

DIARY DATES

ATT Safeguarding Conference

Wednesday 19 October

Anti-bullying Week

14-18 November

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NEW: Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2016)

The government has published the September 2016 version of 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. The latest edition became available on 5 September and replaces the one published at the end of May.

As well as all staff, it is best practice for all Governors to read part 1, note the changes and be clear about the responsibility that Governors have in regard to keeping children safe.

An important change for Governors is to challenge the role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). This person should be a senior leader in the academy and have the responsibilities of the role outlined in their job description and be given the time to do the job. Governors should also make sure that this lead responsibility is not delegated.

Governing bodies should also ensure children are taught about safeguarding, including online, through teaching and learning opportunities, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum.

The Safeguarding Policy has been amended in line with the new statutory guidance and should be on the academy's website.

For more information and to read the guidance, please follow this [link](#).

Anti-bullying Week 14-18 November

Anti-bullying week in England is coordinated by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and this year takes place from 14-18 November.

This year they are supported by SafeToNet and the Ben Cohen Stand Up Foundation. The week is being delivered in partnership with Internet Matters.

Anti-bullying weeks shines a spotlight on bullying and encourages all children, teachers and parents to take action against bullying throughout the year.

Pokémon GO: A Parent's Guide

What is Pokémon GO?

Pokémon GO is the latest app to take the world by storm, quickly becoming a firm favourite within the UK. Despite its obvious appeal, parents need to be careful and ensure that they and their children are aware of the dangers, so that they can enjoy the game safely. In its most basic form, Pokémon GO is a game built around capturing, training and involving of creatures called Pokémon (Pocket monsters). It is one of the first games to become popular that uses 'augmented reality' which is a blend of real life and an online world. The game makes use of your phone's GPS and camera to make Pokémon appear in real life locations nearby. The game has many positives, such as encouraging players to work together with their friends to explore the world and capture as many Pokémon as possible. But what makes the game so appealing also makes the game a danger.

What are the dangers?

The game encourages players to meet face-to-face with people that they may not have previously met. Equally worrying, the game encourages you to travel far and wide in order to find Pokémon, but this has already caused people to be drawn to places that aren't safe for children.

Despite the game being free, there are in-app purchases that can be very expensive. Certain in-game incentives can cost up to £79.99. The accessing of personal data is a relatively new danger for parents to be aware of and one that Pokémon GO certainly uses. To make an account, players are required to use their birth date and email address.

How to keep your child safe

Whilst some of these dangers may feel overwhelming, there are a few easy steps that can be passed onto parents to help keep their child safe and allow them to enjoy the game.

- Explore the game together can help keep your child safe, though this may only be applicable for younger children. If older children want to play alone, it is crucial to make them aware of the dangers and advise them on how to stay safe.
- Set ground rules with your children so they understand what is dangerous and know what they can't do. This can include telling them not to speak to strangers as well as staying within a set area so they don't go out too far.
- Having your child take a battery pack with them is another good piece of advice. The app can be quite draining so it's crucial that their phone doesn't run out of power whilst they are out.

For more information about the game and the risks please follow this [link](#).



FREE: Awareness of Forced Marriage

This course has been developed with the Forced Marriage Unit of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and the Home Office. It aims to raise awareness, challenge perceptions and inform you of the correct actions to take should you suspect someone is at risk.

For more information or to complete the course, please follow this [link](#).

Sexting Guidance for Schools & Colleges

For the first time, there is clear guidance for schools and colleges about how they should handle incidents where pupils under-18 take and/or share naked images of other under-18's including themselves. This new guidance takes a safeguarding focus, rather than a simple criminal response, and in some circumstances, allows schools to deal with incidents without involving the police.

The UKCCIS guidance 'Sexting in Schools & Colleges, responding to incidents and safeguarding young people' published in August 2016, is non-statutory, but should be used alongside 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. Over 200 organisations were involved in creating this guidance, including the Home Office, DfE, Police, Children's charities, UK safer internet centre, CEOP and teachers' groups.

This is important guidance and should be read and understood by DSL's and appropriately communicated to the staff team.

For the guidance, please follow this [link](#).

FREE: Online Parenting Course

Resilient Families is a free online parenting course from Parent Zone, part of the team that brings you Parent Info.

It's designed to help parents get to grips with the things they really worry about when children and young people go online.

Resilient Families includes topics such as radicalisation and extremism, cyberbullying and sexting.

Parents can take the 3-part course at home as many times as they like, picking up vital advice and information to help them understand the risks their children can face, and arming them with the knowledge to help them cope with it.

To find out more information, please follow this [link](#).

If you would like any support or information on how to inform the parents about this, please email support@parentzone.org.uk

Parent Zone: A Guide to the Key Online Safety Rules - 2016

There's a lot of advice about online safety out there, some of it contradictory and much of it about 5 years out of date. The internet has now become an unavoidable part of everyday life and one that should also be part of family life too.

We live in a time where wild Pokémon are roaming around museums and digital blocks are being used to recreate The Great Fire of London. Who wants to miss out on the fun and creativity that the digital world has to offer? It would be a missed opportunity for children not to actively engage and develop skills through these digital endeavours and research shows that ultimately digital-savvy kids are far safer online.

So what are the online safety rules that matter in 2016? Here are our 5 key tips:

1. Building a child's resilience will keep them safer than blocking and filtering
2. Don't limit the talk you have with your child to 'the online safety conversation'
3. Balance taking an interest in your child's online activities with giving them the space to be independent
4. Don't be afraid to set boundaries
5. Concentrate on how children use digital media rather than for how long

For more information and the full article, please follow this [link](#).

To pre-order your free magazine from Parent Zone, please follow this [link](#).

The woman saved from her father's FGM plans

A woman from the West Midlands is the first person in the UK to be given a joint court order to protect her from both forced marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM). She tells her story.

"I was 17 when my father's family in South Asia first started telling him that I should be thinking about getting married," explains Zara – we have changed her name to protect her identity.

"An arranged wedding proposal came up the same year. I agreed the man would be a suitable match and we had talked online, we were fixing a date for the wedding when all of a sudden it was called off."

She later discovered the reason was that she had not undergone female circumcision – more commonly referred to in the UK as female genital mutilation (FGM).

Among the "traditional voices" within her father's community, she explains, FGM is often viewed as an expectation, and she was being labelled as "not respectable, not Muslim" for not having undergone it. Her father has also begun to receive threats – including from family members – saying he was "not doing his job as a father" for allowing her not to have it.

This pressure grew over time, with other potential marriages falling through for the same reason. The fear of having to undergo FGM led Zara to develop mental health problems.

"It got to a point where I stopped eating. [I had] no hopes for my future. I fainted quite a few times," she says.

As a result, Zara booked an appointment to discuss FGM with her GP and was swiftly told that the process was illegal. Zara was told to contact the NSPCC, who referred her to the West Midlands Police. The force assigned Zara two case workers. One of them, PC Jody Edwards, applied through a civil court to acquire the joint forced marriage and FGM protection order – the first of its kind in the UK – on her behalf, to ensure she would be safe. Zara's father was questioned about forced marriage and FGM allegations but was not charged with any offences.

Within a week or two of applying the protection orders were granted. This ensured practical steps could be taken to protect Zara, such as removal of her passport so she would not be able to be taken abroad for FGM, Zara's father was made to change his phone number and email address to prevent contact with those who may influence his views.

For the full article, please follow this [link](#).

FREE: Protecting Children from Sexual Exploitation

Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation (PACE) and the Safeguarding children e-academy have teamed up to provide this short (20-30 mins) online course designed for parents and carers.

For more information or to complete this course, please follow this [link](#).

FREE: Preventing & Recognising FGM

Throughout this free online course, we follow Hope as she encounters the key issues relating to FGM and we see how they affect her throughout her life. The training will help a wide range of professionals to identify and assist girls who are at risk of FGM.

To register for this course please follow this [link](#).