



Brindishe
Federation

Brindishe Federation Newsletter

Friday 3rd November 2023



Keeping Children Safe in the Dark

As the clocks go back and the nights draw in, it is an overnight adjustment for all of us keeping children safe in the dark. The darker evenings can have a big impact. However, our routines of picking up children from playdates or afterschool clubs, cycling home from work or taking the dog out for a walk all continue. These common daily activities can be very different experiences in the dark.

Follow these simple steps from *'First Aid for Life'* to stay safe wherever you are going and whoever you are with, to help avoid the additional risks of accidents the dark can bring.

Keeping Children Safe in the Dark

Children need to be seen, not just by other motorists and cyclists, but by other pedestrians. It is vital to teach your children good road safety basics from an early age.

Hold their hand on dark nights

Visibility on dark nights - Think about what your child is wearing. Some school uniforms are dark. They are safer if they are visible, and you can easily add high-visibility reflective strips on their clothing, school bags or bike helmets.

Driveway safety on dark nights - Research from RoSPA shows that since 2008, at least 28 children have been killed on, or near, the driveways of their home. The darker conditions in Autumn and Winter mean it is even more important to double check that your pets and children are safely out of harm's way before you drive off.

Scooter safety on dark nights - Insist children on scooters stay close to their accompanying adult and learn to stop at junctions and driveways.



Rights Respecting Article Of The Week

Article 2 (non-discrimination) - The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

Article 12 (respect for the views of the child) - Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.

Article 13 (freedom of expression) - Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.

Article 19 (protection from violence, abuse and neglect) - Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

What does bullying mean to you?

What different kinds of bullying can you think of?

- It is repeated behaviour that treats another person badly over time.
- Behaviour that makes you feel unsafe and/or puts you down as a person.
- Physical – aggressive or violent, being pushed, hit, kicked, intimidated.
- Verbal – name-calling, threatening, being laughed at, teasing, being shouted at.
- Social – being purposefully excluded from plans with your 'friends'.
- Cyber bullying (online, on social media or gaming forums) – unkind comments, sharing photos with negative comments.
- Discrimination - against race, nationality, sexuality, faith or another protected characteristic.
- Sexual bullying – unwanted sexual comments or contact, spreading of sex rumours.
- Emotional or psychological – when someone gets what they want by making others feel angry/sad (manipulation) or being told they are not good enough.

At Brindishe Schools, we talk to children about 'kind hands' and 'kind words'. Children are encouraged to think about their actions and things they say to each other. Watch 'How to be a Lion' by Ed Vere with your child at home [here](#). Talk about why the other lions are bullying Leonard and how he deals with this.

'Some say words can't change the world. Leonard says, "If they make you think, maybe they can." Do you agree with Leonard?



Online Safety Bulletin

Is your child ready for social media?

Childnet have produced this article answering your questions around social media, such as when should I allow my child to join social media?

The article also outlines some alternative sites that have been created for younger children.



You can read the article below:

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/supporting-your-child-getting-started-on-social-media/>

Reception Open Days

Please see below our last open day for parents/carers applying for Reception places for September 2024. For further information on open days and how to book a place on the tour, please contact individual schools.

Brindishe Green	Brindishe Manor	Brindishe Lee
Tuesday 14th November - 10am and 4.30pm	Monday 13th November - 9:30am and 4:30pm	Wednesday 15th November - 9:30am and 4:30pm

Governing Body

If you would like to attend a Brindishe Federation Governing Body meeting, please email our Chair of Governors, Liz Murphy - lmurphy@brindisheschools.org. Our second meeting is on **Tuesday 12th December 2023 6pm at Brindishe Green School.**

Key Federation Dates

- October Half Term - Monday 23rd October 2023 - Friday 27th October 2023
- Brindishe Schools INSET Day - Friday 24th November. Schools closed to all children.
- End of Term - Wednesday 20th December
- Brindishe Schools INSET Day - Monday 8th January 2024
- Children return to school - Tuesday 9th January
- Deadline for Primary 2024 Admissions - Monday 15th January 2024
- Half Term - Monday 12th February 2024 - Friday 16th February 2024