the safety or well-being of a child, please speak to one of our safeguarding team.



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Online Safety

During the holidays, children often have more free time and may spend longer online playing games, using apps, or chatting with friends. While this can be a fun and positive way to stay connected, it's important to help children stay safe in the digital world.

Here are some simple tips to support your child:

Screen Time & Balance

- Set **clear expectations around screen time** and encourage regular breaks
- Support children to enjoy a **healthy balance** of online and offline activities
- Keep devices in **shared family spaces** where possible

Privacy & Personal Information

- Remind children **not to share personal information** (such as their full name, address, school, or location) online
- Check that privacy settings on apps and games are **set appropriately**
- Encourage the use of **nicknames or usernames** rather than real names

Online Communication

- Talk with your child about **who they are chatting with** and remind them that people online are not always who they say they are
- Encourage them to **only communicate with people they know in real life**
- Reinforce that it's never okay for someone to make them feel uncomfortable

Recognising Risks

- Help your child understand how to spot **inappropriate content, scams, or unkind behaviour**
- Encourage them to **block, report, and tell a trusted adult** if something doesn't feel right
- Remind them that they will **not get in trouble for speaking up**

Keeping Communication Open

- Show an interest in what your child enjoys doing online
- Create a safe space where they feel comfortable **talking to you about their experiences**
- Regularly check in and remind them that **support is always available**

Keeping children safe online is a shared responsibility, and small daily conversations can make a big difference.

Being safe in the Community

The summer holidays are a wonderful time for children to enjoy more independence, spend time with friends, and explore their local community. As children may be out and about more often, it's important to remind them how to stay safe.

Here are some helpful reminders to support your child:

Out and About

- Encourage children to **stay in groups** or with trusted friends where possible
- Make sure they **tell you where they are going, who they are with, and what time they will return**
- Agree on **clear boundaries** about where they can go and who they can be with

Keeping in Contact

- Ensure your child knows how to **contact you or another trusted adult** if needed
- If they have a mobile phone, remind them to **keep it charged and with them**
- Talk about what to do if they feel worried or unsafe – it's always okay to ask for help

Road and Public Safety

- Remind children to **cross roads safely**, use crossings where possible, and stay alert
- Discuss how to stay safe when using bikes or scooters, including **wearing helmets**
- Encourage awareness of their surroundings, especially in busy places such as parks, shops, and public transport

Trusted Adults

- Help your child recognise **safe, trusted adults** they can go to if they need help (e.g. police officers, shop staff, or parents with children)
- Reinforce the message that they should **never go off with someone they do not know**, even if they feel pressured

Building Confidence

- Regularly remind your child that their **feelings matter**, and they can always talk to you if something doesn't feel right
- Encourage them to **trust their instincts** and seek help straight away if they feel unsafe

If you have any concerns about your child's safety, please do not hesitate to reach out for support.

Managing transitions

Just like adults, children respond to changes and transitions in different ways. Some move forward with excitement, while others may feel anxious and need a little more support.

At Red Oaks, we carefully plan transitions to new classes and secondary schools to ensure they are thoughtful, supportive and positive experiences for all children.

Parents and carers play an important role too! Here are some simple ways you can help:

Be Positive

Your reaction to change matters. If you feel calm and confident, your child will too.

Talk about the exciting aspects – new opportunities, new learning and making new friends.

Focus on What Stays the Same

- Children in EYFS – Year 5 will move classes with their friends.
- They will still see familiar adults and follow many of the same routines.
- Year 6 pupils moving to secondary school will still have important constants at home and, for many, familiar peers alongside them.

Explore What's Ahead

Take a look at the school website together to explore the topics for the new year group – this helps build excitement and curiosity about what's next.

Listen, but Reassure

Encourage your child to talk if they have worries, but don't go searching for concerns. Most children feel ready and excited for this next step.

Practise New Routines

If your child is moving from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2, talk through changes to drop-off and pick-up – you could even practise together!

Keep Friendships Strong

Arrange opportunities to stay in touch with friends over the holidays so that those connections continue.

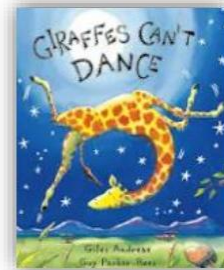
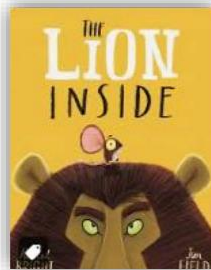
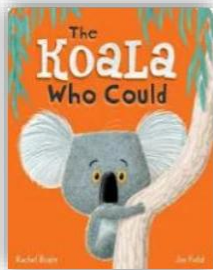
💛 Working together, we can make transitions positive, exciting and supportive for every child.

😊 If you have any questions or need further support, please do not hesitate to get in touch – we are always here to help.

Recommended reads...

The following books might help support your child with transitions:

- The Koala Who Could, by Rachel Bright, "a funny tale for anyone who finds change a little bit worrisome"
- The Lion Inside, also by Rachel Bright, "a story about confidence, self-esteem and a shy little mouse who sets out to find his roar"
- Giraffes Can't Dance, by Giles Andreae, "a story about confidence, self-esteem and developing a positive mindset about trying new things"



Useful contacts:

Contact Swindon (integrated front door for social services). If you have concerns about a child and want to speak to a social worker – 01793 464646 or email contactswindon@swindon.gov.uk

If you have concerns that a child is at immediate risk of harm, please call the police on 999

School Nursing Team – for support to help children with their physical, mental and emotional well-being and referring to other specialist agencies.

Tel – 01793 465050 or email snn@swindon.gov.uk

Online safety guidance for parents – <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/parents-and-carers>

Contact details – always keep us up to date!

It is vitally important that we have the correct contact details for every parent/carer. If you change your phone number, email address or move house, please let the school office know. We also need at least two emergency contacts for your child.

Telephone – 01793 493920

Email – admin@redoaks.org.uk

We would like to wish all of our families a wonderful summer holiday. Stay safe, take care, and enjoy this special time together as a family.

