

# Kidgate Academy

## Safeguarding Update

Term 3: 2025/26

### 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 any of the Designated Safeguarding Leads straight away.

The following members of staff are Designated Safeguarding Leads for Kidgate Primary School:

- Mrs Cook( DSL)
- Mrs Greenfield
- Mrs Cheffings

They can be contacted via the school office, or by telephone on 01507 308620.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

### Dear Parents and Carers

At Kidgate Academy, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children is everyone's responsibility and remains our top priority. Every member of our community plays an important role in ensuring our pupils are safe, happy, and thriving.

### What is an Influencer?

An influencer is somebody on a social media platform such as YouTube and Instagram, who have a high number of followers. Influencers share their opinions/ideas and may be paid to advertise/promote products through their account.

### What should I be concerned about?

Whilst there are some great influencers, there are some that choose to share content that is for example, misogynistic, racist or misleading. These opinions can be expressed or interpreted as fact, so it is important to talk to your child and encourage them to fact check and critically analyse what they see and hear online.

### What we see on social media

What we see is influenced by algorithms, which predict what type of content we are most likely to interact with. Whilst there are benefits of algorithms, it can mean that once we start looking at certain content, our social media feed can become more aligned with that opinion, creating an echo chamber and therefore, we do not see a balanced picture.

Find out more here:

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/algorithms/>

### What can I do to help my child?

Talk to your child about social media and who they follow. If there is anybody that you are unsure of, then check their feed and discuss with your child if you find anything worrying.

Further information:

<https://swgfl.org.uk/topics/social-media/>

### 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025'

'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025 is national guidance from the Department for Education that all schools must follow. It helps make sure that every child is safe, cared for, and supported to achieve their best.

To read the full Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025 document click [here](#)

# Smartphone Free Childhood

Smartphone Free Childhood is a parent led movement whose mission is to protect children from the dangers of using smartphones too young.

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/carers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age. Are you ready to join?

Find out more here: <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk>

**Don't forget to also download the free National Online Safety App which can help you keep up-to-date with new developments in keeping your child/ren safe.**



## Attendance Matters

Getting here on time every day really is important in helping your child to become a happy and successful learner. Every day really does count.

## Get to know your age ratings

Age ratings exist to help protect your child, so we thought we'd provide you with a little reminder of how important it is to check the age ratings of what your child is accessing online. Here are the age ratings of some of the more popular apps that young people are accessing.



Further information You can find out more here:

<https://eegamesmart.co.uk/articles/how-age-ratings-help-families/>



## How do the children raise any concerns?

All classes have 'Worry' boxes. We check these regularly and discuss any issues with the children, so that they know they are being listened to and their concerns are being taken seriously.

All children can go and speak to any adult in the academy.

