



CORLEY ACADEMY

Inclusion Aspiration Perseverance Independence

SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

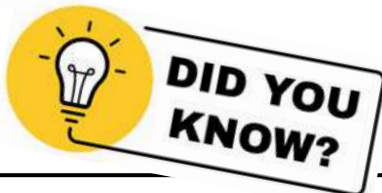
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Welcome to our January Safeguarding Newsletter. This edition contains information about keeping children safe, provided by Warwickshire Local Authority. I have also included a page on what you need to know about music streaming services. At Corley, we buy into the National Online Safety programme and can share with you, information sheets on a variety of online platforms. Just ask, we may have a sheet all about it. As always, we recognise that safeguarding, child protection and promoting the welfare of children is an essential part of our duty of care to all students. As such, I hope that this newsletter highlights issues that you need to be aware of.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead



At Corley Academy we ask that students do not have a mobile phone in school. However, we understand that the journey to school can be very long, and a mobile phone or other devices can help to relieve the boredom of the journey.

To support with this, we ask that students hand their mobile phones into the school office. When a student hands their phone into the office it is placed within a zipped envelope with their name on it and then placed in a secure cupboard.

At the end of the day students then collect their devices and sign to say they have received them.



PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

- 1 Talk to children and babies about feeling safe and keeping safe. It's never too early to start.
- 2 Always give children the reason for any decisions you have made – it helps them to understand 'why?' ...'Because I say so' is not a good enough reason!
- 3 Help to build your child's confidence and self esteem. Praise them often. People who choose to bully or who are dangerous to children will often pick out less confident children or those who spend time or go out alone.
- 4 Listen to your children, especially when they are trying to tell you about things that worry them. Let children know that you will always take them seriously and do whatever you can to keep them safe.
- 5 Let children know they never have to do anything they don't like with an adult or another child - even if it is someone they know. Practise this at home by never making them kiss or hug an adult if they don't want to.
- 6 Teach children to trust their own 'Early Warning Signs' or 'gut feelings' about people and situations.
- 7 As soon as children are able to understand, teach them their full name, address and phone number. Practise these with them until you are sure they can remember.
- 8 In most situations, children under about eight years old shouldn't be out alone. Even when out playing with older children, they need to be kept in the care and sight of an adult or a much older child who is mature and trustworthy.
- 9 Never leave young children in unsupervised play areas in shops or parks. Don't leave them alone in the car or outside a shop, not even for a few minutes.
- 10 If you are in a crowded place, keep children in a pram or buggy, hold hands tightly or use reins. Don't walk ahead of small children who can't keep up. Remember it only takes a moment for toddlers to wander off.
- 11 You can start teaching children simple rules about personal safety from as young as two or three. Tell them clearly that they must never go off with anyone, not even with someone they know, without first asking you or the adult looking after them.
- 12 Teach older children safe ways of crossing roads, going shopping and asking adults for directions and let them practise these with you until you are sure they have understood. Help children decide who would be the safest adults to talk to if they need help or get lost (e.g. Police officer, shop-keeper, someone with a young child).
- 13 When children are mature enough to be out alone, make sure they tell you: Who they are going out with, Where they are going (and how to contact them), When they will be back.
- 14 In busy public places arrange somewhere to meet in case you get separated, like an information desk or specific shop/bank.
- 15 Keep electronic devices and televisions in public areas of your home, not in children's bedrooms. Monitor what your children are watching & looking at. Encourage children to talk with you if they feel uncomfortable about anything they come across.
- 16 There is no law that states the minimum age that a child can be left alone. However, it is an offence to leave a child alone when doing so puts him or her at risk. Never leave a baby or young child alone at home, whether asleep or awake. Most children under thirteen should not be left for more than a very short period and no child under sixteen should be left overnight.

No matter how much you teach your child about safety, remember the limits of their age and maturity.

part of our Social Media & Live Streaming Series



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What you need to know about...

MUSIC STREAMING APPS & SITES

Download the App

Search Artists

What are they? 'Music Streaming Apps & Sites'

Music streaming apps allow people to listen to music on their devices. It gives users access to millions of songs and artists from around the world. Popular music streaming apps and sites include Spotify, Soundcloud, Apple Music, Amazon Prime and Deezer. Music streaming allows children to listen to songs from around the world in a much easier and cheaper way. This enables them to showcase their talent which would have been very hard to do many years back.

Know the Risks

Explicit content

Explicit content is everywhere online, including in popular music. Children can easily access songs on Spotify, for example, that may have explicit or inappropriate language not suitable for children. It is also easy to erase searches so you can't see what a child has been listening to.

Adult themed podcasts

Many music streaming apps also offer the ability to listen to podcasts which can vary across any kind of topic, from business and health to comedy and relationships. Again, children could be exposed to content which is more adult themed or contains age-inappropriate language.

Chatting to strangers

Some music apps, like Playlist, want to make music a more social experience by finding others who share the same musical tastes and will allow users to join group chats where they listen to a playlist together in real time. This could open up your child to talking to strangers online.

Safety Tips

Use child friendly apps

Many music streaming services are made just for children. For instance, the Spotify Kids app provides parents with control over what their children listen to and all the content is family friendly and fun for children to explore.

18+

Turn off explicit content

Most of the major music streaming apps will provide the option to turn off explicit material to make sure the music is completely clean. Some services even offer an option to lock the content censoring settings with a password, so your child can't switch it back.

Implement privacy controls

Check the privacy setting of your child's app. Ensure that whichever app or site they choose to stream music, the settings are set to be private. This way they can only share the music they are listening too with friends and family and can't engage in conversation with strangers.

Offering Support

Explore apps yourself

If your child insists on wanting to use a music streaming app then be part of the journey with them. Take the time to understand which apps they prefer to use and why they want to use it. Find out how to use the app yourself and understand what they could be exposed to and how to ensure they get the most of it in a safe manner.

Regularly check-in

Have regular conversations with your child about what they are listening to and how they are feeling. If they do hear explicit music or content that makes them feel uncomfortable, let them know that they can always talk to you and discuss what they've heard and what it means.

Our Expert Parven Kaur



Parven Kaur is social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks, a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.

10 top tips to help with the cost of living.

1. If you are working, check you are receiving the national minimum wage
2. If you are on a low income (in or out of work) **check if you are entitled to Universal Credit** or receiving all benefits you could.
3. You can ask for money for essential items like food, clothing, fuel, and white goods. **Apply for a Household Support Fund (HSF)** online or call 08085 834 333 or apply via
4. Get help with paying your rent by applying for a Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP) 024 7683 3773 www.coventry.gov.uk/dhp
5. Look to see if you can apply for **Council Tax Support** and ask for your Council Tax to spread over 12 months to reduce your monthly bill.
6. Become a member of one of the **Social supermarkets/Food Hubs** so you can get £20-25 worth of food for a £4 membership every week.
7. Get help with school uniform, school shoes, clothing from **Clothing Coventry**.
8. Contact your energy supplier if you are finding it hard to pay your bill. Also contact the Warm and Safe Homes advice Line: 0800 304 7159, or Act on Energy 0800 988 2881
9. Emergency free food and support can be accessed through the Coventry Food Banks. Contact them on 024 7699 3770.
10. Get help with your water bill by applying to the Big Difference Scheme with Severn Trent on 0345 7500 500

