SAFEGUARDING
AUTUMN TERM 2026

NEWSLETTER

LEIGHSWOOD SCHOOL

SAFEGUARDING MATTERS

Each term. at Leighswood, we will aim to share some important safeguarding news with you regarding support and signposting within our local context and to share information that may be helpful to our families. Primarily, this news is intended for the adults in our community and we are always happy for any of the materials produced here to be freely distributed if it is helpful to anyone within our local area and community.

If you have any matter that you would like to bring to our communities attention , or if you feel that you may need to request support with any safeguarding matter. Please do not hesitate to contact any member of the school safeguarding team who will be able to signpost you to the best services to support you .

MEET THE LEIGHSWOOD SAFEGUARDING TEAM .

At Leighswood school , our experienced safeguarding team can be contacted for any reason linked to wellbeing and welfare and are always happy to help.





Mrs Ruth Davies - Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mr James Pearce, Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Mr Craig Thompson Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Hannah Bell- Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Mr Owain Williams- Safeguarding Governor

Did you know...

Mrs Ruth Davies can also issue food bank vouche directly from school .

If you feel you may need this support, please know support will be given discreetly and confidentially to those who request support.





Spotlight on Mental Health Support





Our Elsa trained therapists, Miss Toy and Mrs Wiseman .

Here at Leighswood , we are proud of the menu of support the are able to offer to our children and families to support mental health and wellbeing . If you feel you may need any support for your child , or yourself, please dont hesitate to contact one of the Safeguarding team who will be able to provide support or signpost to services which may be able to help.

Below , you will find the range of services we can help with and offer in school.



Smoothwall Pulse

If your child is currently within Year 3 to Year 6, they will have weekly access to our Smoothwall Pulse software.

Smoothwall Pulse is a tool we use to support your child's safety and wellbeing online. It can identify when a child may need support and helps them reach out to a trusted adult . It also encourages positivity, allowing pupils to share kindness, gratitude, and celebrate achievements.

It is used responsibly, with your child's wellbeing at the centre or its purpose, and is a helpful tool in us being able to support your children.

If you have any questions about Smoothwall Pulse or how this looks for your children, please do not hesitate to reach out to Miss Winstanley for more information.

MEDI TRACKER

The Leighswood way of informing parents and carers of medication use , bumps and minor injuries

medicaltracker

To make communication about bumps , grazes and medication use quicker and more reliable, we now notify parents and carers by email rather than sending paper slips home, which can sometimes get lost. If your child is given medication at school or has a minor bump, you will receive an email notification directly to your inbox on the same day.
Please do ensure that meditracker is added to your email safe list so this doesn't go to your other or junk folders.
Please be reassured that if your child has a head injury or if we have any urgent concerns, the school office will contact you by phone as usual.
We hope this change makes it easier for you to stay informed and supports clear communication between school and home.

Keeping Leighswood safe online



Google family link

Here at Leighswood school, we recommend Google Family Link as a helpful tool for supporting children's safe and balanced use of technology. It is a free parental control app that allows you to monitor and guide your child's use of smartphones and tablets. By setting up a supervised Google account, you can keep an eye on app activity, manage screen time, and help ensure your child is accessing age-appropriate content.

To get started, you simply install Google Family Link on your own device and your child's device, then follow the setup instructions to link the accounts. Once connected, you can approve or block app downloads, set daily screen time limits, and schedule "bedtimes" where the device automatically locks. You will also receive activity reports showing how your child is spending time on their device, helping you to have informed conversations about their online habits.

We encourage all parents to use tools like Google Family Link alongside regular discussions with their children about staying safe online. While the app provides useful controls—such as content filtering, permission management, and location tracking—it is most effective when combined with open communication. Talking with your child about responsible internet use, privacy, and how to respond to any concerns will help them develop safe and positive digital behaviours.

Please use the link attached directly below to access Google Family Link to create your account .

https://familylink.google.com



Digital Leaders Newsdesk.

During this term, the content of our computing lessons have focussed on the children learning:
1-how to access a device safely,
2-use devices appropriately
3-use devices effectively.

They've collaborated and created Digital Footprint posters based on their understanding whilst also learning the positivies and negatives of a digital world.

In EYFS and Year 1 we have explored the CEOP website and followed Jessie and Friends on their adventures as they use devices with family and friends as well as independently. The videos are a great way to keep the chidren engaged so that they are able to retell the story.

https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/

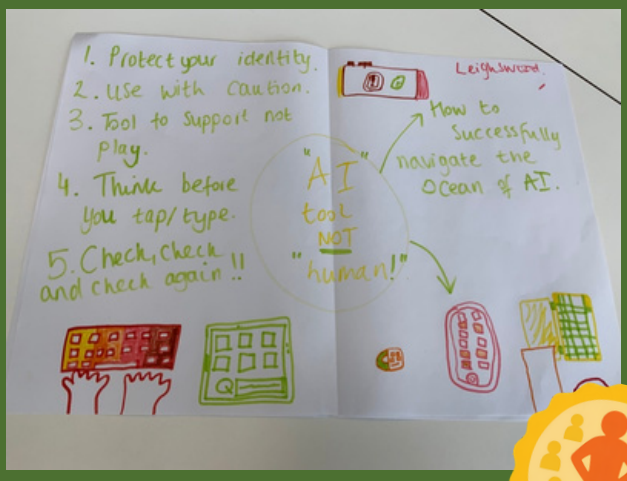


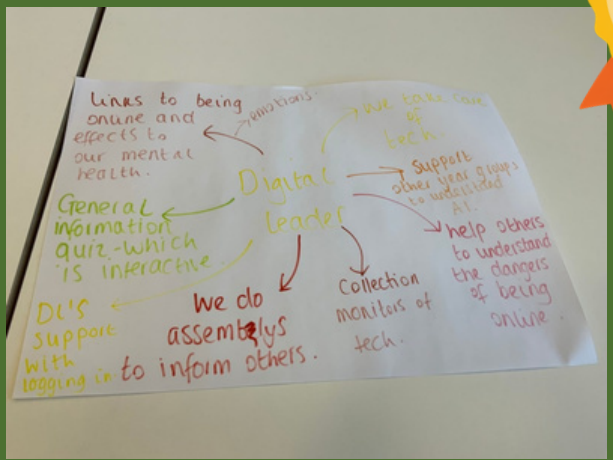


Digital Leader Conference

Our fantastic Pupil Digital Leaders Team along side Mrs Winstanley had the opportunity to take part in the annual, regional Digital Leaders conference earlier this term.
Here, they had the opportunity to delve deeper into the importance of Online Safety and Digital Literacy and took part in creating content for the new website for parents - which is going to be launching in December.
A big thankyou to all involved in keeping our pupils safe in the digital world.

A very productive first half-term!





Our current whole school attendance is 93.8%
National attendance of Primary age pupils is currently 95.5%

Attendance

WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required by law to attend 190 days per year. The Government states that every student's attendance must be at least 95%. Parents can be fined £150 for attendance below 90%.

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	60 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	120 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	180 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	240 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	300 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	345 lessons
65%	67 days	13.5 weeks	405 lessons

89% and below
Drastic impact on academic achievement

95%-90%
Cause for concern

100%-96%
Excellent – keep up the great work



Good attendance is essential for your child's learning, wellbeing, and long-term success. Every school day builds important knowledge, skills, and confidence, and even occasional absences can quickly add up, making it harder for children to keep up with their work and friendships.

As parents and guardians, you play a key role in supporting regular attendance and as a school our partnership work here is invaluable to us in ensuring our children's success.

- Please ensure your child arrives on time each day at 8.45
- Please do avoid taking holidays during term time.
- If your child is unwell or unable to attend, do please inform the school by phone as soon as possible, providing a clear reason.
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We monitor attendance closely and will contact you directly if we have concerns so we can work together to support your child.
We also send congratulations to those who are supporting regular school attendance and offer our thanks for your continued support.
If your child is finding it difficult to attend school, please let us know—we are here to help. By working in partnership, we can ensure every child feels supported, attends regularly, and has the best possible opportunity to succeed.

LOCAL CONTACTS AND SUPPORT



Our local area has a plethora of support that can be accessed for wellbeing and welfare.
Please make use of the following contacts below should you need to:

Walsall Childrens services - MASH -

... **MASH –0300 555 2866**;

Out of Hours 0300 555 2922

reporting concerns regarding family and children wellbeing

Thomas Project
196H Walsall Wood Rd, Aldridge, Walsall WS9 8HB
Phone: 01922 452213

Local food bank and community hub for so many services- a fantastic support for our local community

Walsall Energy Action Project (WEAP) Drop in Session

1st Wednesday of the Month
10am - 12pm

Are you looking for ways to reduce your household bills and save energy?
We have a representative from Walsall Energy Action Project coming to give FREE EXPERT ADVICE at a drop in session at The Thomas Project on 1st Wednesday of the month 10am - 12pm. Free refreshments will be available.



LEIGHSWOOD SCHOOL

BEST START IN LIFE

Walsall Family Hubs

Supporting families to live happier lives

Register for Walsall Family Hubs

Expecting a baby or caring for a child under 5?

Complete a quick online registration to become a member of our Walsall Best Start in Life Family Hubs!

Why register?

- Book FREE activities, courses, and support .
- Get updates about events, groups, childcare and so much more!

Need help?

Pop into your local Family Hub and speak to a member of the team.

We'll help you get registered and explain how your information is kept safe.

Or simply scan the QR code below to sign up today!

Scan here