Victoria Dock Primary School

Safeguarding Newsletter
Autumn 2026

At Victoria Dock Primary School, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility and our top priority. Anyone who comes in to contact with children and their families has a role to play. This terms newsletter will be a reminder on the Designated Safeguarding Leads, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026 and the theme of online safety.

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026

Keeping Children Safe in Education is a statutory Department for Education document which all schools must follow when carrying out their duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. It covers many aspects of safeguarding including different forms of abuse, early help processes, safe recruitment, how concerns must be reported and the role of the Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

Copies of this document are available online.

TOGETHERNESS
Bringing the Solihull Approach to the world

Across the UK and internationally, the Solihull Approach (now named Togetherness) supports mental health and well-being in parents, children, schools, older adults and high stress work places through an evidence-based model in training, online courses and resources.
Miss Leach and Mrs. Taylor will be running some training courses and events throughout the year, to help support yourself, your child and your family. These may range from identifying sleep issues, supporting children will additional needs and how to manage your family's healthy food choices.

All information will be passed on through email or class Dojo, so watch this space. If you require any further information, please speak to your child's class teacher.

If you would like further information about the online courses Togetherness offers, details are attached **here**.

Online Safety



Using online facilities to help with learning, keep in contact with others and to give some 'down time' is part of all our lives, but it is important that we all know how to keep children safe when doing so. Many of you will have seen our reference to the National Online Safety website on our school Dojo story, which has superb guides to the most popular apps, games and social media sites, along with strategies for how to keep your child safe when online.

Did you know?

All social networking platforms and apps have minimum age limits. Some social networks use technologies that might not be appropriate for some ages or engage with communities that are made up of people much older than your child.

What are the risks of an underage social networking account?

- Many sites include an instant message function which allows private conversations. Not everyone your child meets online will be who they say they are.
- Most social networking sites have an app version, meaning your child will have access to the social network from their smartphone or tablet. Some app versions of social networks use the location of the phone.
- Chat rooms and forums can connect people who are complete strangers and can be un-moderated.
- Information shared between friends can be easily copied and may spread.
- It isn't easy to take back information that has been posted – and can be impossible if it's already been shared.
-Chat rooms and forums are one of the places online groomers go to connect with children. They can also be places where people use inappropriate language. This is sometimes done through video chat programmes.

There are lots of useful websites on our school website which can help navigate questions and queries.

What can I do to keep my child safe online?



Think about online routines: Have a conversation with your child about online safety and agree some rules to help keep them safe.

Have a conversation about online pressures and cyberbullying: Remember to talk to your child about what they are doing online and who they are talking to. Check in with them regularly and remind them they can talk to you, another trusted adult, like a teacher, or a Child Line counsellor about anything they are worried about.

Set up devices safely: Make sure you set it up with your child, exploring any safety features. Remember to use parental controls!

Keep children safe on conferencing apps: Supervise your child when they use these apps; remind your child not to share chat links or passwords on social media; explore any security features like how to report and block; talk to your child about what they are sharing.

Reporting Concerns



If you suspect a child is being abused or is in danger of being abused, please contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead, or any member of staff on our school number 01482 598200

Email - safeguarding@victoriadock.hull.sch.uk

You can also contact the Early Help and Safeguarding Hub - 01482 448879.

If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police immediately on 999.

If you have questions or queries about any safeguarding issues, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the safeguarding lead - Miss Leach.

E-Safety Coordinator Mr L Crooks

If you have questions or queries regarding online safety, please do not hesitate to get in touch on the school number 01482 598200