

# THE AVENUE INFANT SCHOOL

## Safeguarding Newsletter

Friday 27th January 2023

Look out for our regular Online Safety updates on our Friday update newsletters.

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is our first safeguarding bulletin of the academic year. As a society and as a school community many have faced significant challenges over the last few years and we are aware of the impact from the pandemic and the recent cost of living crisis have taken their toll on many individuals and families. This edition contains information about sources of support for a variety of issues which I hope you will find helpful.

*Mrs Helen Morrall*

Head Teacher

### Assembly safety themes:

Safe choices– avoiding accidents

Being truthful

Looking after our mental health

Online Safety

**Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility....**

We all have the right to feel safe all of the time and have a duty to ensure the safety of children. If you have a safeguarding concern, you can report to MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub). Tel. 0300 126 7000, option 1.

Alternatively, please speak immediately (in confidence ) to any of our Designated Safeguarding Leads:

[https://  
www.ncstrust.co.uk/help-  
and-protection-for-](https://www.ncstrust.co.uk/help-and-protection-for-)

Helen Morrall—DSL

Jamie Pell—DDSL

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DSL = Designated Safeguarding Lead.

DDSL = Deputy DSL



01933 276366

**Safeguarding remains our priority**

## Working together to improve attendance

The law entitles every child of compulsory school age to an efficient, full-time education suitable to their age, aptitude, and any special educational need they may have.

Where parents decide to have their child registered at school, they have an additional legal duty to ensure their child attends that school regularly. This means their child must attend every day that the school is open .

We recognise the importance of developing good patterns of attendance is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances.

Being part of The Avenue community, parents have signed the Home-School Agreement to ensure children are at school each day punctually; reasons for absence need to be notified by 9.30am. School have a duty of care to follow up non-communication from parents with e-mails or phone calls and if this is unsuccessful, a home visit will be performed.

Please, let's work together to ensure each child has at least 95% attendance, in line with Government expectation. Thank you 





For ideas for healthy eating, food swaps, healthy snacks, recipes for breakfast, lunches and evening meals as well as ideas for keeping physically active, see the new website:

[Healthier Families - Home - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk) (was Change 4 life).

## Mental Health Awareness Week

Children's Mental Health Week will take place from 6-12 February 2023. This year's theme is Let's Connect.



**Let's Connect** is about making meaningful connections. Human beings thrive in communities, and this connection is vital for our wellbeing. When we have healthy connections – to family, friends and others – this can support our mental health and our sense of wellbeing. And when our need for rewarding social connections is not met, we can sometimes feel isolated and lonely – which can have a negative impact on our mental health.

As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. For more information, check out the website:

[Families - Children's Mental Health Week \(childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk\)](https://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)



Tuesday 7th February is Safer Internet Day. As you know this is an all-year-round priority but on Safer Internet Day we look at one particular theme in more depth. The focus for this year is around starting conversations about staying safe online. Further information and advice from home will be shared nearer the time but you may find it useful to share the story available at <https://www.childnet.com/resources/hanni-and-the-magic-window/> or via this [link](#).

## Sources of support

If you feel like you're struggling right now, you're not alone. We've gathered some helplines/websites, so you know where you can turn to if you need some help. **Remember, it's ok not to be ok.**

Care & Repair Northamptonshire —funding (if eligible) & support for essential repairs to your home, gas safety, Tel. 01604 782250

Free independent advice (Energy tariff check, home energy assessment, financial health check, benefits & debt advice) - Tel. 01604 623700 Northamptonshire Energy Saving Service  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/autumn-statement-2022-cost-of-living-support-factsheet/cost-of-living-support-factsheet](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/autumn-statement-2022-cost-of-living-support-factsheet/cost-of-living-support-factsheet)

[Help for Households - Get government cost of living support](#)

[Cost of living | North Northamptonshire Council \(northnorthants.gov.uk\)](#)

[Children and Family Support Service - Our services \(nctrust.co.uk\)](#)

**For mental health support—see the relevant newsletter on our website.**