

BE BRIGHT & BE SEEN this winter



Now that the clocks have gone back and it's getting darker earlier on, it's more important than ever to make sure you can be seen when you're out and about near roads.

There are loads of ways to be seen and stay safer - so check over the page for some top tips!

5 top tips on how to BE BRIGHT & BE SEEN

- 1 Brightly coloured or fluorescent clothing shows up well in daylight and at dusk when you're heading to and from school.
- 2 If you're out and about when it's dark, wear reflective gear to make sure you can be seen in car headlights. Reflective vests, sashes or wristbands work well. Remember, fluorescent clothing doesn't work after dark!
- 3 Don't forget to accessorise! Even small items such as clip-on reflectors, armbands and stickers on your outfit or school bag are a great way to improve your visibility.
- 4 If you like to cycle, remember that it's the law to have clean and working lights at night (white at the front, red at the back), as well as a rear reflector. It's good to fit spoke reflectors too.
- 5 Of course, 'Being Bright' isn't the only way to stay safer. If you're out at night, choose routes and crossing places that are well lit and remember to always use the Green Cross Code.

For more road safety tips, games and videos, visit the Tales of the Road website at www.direct.gov.uk/talesoftheroad

Be Bright,
Be Seen

THINK

Welcome to the Autumn Safeguarding Newsletter. Safeguarding the children within our school continues to be at the top of our agenda and is at the core of the work we do. Working with parents and our local community is key to ensuring your children are kept safe. We hope this newsletter continues to provide you with up to date and relevant information. As always, please do let us know if there is anything specific you would like to know more about.

As we enter the dark mornings and earlier darker nights, we want to make sure that everyone in the Blakenhale community is safe.

Have a look at the information on the other side for some top tips.

Do you need to talk to someone?



Do you know our Safeguarding team?

If you are concerned that a child is being harmed, is at risk of harm, or you receive a disclosure (intentionally or unintentionally) you must contact a member of the safeguarding team as quickly as possible.



Mrs Hoods-Truman
Executive Principal
DSL



Mr P. Hunt
Deputy Principal
DSL



Mr C. Clements
Deputy Principal
Deputy DSL



Mrs Mardenborough
Attendance Officer
Deputy DSL



Mrs Moore
Community Support Worker
Deputy DSL

Smoking and Vaping

As you know we have a strict rule of no smoking on the school premises. This rule also applies to vaping, please do not smoke or vape on school premises.

We also ask you to be mindful where you smoke outside the school gates, a number of concerned parents have highlighted to us that they are walking past several smokers directly outside the school gates.

Please also be aware that you cannot smoke in a car (yes, even your own) if one of the passengers is a child under 12.



A message to all parents and carers who drive around Blakenhale academy

Please be careful when driving around the academy at busy times. There has been occasions where cars have been driving too fast and have very nearly caused an accident. Also, can you please be careful on how your child/children exit your car. There have been incidents where pupils are exiting on the road and cars have to stop quickly to stop hitting them.

Also, please be mindful when parking your car that you don't block any of our local resident's driveways.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Keeping our community clean

We have been in contact with Birmingham City council about all the dog mess around the pavements of the academy. They have responded to say new signage will be put up around the school and the area will be closely monitored. They have also said that they will completing a street cleansing service when we ask them to. Let's work together to keep the community as clean as we can and pick up your dog's mess and dispose of it appropriately.



A parent's guide to movie age ratings

Planning a family film night but not sure if the movie is suitable for everyone? Find out how film ratings are decided, why they're used and how relevant the classifications actually are in our parents' guide and make an informed decision about what film to watch next with the kids.

BBFC age ratings and what they mean



Age 4+

The U stands for universal and is applied to movies suitable for most ages. These movies should be positive in tone and should make clear differences between right and wrong. There should be no dangerous behaviour that children can copy and, at most, there may be occasional very mild bad language.



Age 8+

PG stands for parental guidance and these movies can be a little more complicated or intense than a U rated film. PG films might include some heavier topics, such as racism or bullying, but not in a way that condones such behaviour. Any bad language is mild, and there may be mild innuendo and references to sex.



Age 12+

The 12A rating only applies to films shown in cinemas. This means a child under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a grown-up.

The 12 rating is used for DVDs and video-on-demand and cannot be sold or rented to anyone under the age of 12. Weapons and bad behaviour may be included in these movies but should not be shown as attractive and should not be glamorised. Moderate bad language, and sometimes strong language depending on the context, may be used. Sex scenes should be short and discreet.



Age 18+

This rating signals that a movie's content may be very graphic and should not be watched by anyone under the age of 18. The film may include very strong language, explicit sex scenes and strong violence. The BBFC only request limitations on the content if it is a risk to adults or society or the content is illegal in any way.



Age 15+

This rating reflects the fact that although teens are often aware of many adult topics, there is still some content that is too 'mature' and may be unsuitable. Behaviour such as suicide and self harm may be included but not in great detail. Use of illegal drugs may be shown but should not be promoted, and strong language is permissible. Sex scenes may be included but not excessively or explicitly. Strong violence is allowed but it cannot dwell on 'inflicting pain or injury'.



Information obtained from The Schoolrun.com: <https://www.theschoolrun.com/parents-guide-to-movie-age-ratings>