



### WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD

If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies straightaway.

Bedford Borough Integrated Front Door  
(children's social services) 01234 718700  
Out of hours – 0300 3008123

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

#### Meet the Designated Safeguarding Team:

The Safeguarding Team oversee and coordinate all aspects of the school's work to ensure that children are kept safe.

#### Designated Safeguarding Lead Head of Year Nine:

Mr Will Atkinson

[atkinsonw@goldington.beds.sch.uk](mailto:atkinsonw@goldington.beds.sch.uk)

#### Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Head of Year Seven:

Mrs Anthea Jones

[jonesa@goldington.beds.sch.uk](mailto:jonesa@goldington.beds.sch.uk)

#### School Safeguarding Governor:

Mrs Kate Reynier

[reynierk@goldington.beds.sch.uk](mailto:reynierk@goldington.beds.sch.uk)

#### Special Educational Needs Coordinator:

Mr Sailesh Roopnarain

[roopnarains@goldington.beds.sch.uk](mailto:roopnarains@goldington.beds.sch.uk)

#### Head of Year Eight:

Mr Michael Lincoln

[lincolnm@goldington.beds.sch.uk](mailto:lincolnm@goldington.beds.sch.uk)

#### Head of Year Ten:

Mr James Pinkney

[pinkneyj@goldington.beds.sch.uk](mailto:pinkneyj@goldington.beds.sch.uk)

#### Head of Year Eleven:

Mr Liam Hall

[halll@goldington.beds.sch.uk](mailto:halll@goldington.beds.sch.uk)

All can be contacted via the school office  
or on 01234 261516

For a copy of our school's Child Protection Policy, please visit the Safeguarding page on our [school website](#)

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the sixth edition of the newsletter from the Goldington Academy Safeguarding Team. Our aim is to bring you all the latest, relevant help and advice on issues that we feel will be of importance to you. In this issue, the main focus is on **vaping** and **'be bright and be seen'**. Goldington Academy has a zero-tolerance approach to vaping. We educate our pupils about health, life choices through our Life Skills curriculum, but we are aware of the current trend for young people to use vapes.

Safeguarding children is everybody's responsibility. If you have concerns about the safety or welfare of any child, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

We hope that you will find the information in this newsletter useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information or support with any of the topics raised.

Yours sincerely

Mr W Atkinson

**Assistant Headteacher**

**Designated Safeguarding Lead**

### Vaping

It is an unfortunate truth that some young people now use vapes regularly. We are aware that some shops are selling vapes to under age children.

#### What are vapes?

Vapes are electronic devices that heat a liquid and produce an Aerosol or mix of small particles in the air. They come in many shapes and sizes. Most have a battery, a heating element and a place to hold a liquid. Some e-cigarettes look like regular cigarettes or cigars. They also look like USB flash drives, pens and other everyday items.

#### How do they work?

They produce an aerosol by heating a liquid that usually contains nicotine, flavourings and other chemicals that help to make the aerosol. This liquid is sometimes called 'e-juice', 'eliquid', 'vape juice' or 'vape liquid.' As well as the flavoured liquids, E-cigarette devices can be used to deliver marijuana and other drugs. It has been reported liquid drugs such as LSD, GHB and Ketamine are being vaped as well. Nicotine is highly addictive and can harm adolescent brain development, which continues into the early to mid-20s. For more information and advice click link below:

<https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk/behaviour/challenging-behaviour/im-worried-about-my-child-vaping/>

## Be Bright and Be Seen

It is that time of year when we have dark nights along with dark mornings. This can bring many dangers and requires the need for extra safety measures, particularly on the roads. Whether that means when riding a bike or simply being a pedestrian.

There are many safety measures to be considered and to instil into children. The resources below help remind young people about road safety and keeping safe in the dark. Teaching Road Safety:

A Guide for Parents: [Teaching Road Safety: A Guide for Parents \(rospa.com\)](https://www.rospa.com/parents/guide)

Safety First – Cycling at Night: <https://www.cycletraining.co.uk/cycle-training-and-cyclesafety/safety-first-cycling-at-night/>

Teaching road safety: <https://www.brake.org.uk/get-involved/take-action/mybrake/knowledge-centre/advice-for-parents-and-families>

Keeping Children Safe in the Dark: <https://firstaidforlife.org.uk/keeping-children-safe-in-dark/>

Dark Nights: <https://www.childcare.co.uk/information/dark-nights-children-safety>

## What Parents and Carers Need to Know about Online Financial Scams and Exploitation

This free online safety guide addresses some common online financial scams and suggests ways to help children and young people avoid falling victim to them.

More than 80% of people in the UK regularly make purchases online. It is quick, it is convenient and much of the time it is safe. Not, however, quite as often as we would like to believe. In fact, financial losses to internet or e-commerce fraud have risen alarmingly in recent times from an annual total of £139 million at the start of the 2010s to a staggering £376m per year by 2020. As buying online becomes an increasingly preferred option (it now accounts for almost a third of the UK's entire retail market), it is important that the next generation is prepared to navigate away from the various scams and schemes that lie in wait for unwary online shoppers.

<https://nationalcollege.com/guides/online-financial-scams-exploitation>

<https://nationalcollege.com/guides/combat-online-bullying>

Please find below the URL you will need. Complete your details and select "I am a: Parent/Carer" from the dropdown:

Once you have registered, you will be able to access the "Online Safety for Parents and Carers' course" and National Online Safety's Resources (which includes a wide range of online platform guides on the latest social media channels and games). This aims to help empower parents with the knowledge to protect their children from the dangers of the internet.

## Early Help Service

The Early Help service is made up of six Early Help professionals who support schools to co-ordinate early help for pupils and their families. The Early Help service includes the following teams:

- Adolescent response team
- Early Help Hub
- Education Welfare
- Family Information Service
- Family Support Hub
- Inclusion Support
- Parenting Team
- Strengthening Families Team

For further information, please visit [Early Help Assessment - Overview | Bedford Borough Council](#) or speak to any member of the school's safeguarding team.