



SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

SAFEGUARDING EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

Designated safeguarding Leads

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Useful numbers

Childline	0800 1111
Wigan Safeguarding Hub	01942 486262
Wigan Social care Referral and Assessment team	01942 828 300

Safe Travels

Since lockdown at the end of March, transport across Greater Manchester has changed significantly, and it won't be back to normal as the new school term begins.

It's important that pupils plan ahead when deciding how to get to and from school and check the latest travel advice. They should also apply now for any tickets or passes they may need.

Please ask pupils to consider whether they can walk or cycle to school – it can be a safe and healthy way for pupils to make shorter trips. New cycling and walking routes have been put in place across the region as part of the #SafeStreetsSaveLives project to make it safer and easier than ever to get about on foot or by bike. For the latest information on these improvements, visit the [tfgm/safestreets](https://tfgm.org/safestreets).

If a child needs to use public transport to travel to school, they should be aware that space may be limited on many services and timetables may have changed. TfGM's Yellow School Bus services will be running without the usual pass system in place, meaning they will operate as regular school buses so any schoolchild can use them.

When travelling to school children should check timetables in advance, allow extra time for their journeys in case their first service is full and be patient with other passengers.

They also need to follow safe travel guidance and take responsibility for keeping themselves and other passengers safe:

- Wear a face covering on-board and in stations and interchanges, unless they're under 11 or are exempt for another reason;
- Keep their distance from other passengers where possible;
- Clean their hands regularly; and
- Use contactless payment or exact change only where possible.

Children aged 11 to 16 must have an igo card to travel using a child ticket on buses in Greater Manchester. It can also be used as proof of age for travelling by tram, and child Metrolink tickets are available for igo online at getmethere.com. Some bus tickets are only available to buy using igo as a smart card, even for those under 11, as tickets are loaded onto the igo card instead of giving a paper ticket. The card costs £10 and is valid until 31 August after the child's 16th birthday.

If parents have to drive their child to school and/or pick them up, they should switch off their engine when waiting outside to reduce air pollution and consider parking further away and walking the last part of the journey. TfGM has created a Back to School hub at tfgm.com/schools where parents and pupils can find the latest information on timetables, tickets, changes to Yellow School Bus services and further information on cycling and walking.

Key COVID Message

We have seen a slight reduction in the lockdown measures in the last few weeks. I understand that the children by enlarge, have done a fantastic job of obeying the rules and staying in. As things slowly start to relax,:

- it is important that our children know that they still need to demonstrate good hand washing hygiene, as this is still being widely reported as one of the best ways of reducing the risk of catching the virus.
- They also need to ensure they socially distance from anyone who is not a member of their household. This means staying at least two metres apart as this reduces of catching the virus, especially outside, to less than 2%.
- They need to meet members of a different household outside and in groups no more than 6. Social distancing still needs to be observed at all times.

Pupils should not be gathering in large groups in public places such as parks, sports fields and other open spaces.

As we are experiencing some warmer weather, it is also worth remembering that it is dangerous to swim in large expanses of water such as Pennington Flash or Scottsmans Flash. Open expanses of water can be very cold, even when the weather is warm and when the body enters cold water, it can go into shock which can cause panic and children to drown.

Parents, please ensure you know where your children are at all times and if you are allowing them a little more freedom, please ensure they are behaving responsibly in the community.

Supporting Mental Health

Just a reminder that the school published some excellent resources about managing mental health during this very difficult time. They are still available under the Covid section of our website. The government also keep a detailed list of websites to be accessed if support is required for mental health and well being. The links for both of those are detailed below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-advice-to-support-mental-health-during-coronavirus-outbreak>
<http://www.golbornehigh.wigan.sch.uk/Wellbeing>

Online Safety

As we continue in an ever changing digital world it is still important as more of our every day life is carried out on line, our children still need to be reminded about keeping safe on line. Parents should be aware of exactly what their children are accessing and who they are talking to.

Remember the golden rules

- Only communicate with people you know well
- Only access age appropriate material
- Only access platforms parents are aware of
- If in doubt—tell someone!
- Report any suspicious activity