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Monday 12th December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of another school term I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for working alongside the safeguarding team to ensure we are as proactive as possible in keep all of our pupils at Farlingaye safe.

As the Christmas holidays approach, below are some key pieces of safeguarding information for you all to be aware of.

Online challenges, hoaxes and trends:

Recent guidance has been released for Parents, Carers and Schools around how to respond to online challenges hoaxes and trends. Online challenges are something which we know impact all of our pupils and is something they come across on a regular basis. Although most challenges are harmless, some do a pose a risk to the safety of children. The guidance on how to respond can be found on the following link: [Responding to online challenges, hoaxes and trends guidance.](#)

The guidance explores:

- What is an online challenge?
- Why are online challenges popular?
- Why do some challenges become dangerous?
- Digital Resilience
- Advice on dealing with online challenges
- Advice for Parents/Carers
- Advice for young people.

Cost of living crisis support:

Recently we have had a number of external agencies contact the school to inform of us what support they are providing to all members of the public in regards the cost of living crisis.

Citizens Advice are offering weekly drop in sessions. Citizens Advice can support families with benefit checks, housing queries or money and debt advice. The following drop ins are available in the East Suffolk area:

Woodbridge Library – Monday 10am-12pm

Saxmundham Fromus Centre (Street Farm Road) – Wednesday 10am-12pm

Framlingham Library – Friday 10am-12pm

Wickham Market Resource Centre - Tuesday 1.30pm-3.30pm

Please note that some time and dates may change over the Christmas period.

East Suffolk Council have also recently been in contact to raise awareness of the support they are offering. Their website can be found on the following link: [East Suffolk – Cost of living support.](#)

East Suffolk Council have announced that 'We are co-ordinating a programme of advice and support to help people in East Suffolk with the rising cost of living. These pages provide information on the services and support available, including help with accessing support, as well as useful tips and advice. Please note that we do not have money to give to customers and that this is not an emergency service, but we will do everything we can to help.'

Lastly, over the Christmas period please remember that if you are concerned about the welfare of a child within your community you can contact the following agencies:

Customer First: If you are concerned about the welfare of a child in your community then please ring Customer First – 0808 800 4005 and report this information. Customer First is the first point of contact for social services in Suffolk. Please do not ring this number if a child is at imminent risk of harm such as injury or abuse, in this situation you should call 999 immediately.

Suffolk Constabulary: You can report non-urgent crimes via ringing the police non-emergency number – 101 or by going on the Suffolk Constabulary website: <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/report-something> You can also ring the police non-emergency number if an online safety offence has been committed, an example of this could be if your child is being asked to share sexually explicit pictures of themselves or of someone else. If someone is in immediate risk or danger then you should call 999.

If you would like any more information on anything mentioned in this letter please do get in contact with myself by emailing chankers@farlingaye.suffolk.sch.uk

Kind Regards,



Miss Claire Hankers
Safeguarding Manager / Online Safety Lead.