



30th. November 2017

Dear Parents & Carers,

Safeguarding Children in Banbury

St Joseph's is working with all the other schools in the town to deliver a programme of teaching which we are calling 'Safeguarding Children in Banbury'.

The idea is that, in addition to their current programme of personal, social and moral education, each school will teach the children in Years 1 – 6 about three specific issues each year which have been decided upon by a wide group of professionals in the town. This year the three issues which we are teaching about are alcohol and substance misuse, cyber-bullying and child sexual exploitation. The first of these issues is being taught in schools this term.

Please be reassured that these are being taught at an age-appropriate level and that the key objective behind this coherent programme is to help keep the children safe. For example, on the topic of alcohol and substance misuse which is this term's topic, in Year One the children have talked about making good choices. They are exploring what types of foods are healthy and what types of food are less healthy and why we might choose one over another. We are also talking to the children about which adults they would turn to if they have any concerns. In Year Two this will develop into a discussion around household products such as medicines and cleaning products and how these are labelled with instructions and warnings. Older children are learning about how habits can be formed and will discuss some particular types of addiction in more specific detail, e.g. smoking.

If you have any concerns please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Telephone: 01295 264284, **Fax:** 01295 264384, <http://www.st-josephs-banbury.oxon.sch.uk>, **Email -** office.3825@st-josephs-banbury.oxon.sch.uk

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Although a programme of study has been produced for use in all schools, we are also tailoring this to meet the needs of our own children and so the class teachers may have adapted some aspects of the programme whilst keeping to the spirit of the scheme, i.e. to ensure that our children know how to keep themselves safe and where to ask for help if they are worried that someone else may not be safe.

At the end of the academic year the plan is to have an 'exhibition' type event in Banbury town for all parents to inform you further and also there will be printed documents which will come home with the children.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss any aspect of this.

Yours sincerely

Clare Smith
Headteacher

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