



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
safeguarding@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr Will Atkinson

atkinsonw@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead Head of Year Seven:

Mrs Anthea Jones

jonesa@goldington.beds.sch.uk

School Safeguarding Governor:

Mrs Kate Reynier

reynierk@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Special Educational Needs &/or Disabilities Coordinator:

Mr Sailesh Roopnarain

roopnarains@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Eight:

Mrs Louise McCarthy-Gardner

mccarthy-gardnerl@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Nine:

Mr Michael Lincoln

lincolnm@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Ten:

Mr Liam Hall

halll@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Eleven:

Mr James Pinkney

pinkneyj@goldington.beds.sch.uk

All can be contacted via the school office 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 fourteenth edition of the safeguarding 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 **Neglect** and **Vaping synthetic cannabinoids**. We teach our pupils the dangers of drug use through our Life Skills Curriculum and through our wider assembly programme.

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

Neglect

Neglect can be difficult to spot, but unfortunately is a common form of child abuse. Neglect may include:

- **Physical neglect** of a child's basic needs. Food, shelter, hygiene are not accessible.
- **Educational neglect**, a child does not get the education they are entitled to.
- **Emotional neglect**, a child does not get the nurture and stimulation they need. This could be through ignoring them, isolating them or through intimidation.
- **Medical neglect** of proper health care needs. This may include dental care or refusing the recommendations of medical professionals.

Signs and indicators may include:

- Poor appearance and personal hygiene
- Health and developmental problems
- Housing and family issues
- Changes in a child's behaviour

Any child could suffer neglect. However, some children are more at risk than others e.g. those born prematurely, children with disabilities, children who are in care.

For more information, please visit [Neglect is also Child Abuse: Know All About It | NSPCC](#)

Vaping synthetic cannabinoids

It is unfortunate that some young people have become involved with vaping. Data from ASH indicates that around 20% of young people say they have tried vaping.

Worryingly, there are increasing numbers of young people who are using vapes supplied with illegal drugs, such as THC oil or Spice. Synthetic cannabinoids such as Spice inhaled through vapes were known to cause at least 68 deaths in the US last year, and are known to cause fatalities from only one hit of the drug.

Side effects of synthetic cannabinoids may include:

- Inability to move
- Dizziness
- Breathing difficulties
- Chest pain
- Seizures
- Extreme anxiety
- Paranoia
- Suicidal thoughts
- Psychosis

For more information, please visit: [Synthetic cannabinoids \(Spice\) | NHS inform](#)

Top Tips for supporting Children to Manage Conflict Effectively

<https://nationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-to-manage-conflict-effectively>

As children go through life, they will inevitably come into conflict sooner or later. These disagreements can range from seemingly minor squabbles to far more serious disputes, and dealing with them in an effective, mature manner is an absolutely vital skill, one that takes some time and effort to cultivate.

In children and young people's formative years, it is incredibly important for parents and educators to know how to teach them conflict resolution, as well being able to model this skill effectively. This free guide offers expert advice on helping youngsters avoid unnecessary conflict and supporting them in finding solutions when clashes arise.

<http://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/goldington-academy>

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:

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|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Adolescent response team | • Family Support Hub |
| • Early Help Hub | • Inclusion Support |
| • Education Welfare | • Parenting Team |
| • Family Information Service | • 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.