Co-op Academy Southfield

Safeguarding Newsletter Autumn

Co-op Academy Southfield



Welcome to Co-op Academy Southfield's termly safeguarding newsletter.

Keeping our students safe, happy and supported is at the heart of everything we do. Safeguarding is a shared responsibility - every single day - and we believe the best way to protect our young people is by working hand-in-hand with our families.

Each term, this newsletter spotlights key safety updates, school initiatives and practical guidance to help you navigate your child's safety both in school and at home.

Got Questions or Need Support?

Our dedicated Safeguarding Team is always here for you. Whether you need advice, want to discuss a worry or just need a chat, please reach out to us at 01274 779662.

Safeguarding at Co-op Academy Southfield

Co-op Academy Southfield



Katie Street
Pastoral Welfare Lead + DDSL
Ext : 341



Taslim Afzal
DSL Prevent + Mental Health Lead
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Pastoral Welfare Lead + DDSL
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Pastoral Welfare Lead + DDSL
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Above, you can meet our dedicated Safeguarding Team. The team is composed of Designated Safeguarding Lead Taslim Afzal, four Key Stage Pastoral Welfare Leaders, and a Safeguarding Administrator.

Here is how we ensure your child is protected every day:

- Our top priority is keeping your child safe. All staff receive regular safeguarding training, and clear reminder notices are displayed across the school so everyone knows our safety policies.
- All staff use this CPOMS to report any safety or wellbeing concerns. Our Safeguarding Team reviews entries daily, contacts parents and works directly with families to offer support.
- We work closely with partner agencies such as Early Help and Short Breaks to connect families with extra support whenever it is needed.
- Staff working directly with students are Team Teach certified, ensuring they can safely, calmly, and effectively support young people if they become distressed.

Online Safety: A Major Safeguarding Priority



Protecting our students online is one of our biggest safeguarding priorities. Technology changes fast, and keeping young people safe requires a strong partnership between school and home.

Here is what you need to know this term:

- ➔ KCSIE 2026 & AI Updates: New national guidance warns against AI tools that generate fake images or act as "companion" chatbots. Remind your child never to post clear, personal photos online and that AI chatbots are not real friends.
- ➔ Social Media Age Limits (Spring 2027): The UK government plans to enforce age checks for under-16s on apps like Tik Tok, Instagram, and Snapchat (WhatsApp is excluded). Talk to your child now about how they feel regarding these upcoming changes.
- ➔ Hidden Gaming & Gambling Risks: Beware of unregulated sites with no age checks. Watch out for loot boxes and paid random rewards in games like Roblox or FIFA, which mimic gambling.

Services

Save the Date: SENDiVERSE Festival (27th Oct – 1st Nov)

Celebrate creativity and fun with the week-long SENDiVERSE Festival for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) across Bradford and Keighley!

- Midweek Activities (Mon 27th – Fri 31st Oct): Over 50 district-wide events including pumpkin carving, silent discos, sensory stories, circus skills, Bollywood dance and an online choir.
- The "Big Bang" Family Celebration (Sat 1st Nov, 11am–4pm): A fun-filled family day featuring interactive performances, sensory play, face painting, creative workshops and outdoor adventures.

Plan your week and explore the full lineup at www.the-leap.org.uk/sendiversefestival.