



## Safeguarding Newsletter

### Keeping Children Safe Because Every Child Matters

At Banks Road Primary School, safeguarding remains at the heart of everything we do. This monthly newsletter aims to keep families informed about important safeguarding issues, support available within our community and ways we can work together to keep every child safe, happy and thriving.

#### Why We Sometimes Have to Share Information



One of the most important responsibilities schools have is keeping children safe.

Occasionally, information shared with school, concerns identified by staff, or changes in a child's presentation may lead us to believe that a child or family would benefit from additional support. In these situations, we have a statutory

duty to share information with appropriate agencies, including Children's Services, Early Help, the Police or Health Services.

We understand that these conversations can sometimes be upsetting or frustrating for families. However, our first priority must always be the safety and wellbeing of children.

It is important to remember:

- ✓ Schools do not need parental consent to make a safeguarding referral where there are concerns about a child's welfare or safety.
- ✓ We are legally required to share information when we believe a child may be at risk of harm.
- ✓ Sharing information does not automatically mean that a family has done anything wrong.

- ✓ Early support can often prevent concerns from becoming more serious.

We greatly value positive relationships with parents and carers and will always be open and honest wherever it is appropriate to do so. By working together, we can ensure children receive the help they need at the right time.

**Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility.**

## **World Mental Health Day 2026**

**10 October 2026**

World Mental Health Day takes place each year on **Saturday 10 October** and provides an opportunity for us all to think about our own wellbeing and the wellbeing of those around us.

Good mental health is just as important as good physical health. Children who feel emotionally supported are better able to learn, develop friendships and cope with life's challenges.

### **Hello Yellow at Banks Road**

On **Friday 9 October**, we will be supporting **YoungMinds' Hello Yellow Day**.

Children and staff are invited to wear **something yellow** alongside their normal school uniform to help raise awareness of young people's mental health.



The focus of the day is raising awareness, talking openly about mental health and showing support for one another.

### **What Can Families Do on World Mental Health Day?**

Here are some simple ways families can support wellbeing at home:

- ♥ Take a family walk together and enjoy some fresh air.

- ♥ Put devices away for an hour and spend time talking together.
- ♥ Ask family members what has made them smile this week.
- ♥ Share three things you are grateful for.
- ♥ Spend time doing an activity you enjoy together.
- ♥ Check in with someone who may be having a difficult time.
- ♥ Encourage children to talk about their feelings and remind them that all feelings are valid.



**MEN'S TALK**  
— ALL MEN WELCOME! —

**WHEN**  
**Every Monday**  
1:00pm – 2:00pm  
Garston Children's Centre  
70 Banks Road  
Garston, Liverpool, L19 8JZ

**Every Wednesday**  
6:00pm – 7:00pm  
The Shieldwall  
Hyslop Street  
Liverpool, L8 5UA

**Every Thursday**  
5:45pm – 6:45pm  
Long Lane Church  
8-12 Long Lane  
Garston, Liverpool, L19 6PF

**IT'S OKAY TO TALK!**

**GROUP FACILITATOR'S**  
WE ALL HAVE A STORY TO TELL.

**BOYS GET SAD TOO**

**DROP IN SESSION**  
Refreshments provided  
Call in for a chat  
Form new friendships

**YOU ARE NOT ALONE!**

**SUPPORT | TALK | RESPECT | TOGETHER**

For more information, contact your local centre or call in at any session.

Sometimes the smallest conversations can make the biggest difference.

## Community Support

### Men's Talk Group

Looking after our mental health is important for adults as well as children.

The **Men's Talk Group** provides a welcoming space where men can meet, chat, connect with others and access support when needed.

The group offers a relaxed drop-in environment with refreshments provided and opportunities to meet new people and access support.

**You are not alone. It's okay to talk.**

## Online Safety

### Understanding the Risks of AI Chatbots

Many children and young people are now using Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbots such as ChatGPT, Google Gemini, Snapchat My AI and other similar tools. Information in the

school's parent factsheet highlights that around two-thirds of children aged 9-17 are already using AI chatbots.

AI tools can be useful for learning, creativity and entertainment. However, parents and carers should also be aware of potential risks. These may include:

- ⚠ Children becoming emotionally dependent on chatbots rather than speaking to trusted adults.
- ⚠ Exposure to inaccurate information or harmful advice.
- ⚠ Inappropriate or age-inappropriate content.
- ⚠ Privacy concerns where personal information is shared online.
- ⚠ Increased use of AI-generated images, videos and audio for bullying or misinformation.

### What Parents Can Do

- ✓ Talk regularly about how your child uses AI tools.
- ✓ Remind children that chatbots are not real people.
- ✓ Encourage children to question and verify information.
- ✓ Set clear expectations around device use.
- ✓ Check age ratings and parental controls.
- ✓ Remind children never to share personal information such as their school, address or location online.

As technology develops rapidly, ongoing conversations at home remain one of the most effective ways to keep children safe.

Together, We Can Do It! 💙💛

