

SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER 2025

Welcome to the latest edition of our Newsletter from The Levett School Safeguarding Team.

As we approach the Easter holidays, we want to take this opportunity to share some important safeguarding updates to help keep your children safe online and in everyday life. This newsletter includes vital information about a recent Netflix drama addressing adolescent issues, emoji slang that parents should be aware of, and general tips for ensuring your child's safety during the break.

Should you require any help or advice during the holiday, our DSL will be contactable between 9am & 2pm on the number listed below.

**Miss Johnston
Director of Safeguarding
and Behaviour**



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Emoji Slang – What Parents Need to Know

Young people often use emojis in ways that go beyond their traditional meanings, sometimes to communicate things that parents may not immediately recognise. Some emojis may indicate risky behaviour, emotions, or even secretive conversations.

Here are a few emojis to be aware of:

- 🔌 (Plug) – Can reference drugs or illegal activities.
- 🌿 (Leaf) – Sometimes used to represent cannabis.
- 💊 (Pill) – May indicate drug use.
- 🔥 (Fire) – Can signify something exciting, but also dangerous or risky behaviour.
- 🚀 (Rocket) – Sometimes used to reference speed or taking drugs.
- 😏 (Smirking/Devil Face) – Can imply risky or rebellious behaviour.

How to Stay Informed:

- Talk regularly with your child about their online conversations and social media use.
- Use online resources to decode unfamiliar slang and symbols.
- Encourage honesty and let them know they can talk to you if they feel pressured or uncomfortable.

For more guidance on online safety, visit :

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>



Netflix Drama & Adolescent Wellbeing

Netflix has recently released a drama that explores the challenges young people face during adolescence, including peer pressure, social media influence, and mental health struggles. While these shows can provide insight into the experiences of today's teenagers, they may also expose young viewers to mature themes that require discussion and guidance from parents.

What Parents Can Do:

- Check age ratings and content warnings before allowing your child to watch.
- Watch together and use the show as a conversation starter about real-life issues.
- Encourage open dialogue with your child about how media influences their perceptions and decisions.
- Use parental controls on streaming services to manage what your child can access.

For further advice on managing screen time and discussing sensitive topics, visit

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/online-issue/screen-time>



Keeping Children Safe This Easter

With more free time during the holidays, children may spend increased time online or out with friends.

Here are some key safety tips:

- Set online boundaries – Ensure your child understands what's appropriate to share and who they can talk to.
- Monitor social media activity – Encourage privacy settings and be aware of who they interact with online.
- Outdoor safety – If your child is going out, ensure they have a charged phone and know emergency contacts.
- Avoid risky trends – Talk to your child about avoiding dangerous social media challenges.

STAY SAFE

We encourage all parents to remain vigilant and proactive in supporting their child's safety. If you have any concerns or need further advice, please do not hesitate to contact the school safeguarding team.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable Easter break!

The Levett School – Safeguarding Team

