



## Safeguarding Newsletter—Autumn Term 2 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have all had a wonderful half term break.

All staff at Belle Vue have a responsibility to safeguard children but just a reminder to you that we have the following designated staff in place with responsibility for safeguarding:

Mrs. C Davies—Designated Safeguarding lead  
Mrs. S Richardson—Deputy Safeguarding lead  
Mrs. A Perrett—Deputy Safeguarding Lead  
Mrs. C Mulligan—Deputy Safeguarding lead

Governor responsible for safeguarding: Mrs. S Rose

If you have any concerns regarding the safeguarding of a child/children please contact the school immediately on 01384 389900 or email [info@belle-vue.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@belle-vue.dudley.sch.uk). **If you suspect a child is in immediate danger please ring 999. If you have a concern during holiday time, please email**

### Stranger Danger

Sadly, children may be at greater danger from people they know, from other children, or on the internet – but abuse and abductions continue to happen and it's important to teach your child how to stay safe. Rather than giving warnings about certain types of people, teach them how to identify and respond to threatening situations.

Children need to understand the difference between strangers who could hurt them and strangers who may help them. Let them know who they can trust if they need help – such as a uniformed police officer or a teacher. Explain they must tell a trusted adult if they have been approached by a stranger or if they feel uncomfortable about a situation. Help your child learn to be aware of their surroundings; encourage them to trust their instincts if they have a bad feeling about a place or person; and encourage them to be assertive.

### Tips when talking to your child about staying safe not scared

Try using language like this when talking to your child about staying safe:

**Staying safe** – “Pay attention to what people do. Tell me right away if anyone asks you to keep a secret, makes you feel uncomfortable, or tries to get you to go with them.”

**Going somewhere with someone** – “It's important for you to ask me and get my permission before going anywhere with anyone.”

**If you have a problem** – “Don't approach just anyone – if you need help, look for a uniformed police officer or go into a shop and ask for help.”

Useful website link: <https://www.safe4me.co.uk/portfolio/clever-never-goes/>

# OUT WITH STRANGER DANGER IN WITH CLEVER NEVER GOES



## TEACH THE CLEVER OPTION AT HOME

**CLEVER NEVER GOES is the new, child-friendly lesson that teaches children how to stay safe from abduction when they are outside (e.g. walking to or from school), or online.**

It's been created to help parents/guardians talk to their children about staying safe in a simple way.

Instead of creating a fear of people it teaches them to recognise the danger in a situation, regardless of who's involved.

### THE RULE:

**If anyone asks you to go - even someone that you know - if it hasn't been agreed, remember: CLEVER NEVER GOES**



The **CLEVER NEVER GOES** rule means children shouldn't go anywhere with anyone - even if they know them - if it hasn't been agreed in advance by a parent or guardian.

And please remember, children learn through repetition so make sure you remind them regularly of **CLEVER NEVER GOES** when they're going outside or online.

For more information, ideas and resources to have that clever conversation go to: [clevernevergoes.org](http://clevernevergoes.org)

## WHY CHANGE?

Since it was introduced in the 1970's, the 'stranger danger' message has been fundamentally flawed.

Most strangers will help rather than harm a child, and many people that do pose a risk to children are not strangers.

Furthermore, it demands that all strangers should be treated with suspicion, which breeds fear in our communities. This has led to children spending less time outdoors, fuelling a rise in obesity and mental health problems.

Add to this, children are spending more time online, increasing their risk of being groomed. Now is the time for a new approach that creates safer, happier and healthier children.

Backed by more than 1,000 schools across the UK, **CLEVER NEVER GOES** is more practical than stranger danger and gives children the skills and confidence to safely explore their outdoor and online worlds without fear. And gives parents the reassurance to let them.

# clever never goes

## After School Clubs

The Department for Education has produced guidance that helps parents identify the safeguarding issues to consider when choosing an out-of-school provider or community activity. Keeping children safe during community activities, after-school clubs and tuition.

You can access the guidance by [clicking here](#).

## Apple Phones



### Sensitive Content Warning on Apple devices

Apple released their new iOS 17 operating system in September. One of the new features includes a “sensitive content warning.’ You can choose to receive a warning about any photos or videos that might contain nudity before you view them. It also links to related resources and guidance.

If Sensitive Content Warning is activated on your device and the device believes an image/video contains nudity, then your device will blur the image and display a warning so you can choose to view it or not. You can activate this setting in ‘Privacy and Security.’

You can find out more here: <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT213834>

This article also links to further information about “Communication Safety on your child’s Apple device.” This is available for child accounts signed in with their Apple ID and part of a Family Sharing group.

## Fireworks Safety

This is a fun time of year with some local firework displays, New Year’s Eve and lots of celebrations ahead, however, please remember to stay safe. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) advise that only adults should deal with setting up firework displays, the lighting of fireworks and the safe disposal of fireworks once they have been used. Remember, alcohol and fireworks don't mix! Children and young people should be supervised, and watch and enjoy fireworks at a safe distance.

