



SAFEGUARDING AND ATTENDANCE

Safeguarding and attendance go hand in hand in supporting your child's wellbeing and progress. A safe environment helps pupils feel confident and ready to learn, and regular attendance ensures they don't miss out on valuable learning.

Online Safety

The number of incidents that we as a school receive that involve an element of online usage is increasing.

We are aware that as our pupils come from Primary Schools and start to become more independent, their online lives become increasingly complex. Social media platforms like Snapchat, Instagram, TikTok, and WhatsApp are central to teen communication, but they also present risks—from exposure to harmful content and cyberbullying to online grooming and pressure to share inappropriate material. It's essential for parents to stay informed and actively support their child's digital wellbeing.

Some online behaviours, such as sharing explicit images even between peers can constitute criminal offences under UK law. Other risks include harassment, hate speech, and exploitation through social media. Open conversations about responsible online behaviour, privacy settings, and the legal consequences of certain actions can help your child make safer choices. Encourage them to think critically about what they share, who they interact with, and how to report anything that makes them uncomfortable.

For practical advice and tools, the NSPCC offers a comprehensive online safety hub covering topics like sexting, social media use, and how to talk to your child about online risks: NSPCC Online Safety. The UK Safer Internet Centre provides guides for parents and carers, including tips for managing technology and promoting positive online experiences: UK Safer Internet Centre – Parents and Carers. For age-specific advice on online offences and exploitation, visit ThinkUKnow, run by the National Crime Agency. You can also find social media-specific guidance at Internet Matters – Social Media Advice.

By staying engaged and informed, parents can help their children enjoy the benefits of the digital world while avoiding its dangers.

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

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

[https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/https://](https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/)

OP Jetsom

As you may have seen across social media, Wiltshire Police are currently operating Op Jetsom which is aimed at ensuring that users of E-scooters and Bikes are aware of the law and where appropriate, seizing them. Please see the attached poster which outlines the legalities of these and if your child does own one then please can you ensure they are not brought on to school site.

Where to go for help

Mental Health Support

Be U Swindon accept referrals from young people and their parents for low level mental health support and are the front door for TAMHS. More information can be found at <https://beuswindon.co.uk/>

Kooth is an online/phone support tool for young people who are struggling with their mental health and need someone to talk to.

<https://www.kooth.com/>

If you have a concern about a young person you can also contact Swindon Children Services integrated front door, Contact Swindon.

They can be contacted on 01793 464646 or contactchildrenandfamilies@swindon.gov.uk

If you feel that any person is at risk of immediate harm then the Police should be called on 999.

Other Information

Link Centre Fair

As you may be aware there is the fair running at the Link Centre between 24th - 31st October. These events bring a risk of anti-social behaviour and young people can be subject to criminal activity. If your child is planning on attending then please ensure they are aware of how they can stay safe and seek help where appropriate.

Lawn Woods:

Wiltshire Police informed schools that at the end of the summer term there was a large gathering of young people from all over Swindon and they have intelligence to suggest this may be happening again this half term. We are making parents aware as gatherings like this will often carry the risk of young people taking alcohol and other illicit substances.

Attendance Ladder



Each term we will celebrate the positive attendance across the school. Whilst we are aware that pupils will be off at various times for genuine reasons such as illness and appointments, it is also important to highlight positive attendance where it exists.

Lydiard Park Academy attendance for term 1 from 4th September — 22nd October 2025.

Year 7 overall attendance: 96.8%

Year 8 overall attendance: 94.2%

Year 9 overall attendance: 92.1%

Year 10 overall attendance: 92.2%

Year 11 overall attendance: 92.9%

We are aware that from time to time pupils will have appointments or will be ill. If this is the case please remember to contact the schools absence line. If it is medical related or a longer term illness then medical evidence needs to be provided.

If attendance falls below 90% we will look to arrange attendance improvement meetings with parents to ensure we are doing everything we can to support your child attending school.