

William Gilbert Endowed C of E Primary School and Nursery

[www.williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk)

# Safeguarding and Child Protection

at William Gilbert School

## Welcome to our Safeguarding Newsletter

**Coming up in this issue** – Anti – Bullying, Online Safety –Safer Internet Day, Attendance, Mental Health, Keeping Safe in the Community – Winter Water Safety.

Safeguarding & Child Protection is the most important issue for our children and young people. At William Gilbert School, we feel it is crucial to work with our parents and the high-quality agencies that support schools and young people, so that we can offer a safe environment allowing children to be aware of the risks they may face and how to respond to them safely.

**Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility**

### The Safeguarding Team at William Gilbert Primary

The William Gilbert safeguarding team has expanded and now has five Designated Safeguarding Leads or DSLs. These members of staff have enhanced safeguarding training and have a vital role in taking lead responsibility for child protection issues in school. The senior DSL is Mrs Britten. A DSL is always available during school hours for pupils, parents and staff to discuss any safeguarding concerns. Outside of school hours a DSL can always be reached via the dedicated safeguarding email [safeguarding@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk) information sent to this email is highly confidential. Mrs Aston continues to support pupils and their families in her role as Pastoral and Wellbeing Mentor. Part of her role is to provide advice and access help as soon as a need emerges. Mrs Aston can support families with a wide range of issues, including but not limited to, mental health and wellbeing, attendance, persistent lateness, the impact of community safeguarding issues including bullying and online safety. Mrs Aston can be accessed at the school gate most mornings, via the school office or via [pastorallead@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:pastorallead@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk)

### Our Safeguarding Curriculum

'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023'(KCSIE) reminds us that safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play. This means that they should always consider what is in the best interests of the child. At WGES we believe that it is vital for our children to have opportunities to learn how to stay safe both in and outside of school— learning which comes from parents and staff at WGES. Safeguarding awareness and understanding of issues including, but not limited to, children absent from education, child sexual exploitation, bullying, domestic abuse, discrimination, inequality, drugs & alcohol abuse, faith abuse, forced marriage, gender violence, radicalisation, mental health and trafficking - all start with the knowledge and skills we introduce at school.

### Here are some examples coming this term that you can discuss with your child

- Weekly Safeguarding Awareness Assemblies covering the following topics this term –Online Safety- Safer internet day 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024, Anti-Bullying – zero acceptance to name calling/unkind words, Anxiety – Children's Mental Health Week 5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024, Safety in the Home – including the garden, water safety – frozen ponds/canals.
- Religious Education lessons reinforce messages of tolerance and respect for others. Opportunities to learn about other faiths and visit places of worship.
- RSHE lessons – see knowledge mats on the school website for year group information
- Engagement with charities that broaden pupils awareness, understanding and worldview – our school charity this year is The Air Ambulance service
- Behaviour policy and practice in school under the 'Golden Rules'
- All children – Reception – Year 6 have received a first aid workshop led by a first aid expert.

### Useful Acronyms & Vocabulary

**DSL:** Designated Safeguarding Lead

**PREVENT:** Part of the Governments Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn into extremism

**LADO:** Local Authority Designated Officer - who deals with position of trust safeguarding issues

**KCSIE:** Keeping Children Safe in Education (available on the school web pages)

### Who's Who at WGES

- ◆ Mrs E H Britten - Senior DSL
- ◆ Mrs Z Kibble - Deputy DSL
- ◆ Mrs A Aston - DSL and pastoral wellbeing lead.
- ◆ Mrs S Owen – DSL and mental health first aider
- ◆ Mrs R Manners – DSL and SBM
- ◆ Dr N Ruggins – Safeguarding Governor
- ◆ Miss K Whiting –Mental Health First Aider
- ◆ Mrs E Davies – SENCO

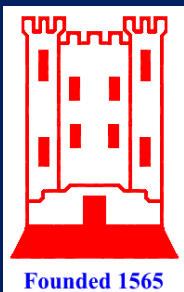
Designated Safeguarding Leads can be accessed via our safeguarding email

[safeguarding@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk)

If you believe that a child or an adult is at immediate risk of harm and in need of protection then you should call the Police - 999, straight away.

Alternatively, if you want advice from the Police and the child or adult is not in immediate need of protection, you can call the Police on the telephone number 101.





# Anti-Bullying Updates



Anti-Bullying Week 2023 was a huge success with staff and children attending school wearing odd socks to support the anti-bullying message. It took place during the week 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023 with the theme 'Make a Noise about Bullying'. All week pupils learnt about what bullying is, what it is not, how to respond and reach out for help with trusted adults at school and home. There was a variety of work undertaken and important messages reinforced through our weekly safeguarding assemblies.

*Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, which intentionally hurts other people, either physically or emotionally*

The children will continue to learn about bullying, promote the anti-bullying messages, and work together to eradicate bullying from our school. We would like to share with you the results of a recent pupil survey on Anti-Bullying. At the end of the autumn term, pupils in year 1 to year 6 completed an online pupil survey.

## Useful Acronyms & Vocabulary

**Bystander:** A bystander is 'a person who does not become actively involved in a situation where someone else requires help' (Clarkson 1996, p6) and in this way is understood to be a passive observer, an onlooker who watches something happening, but stays on the side-lines and doesn't intervene or get help, even if someone needs it.

**Cyberbullying:** Cyberbullying includes sending, posting, or sharing negative, harmful, false, or mean content about someone else. It can include sharing personal or private information about someone else causing embarrassment or humiliation. Some cyberbullying crosses the line into unlawful or criminal behaviour.

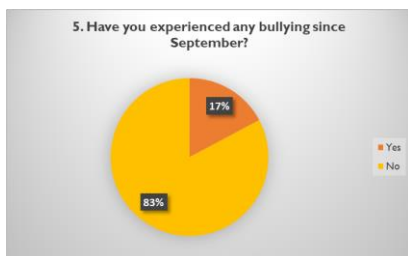
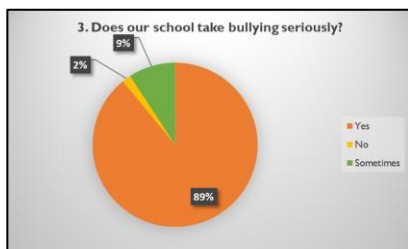
## Safeguarding Information at WGES

We have a wealth of information on our school website for parents to access, including important documents and contact details.

Please visit [www.williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Scan the QR code below to take you to **our Parent Support page**

Here you will find a wealth of information and resources to help you understand issues around bullying, how we support children in school and leaflets for parents to help you have discussions around conflict and bullying.



We expect bystanders (children, school staff and parents/ carers) to tell an adult in school. Bystander behaviour is regularly a feature of our safeguarding assemblies and RHE lessons.

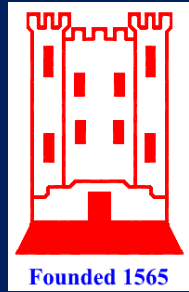
At home, please remind them how important it is to tell a trusted adult in school. **If you as a parent feel things have not been addressed or improved, please contact school and our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) will work with you and your child to resolve the situation.**

## Summary of Results

- **100%** (174) of the pupils asked felt that the **adults in school teach them about Anti-bullying** and where to get help.
- **89%** (155) of the pupils stated that **our school takes bullying seriously**. 9% (16 pupils) feel we 'sometimes' take bullying seriously and 2% (3 pupils) feel we do not take bullying seriously. We will continue to work with all pupils to ensure their voice is heard and that they feel they are supported effectively when issues arise.
- **97%** (169) of the pupils feel **they know what to do if they are being bullied**. 3% (5) pupils stated they don't know what to do if they feel they are being bullied. Through our weekly Safeguarding assemblies, we will continue to reinforce with all pupils what to do if they feel they are being bullied.
- **Since September 83% (144) pupils reported that they have not experienced any bullying**. 17% (30) pupils stated that they had experienced bullying since September. 22 of the 30 told a trusted adult and felt it was dealt with and things had improved for them.
- Of the 30 pupils who reported in the survey that they had been bullied, described the behaviour they had experienced as one of the following – teasing, name calling and being left out. Although these unkind and upsetting incidents took place just once and therefore are not bullying – they are unacceptable and will not be left unaddressed. Through our weekly Safeguarding assemblies, we will continue to promote respect and kindness to all.
- We will follow up each and every pupil who have, in their survey stated they have experienced bullying, and offer support to them.
- **The full analysis of the survey is available on the school website.**



# Keeping safe online



## Safer Internet Day 2024



Safer Internet Day 2024 will take place on the 6th of February 2023, with celebrations and learning based around the theme **'Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'**.

Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on children and young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to help to create a better internet.

Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in William Gilbert School, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year. We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. To help you with this, the UK Safer Internet Centre have created some free activities and information for parents and carers which are available at: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/SID-parents>

## News from our i-Vengers -Balancing Screen Time



Our i-vengers are a group of pupils in Y5 and Y6 who promote online safety messages with all pupils. Throughout the year they will be carrying out a number of exciting tasks and secret missions to help children, parents, staff and governors to gain a better understanding about how to stay safe online. This term they have been educating pupils about the importance of creating a healthy balance of screen time. They led a safeguarding assembly and shared some top tips with pupils. Why not ask your child what they can remember. For more advice for parents- follow the link to an internet matters handout <https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Internet-Matters-Balancing-Screen-Time-guide-Jan23.pdf>

## How to create a balanced digital diet with screen time

- 1. Lead by example** - If you set boundaries for your own screen, it will be easier for your kids to do the same.
- 2. Set boundaries WITH your kids** - Get them involved in the process of setting age appropriate limits on how long they can spend online, at what times and on which platforms.
- 3. Ensure a healthy mix of screen activity** Make sure they have a good balance of screen activities.
- 4. Avoid using screen time as a reward** This will elevate the status of screen time above other activities.
- 5. Physical activity & sleep are really important** Make sure screens are not displacing these things by keeping screens out of bedrooms at bed time.

## Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility

**Parents and Carers – keeping your children safe whilst online at home, is your responsibility. If children are left unsupervised online it could have consequences for their safety, mental health, wellbeing and academic achievement.**

**Remember to - Supervise their online activity:** Keep the devices your child uses in communal areas of the house such as the living room or kitchen, where an adult is able to supervise. Primary-age children should not access the internet in private spaces alone, such as in a bedroom or bathroom.

## Useful Acronyms & Vocabulary

**My Concern –** Safeguarding record system (safeguarding and child protection software for schools used at WGES).

**CEOP:** Child Exploitation and On-line Protection Centre



Find further support about being smart online at: <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/>

## Online Safety Information at WGES

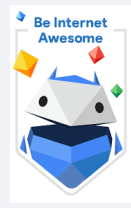
We have a wealth of information on our school website for parents to access.

Please visit <https://www.williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk/staying-safe-on-the-internet/>

Or scan the QR code below

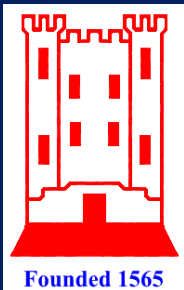


If Santa delivered new technology for your children at Christmas, you may need some support in adding parental controls. Internet Matters can support you give your child a safe space to explore their curiosity online. Their step-by-step parental controls guides will help you to set up the right controls and privacy settings on the networks, gadgets, apps, and sites they use to give them a safer online experience. <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>



Visit Google's Interland to play fun games as a family to be internet awesome





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# Mental Health

## Children's Mental Health Week

Place2Be's

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

5-11 FEB 2024

### Useful Acronyms & Vocabulary

**CAMHS:** Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

**My Concern** – Safeguarding record system (safeguarding and child protection software for schools used at WGES).

**EHA:** Early Help Assessment

**SEND:** Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

### Safeguarding Information at WGES

We have a wealth of information on our school website for parents to access, including important documents and contact details.

Please visit [www.williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Scan the QR code below to take you to our [parenting support page for further advice on mental health](#)



The children's mental health charity, Place2Be, has launched a new website aimed at helping parents with typical situations they may experience with children.



The Parenting Smart website can be found here: <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

The theme of the children's mental health week this year is **'My Voice Matters'** and is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves. As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. There is a wealth of support for parents and carers on their website. Follow the link <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

At William Gilbert C of E Primary School and Nursery, we are committed to supporting the emotional health and wellbeing of our pupils and staff. We know that everyone experiences life challenges that can make us vulnerable, and, at times, anyone may need additional emotional support. We take the view that positive mental health is a universal right and that we all have a role to play. This month we will be raising their awareness further through assemblies and class-based learning around the theme of Children's Mental Health week.

If you are concerned about your child's mental health and wellbeing, please get in touch. We can offer advice and support. Mrs Aston is our Pastoral and Wellbeing lead and can be approached at the school gate or via the school email address [pastorallead@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:pastorallead@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk) Below you can find links to other areas of further reading and support. **Or click the image on the right to take you to a useful guide for parents.**

As a parent or carer, you may sometimes experience your own mental health issues or anxieties and find it difficult to cope with parenting your child. But with the right support and resources it is perfectly possible to be a good parent while managing these problems and to care for and support your children in a positive way. For those affected, the websites below may be helpful, or accessing early help through our well-being and pastoral mentor – Mrs Aston (01332) 840 395 or via the pastoral email address above.

One of William Gilbert parents, Holly Morris is director of **'The Mindfulness Teacher'**. Her YouTube channel has a wealth of resources and videos aimed at children to support their mental health and wellbeing. To visit the channel, follow the link or click on the images to take you to these excellent, engaging mindfulness activities. <https://www.youtube.com/@TheMindfulnessTeacher>



For further advice on any of these challenges the Mind website has lots of advice and support

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-for-parents-mental-health>

The Mental Health Foundation have provided a useful leaflet containing their **best mental health tips - backed by research**



**Bubble Bounce** helps Slow the racing mind and improve focus. This calming brain break is suitable for children aged 3-11. **Thought Bubbles! For Anxiety and Worry** Ever feel that your mind is too busy? Do the 'Thought Bubbles' video to blow them away.

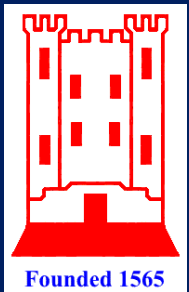
## YOUNG MINDS

fighting for young people's mental health

### Parental Support

We know parenting isn't always easy. Young Minds have lots of practical advice and tips on supporting your child.. They also have a Parents Helpline which can provide advice and support if you're worried about a child or young person. Visit <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/>

# Keeping Safe in the Community



## Winter Water Safety

Stay safe in winter – the dangers of frozen waters. In winter, children and pets are particularly at risk when tempted to play on the ice formed on open water, and adults can find themselves at risk in attempting to save them.

Taking a nice walk in cold weather with your family, friends or dogs in tow can be really refreshing, just make sure you know some simple tips on how to stay safe in winter.

Areas with frozen lakes, ponds, canals and reservoirs can be beautiful places to visit during the winter months but all too often many people risk their lives by venturing onto frozen water. Here are some useful tips to help you know what to do in an emergency.

## Useful Acronyms & Vocabulary

**RoSPA:** Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

**My Concern –** Safeguarding record system (safeguarding and child protection software for schools used at WGES).

**EHA:** Early Help Assessment

**SEND:** Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

## Safeguarding Information at WGES

We have a wealth of information on our school website for parents to access, including important documents and contact details.

Please visit [www.williamgilbertend.derbyschire.sch.uk](http://www.williamgilbertend.derbyschire.sch.uk)



If you believe that any child is in danger ring **Call Derbyshire** Tel: 01629 533190 choosing the option for urgent child protection calls at any time



### Don't go on the ice to rescue a dog

Don't go onto ice or into the water to rescue a dog, move to somewhere that the dog will be able to climb out and call them towards you.



### Keep back from the edge

When walking alongside water keep back from the edge.



### Teach children not to go on the ice

Teach children not to go onto the ice under any circumstances.



### Keep dogs on their leads

Keep dogs on their leads when near ice and don't throw sticks or toys onto the ice.



#RESPECTTHEWATER

## WATER SAFETY CODE



### Stop and Think, Spot the Dangers

If you are thinking of being near or entering the water, have you considered the following?

- ⚠ Be aware of cold water shock. For more info visit [www.watersafety.scotland.org.uk/coldwatershock](http://www.watersafety.scotland.org.uk/coldwatershock)
- ❄ Keep off all frozen waters
- ⚠ Check for safety signage
- 🚫 Avoid alcohol and drugs
- ⚠ The depth of the water may hide underwater ledges, hidden currents and unseen items
- 🚫 Be aware of other water activities
- 🌊 If it is safe to enter the water, ensure you have a safe way out
- 🌊 At the coast, consider rip currents, wind and the tide

### Stay Together, Stay Close

It is better to grab the wets with a friend or family member



Float  
Lean back, extend your arms and legs  
Float until you can control your breathing. Then call for help or swim to safety.

### In an Emergency, Call 999

If you see someone in trouble DO NOT enter the water

Look for a throw line or life ring to help whilst you wait on the emergency services  
Call 999 or 112 For inland waters ask for the Fire and Rescue Service. For coastal waters ask for the Coastguard

TOP TIP: Thinking of taking part in a planned activity?

To enjoy your activity to the full, check that your provider is fully insured, with skilled staff and the relevant accreditation.



## What to do if you fall through the ice:

- Keep calm and shout for 'help'
- Spread your arms across the surface of the ice in front of you
- If the ice is strong enough, kick your legs to slide onto the ice
- Lie flat and pull yourself towards the bank
- If the ice breaks, work your way to the bank-breaking the ice in front of you anyway
- If you cannot climb out, wait for help and keep as still as possible. Preserve heat by pressing your arms by your side and keep your legs together. Keep your head clear of the water
- Once you are safe, go to hospital immediately for a check up

## Water Safety Advice and Links for Parents

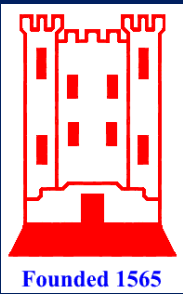
Canal and River Trust – Winter Water safety <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/safety-on-our-waterways/winter-water-safety>

Royal Life Saving Society <https://www.rlss.org.uk/winter-water-safety>

Parent Zone Scotland <https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/news-and-events/keeping-your-child-safe-in-the-water/>

- S** Stay
- A** Away
- F** From
- E** Edge





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# Attendance



## Why is good attendance important?

Good attendance and punctuality are vital for success at school, and to establish positive life habits that are necessary for future success. Through regular attendance, pupils can:

- Build friendships and develop social groups.
- Develop life skills.
- Engage in essential learning and other school social events.
- Achieve to their full potential.
- Minimise the risk of engaging in anti-social behaviour and becoming victims or perpetrators of crime.

**All parents should promote good attendance and work in partnership with their child's school to provide a cohesive approach.**

### Can my child ever be absent?

When a pupil is absent from school, this will be classified as either 'authorised' or 'unauthorised'.

The governing board and headteacher decide which absences are granted as authorised. Authorised absences are only permitted for valid reasons such as:

- Illness.
- Medical or dental appointments.
- Religious observances.
- Family bereavement.

Wherever possible, parents should always try to arrange medical and dental appointments during school holidays or after school hours.



### What are unauthorised absences?

Unauthorised absences are those which the school does not consider essential or reasonable. Unauthorised absences can include:

- Forgetting school term dates.
- Oversleeping.
- Absences which have not been explained.
- Arriving at school after the register has closed.
- Leaving school for no reason during the day.
- Truancy before or during the school day.
- Keeping pupils off school unnecessarily or without explanation.
- Day trips or family outings.
- Problems with uniform/clothing.
- Birthdays and holidays.



We discourage parents from booking holidays during term time, regardless of the reason. We appreciate the impact this has during financially difficult times. We also acknowledge parental annual working patterns and the positive impact of spending time together as a family. Every request for term time absence is considered on a case-by-case request. It is our statutory duty, and parents' legal responsibility to ensure regular attendance at school and we must ask that school attendance is a priority. WGES Term Dates for the year ahead can be found at

<https://www.williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk/school-news/term-dates-2022-23/>

Holidays, weddings and parental appointments will not be authorised. School will action the DDAT policy for absence fully. Please work with us to ensure that your child has every opportunity to take advantage of education available at WGES.

## Useful Acronyms & Vocabulary

**Early Help** – providing support as soon as needs emerge for a child or family.

**Persistent Absence (PA)** is defined as an attendance rate of 90% or below.

**If you are struggling with getting your child to school or are finding it difficult getting them to school on time we can help. Mrs Aston our Pastoral and Wellbeing Lead is here to support you and your child.**

### Contact Mrs Aston

On the school number **01332 840395** or via email at [enquiries@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Or at the school gate each morning.

### Attendance Information at WGES

We have a wealth of information on our school website for parents to access.

Please visit

<https://www.williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk/attendance/>

Or scan the QR code below



**190 Days**  
**100%**



**Perfect Attendance!**

85% of children who are in school and on time every day will reach the expected standard or better in class

**184 Days**  
**97%**



**You reached the school target!**

Keep up the great work! The more you are in school, the better your learning will be.

**180 Days**  
**95%**



**You are nearly there!**

Keep coming to school everyday and on time... You have missed 10 days or 40 lessons.

**175 Days**  
**92%**



**It will be hard for you to make progress**

We are worried about your attendance. You have missed 15 days or 60 lessons already.

**171 Days**  
**90%**



**Persistent Absence!**

You have now missed 19 days of learning or 76 lessons. You may not reach your WGES potential

**19+ Days absence**



**Only 40% of children in this category will reach the expected standard in their class**

For more information about our attendance policy please follow the link which will take you to the schools attendance and absence policy <https://www.williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/DDAT-Attendance-Policy.pdf>