

Wood End Park Academy Parent Information Session 1

Tuesday 4th October 2022
9.05am and 2.45pm

Safeguarding at WEPA

Child Protection Policy - On our website!

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everybody's responsibility

If you are concerned with the safety or wellbeing of a child, we are here to support. You can contact anyone from the safeguarding team.

How do we Achieve this?



At Wood End Park Academy we:

- Develop learning experiences where children get to respect and understand different viewpoints and religions
- Children know that discrimination will not be tolerated and is not cool
- We build up the self esteem, confidence and voice of each child (British Values)
- We pick up on and challenge extreme views

Safeguarding Team

Miss Khehar - Designated Safeguarding Lead, Vice Principal Year 6

Mrs Khalil – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, Director of Teaching and Learning

Ms Johra – Principal

Mrs Gamble- Deputy Principal

Mrs Wigglesworth – Family Support Worker

Ms Barnes – Director of Curriculum

Mrs Gill – Vice Principal Years 4 & 5

Ms Din – EAL Lead, Year 5 Teacher

Agenda

1. E-safety

- New apps the children are using
- How to ensure your child uses the internet safely

2. Attendance

- How to ensure your child is attending school regularly -
- Tips to support your child at home

3. Local Safeguarding

- Latest updates from Hillingdon Borough as to what is happening in our local area. How you can prevent your child from becoming involved



Agenda 1: E-safety

Keeping children safe online

The internet is great in supporting children's learning but it also poses threats of cyber-bullying and exposure to inappropriate material.

What are children doing online?

- search for information or content on search engines like [Google](#) and [Bing](#)
- share images and watch videos through websites or mobile apps like [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#), [TikTok](#) and [YouTube](#)
- use social networking websites like [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)
- write or reply to messages on forums and message boards
- play games alone or with others through websites, apps or game consoles
- chat with other people through online games, game consoles, webcams, social networks and tools like [Whatsapp](#) and [Discord](#)

There are age restrictions on social networking sites to protect children:

- Whats App – an instant messaging app (16 years of age and above)
- Instagram – photo and video sharing app (13 years of age and above)
- Facebook – a social networking site (16 years of age and above)
- **Most popular** - Tik Tok – video sharing app (16 years of age and above)
- **Most popular** - Discord - an instant messaging app (13 years of age and above)
- Online games – children can also communicate through various consoles. It is important that you know the contacts your child has stored on their phones and games. Numbers can easily be exchanged and added to create groups containing contacts unknown to your child. This can lead to inappropriate and secret messaging.

Keeping children safe online

What to do at home

- Parental locks and filters
- Monitor the use of internet at home-in a public place in your home
- Limit time on the internet
- Check browsing history on search engines
- Talk to your child about e-safety

We discuss e-safety with the children at school. We also have e-safety charters in each class that is updated regularly.

New apps - Hillingdon update

Hillingdon would like to raise awareness in social media Applications (apps) being used by children. The digital world is evolving daily with new social media platforms, apps, and devices. Undesirable effects include: grooming, cyberbullying, sexting, posting hateful messages or content and participating in negative group conversations.

Hillingdon have been informed of the app 'YUBO' formally known as 'Yellow' which is being advertised as a dating app for under 18s. The app is being referred to as 'Tinder for Teens'. Pitched towards teenagers and young adults aged 13 to 17, the app allows users to create video livestreams with up to 10 friends. The app heavily promotes live streaming as the primary chat method, allows chat groups to be set up with no filter on content or topics along with features very similar to apps like "Tinder" such as swiping left/right on profiles for people in your area. There have been reports of sexual offences after meetings arranged through this app, and concerns are raised due the content young people can be exposed to using it.



Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

Agenda 2: Attendance

Attendance to school is very important.

- u We are an academy that seeks to provide the best it can for every child.
- u It is very important therefore that you make sure that your child attends regularly. We have our policy on the website.
- u We can only achieve this working in partnership with parents.
- u Ensuring your child's regular attendance at school is your legal responsibility.

To help us all to focus on this we will:

Give you details on attendance in our monthly newsletter

Report to you regularly on how your child is performing in school, what their attendance and punctuality rate is and how this relates to their attainment

Celebrate good attendance by displaying individual and class achievements (do check our website)

Reward good or improving attendance through certificates and celebrating assemblies

Two types of absences:

Authorised absences are mornings or afternoons away from school for a good reason like illness, medical/dental appointments which unavoidably fall in school time, emergencies or other unavoidable cause. Where possible your child should attend school before or after any appointments. You may be asked to provide hospital letters and appointment cards.

Unauthorised absences are those the school does not consider reasonable and for which no "leave" has been given. This type of absence can lead to the Local Authority, through its Participation Officer, Early Intervention and Prevention Team using sanctions and/or legal proceedings.

Exceptional Leave:

Taking holidays in term time will affect your child's schooling as much as any other absence and we expect parents to help us by not taking children away during school time.

Remember that any savings you think you may make by taking a holiday in school time are offset by the cost to your child's education. There is **no** automatic entitlement in law to time off in school time to go on holiday.

From September 2013 any unauthorised exceptional leave that takes place results in a referral to the Participation Officer of the Early Intervention and Prevention Team and they can issue a fine to the family. This fine or penalty notice is **£60.00 per parent, per child, if paid within 21 days or £120.00 within 28 days.**

Absence Procedures:

If your child is absent you must:

Contact us by telephone as soon as possible on the first day of absence and keep the academy regularly informed, preferably daily. Or, you can call into the academy and report to reception, who will arrange for a member of staff to speak with you.

If your child is absent we will:

Telephone you on the first day of absence if we have not heard from you;
Invite you in to discuss the situation with our attendance officer or the Vice Principal if absences persist;
Refer the matter to the Participation Officer if attendance moves below 90% or is of growing concern;
Make a home visit for unexplained absences of more than one day

Being on time matters too!

How we manage lateness:

The school day starts at **8.55am** we expect your child to be in class at that time. Your child will receive a late mark if they are not in by **9.00am**.

At **9.05am** the registers will be closed.

Children have a soft start activity to complete from **8:45** and if they are late to school, they will miss out on this learning!

You can support your child by:

Ensuring time to sleep is at the right time and this is regularly followed

Helping with homework so this is not a concern for your child

Having uniform and equipment prepared the night before

Providing a healthy breakfast or dropping your child to our breakfast club

Reporting any academic or social concerns promptly to the Vice Principal of your child's department

Retaining open and honest communication with your child's academy
Being positive about school



Agenda 3: Local Safeguarding

Local Safeguarding

Serious Youth Violence and Gangs

Over the summer holidays there has not been a surge in Serious Youth Violence or Exploitation and there has been a reduction in the numbers identified.

For the months of June, July and August 2022 Axis have seen 84 children come to attention for incidents linked to SYV with a total of 134 pieces of intelligence shared. 79% Male and the average age being 15yrs old.

The hotspot areas remain as West Drayton, Hayes and Uxbridge, compared to the previous 3 months March, April and May 2022 where there was almost double these figures with 139 children coming to attention; and 252 pieces of intelligence received.

Local Safeguarding

Purple Haze (Hayes, Hayes Town)

Axis have received soft and hard intelligence to suggest that the Purple Haze gang may still be active. Although not conclusive, there have been signs and indicators for both Axis and Police recently, including the WCU Gangs unit (West Command Unit). This cohort were extremely active and involved in Child Criminal Exploitation and crime particularly in the early 2000's.

Purple Hayes also go by #PH, #S18, #Hayes #Section18, #, #PurpleCity, #UB3, #UB4, #PurpleGang, #BullyUnit. Hayes is known as Purple City by many gang members and by some locals. Signs for professionals to be aware of are purple items of clothing and also purple bandannas, in particular wrapped around the handles of bladed articles and weapons.



Parent Council Partnership



We are looking to set up a parent council that will work in partnership with the school to share any local concerns and discuss way to support each other.

If you are interested please do let us know.



Any questions...

Thank you for attending this session. Your support means a lot to us and help us to work together to safeguard your child.