



Bredon Hill Academy

Safeguarding and Wellbeing Newsletter



Safeguarding Our Children Together

No. 5
Autumn Term
2021



Caring Hands

In the Vale



Caring Hands in the Vale is our local food bank. We can refer families to Caring Hands so that they can receive food parcels, toiletry packs, bedding, clothing and blankets free of charge depending on their circumstances. People can also receive a free hot meal twice a week at the Caring Hands Diner.

If you are worried about feeding your family this Christmas, please call the office and ask for Mrs Dunkley. All calls will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

The FIFA Playbook – A Guide for Parents and Carers



With Christmas just around the corner and Santa lists becoming household conversation topics, there is a good chance that one game has been at the top of your gamer's list. FIFA 22 is the latest instalment in the long-standing line up of games released by American videogame company, Electronic Arts (EA).

We understand that the world of FIFA (and gaming in general) can seem overwhelming and unfamiliar as a parent or carer, especially if a child knows everything about the game. Our online safety experts have taken an extensive look at the popular game to help you better understand exactly what the child in your care is asking for.

For information on how you can keep your son/daughter safe online whilst playing FIFA 22 please [click here](#).



National
Online
Safety

For the latest information regarding online safety please visit:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/>

Sign up for their #wakeupdnesday updates!

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs K Dunkley

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads: Miss D West and Mr S Timpson



What is Squid Game?

Squid Game is a South Korean television series streaming on Netflix. The plot centres on a group of adult debtors, thieves, and gamblers competing against each other in a series of childhood games for a grand cash prize. However, there is a dark twist to these seemingly innocent games – losing competitors are violently killed off in ways that grow more twisted as the games grow more intense.

Harmful Content in the Show

Currently, Squid Game has a rating of 15+ as the visual content includes high levels of gore, death, violence, and physical assault. It also has graphic depictions of suicide, murder, and sexual assault.

Children and young people are likely to know about Squid Game via word of mouth and social media/gaming platforms. They may be unaware of the extent of gore, death, and violence the show contains. It also focuses on adult themes (such as gambling, debt, and sex) that are not appropriate for younger viewers. For young people who live with mental health issues, they may be triggered by some of the content.

The aesthetic of Squid Game, especially in promotional images and material, appears innocent and childlike. This is to provide a clash with the excessively violent content that is meant to be jarring and unsettling to viewers.

How does my child know about this?

As this is a cultural phenomenon, Squid Game has become a popular subject of memes, games, and online conversation. It is entirely possible for a child or young person to know all about Squid Game – *without* actually watching the show.

Popular gaming platforms Roblox and Fortnite have also seen a sharp increase in user-designed games recreating those in Squid Game. These can be played by anyone. They are also being heavily livestreamed by many gaming streamers on YouTube and Twitch as the show is currently trending, and mentioning it is an easy way to attract an audience.

Parents and carers should be aware that video content from this show is found extensively on TikTok, which could also increase interest in watching the show. **Remember: even if you restrict the young person in your care from watching Squid Game, they may be able to access content on other platforms.**

The Risks of Recreation

Due to the overwhelming popularity of Squid Game and its challenge-based plot, many of the themes within the show have become popular on social media platforms. Depictions of these games have started to become popular as people film themselves recreating them – without the murderous outcome.

The Safer Schools Partnership have produced a practical Netflix safety guide to set viewing restrictions, profile locks, PIN codes and much more. To access the user guide please [click here](#).

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iPhone Users Only-AirDrop Function, Concerns in School

Please see the email sent out on 4th November regarding our concerns about some students using the AirDrop function on their phones to share unwanted photos.

The AirDrop function, if switched on, leaves users vulnerable to receiving images and videos from other iPhone users, regardless of whether they are a contact or not. Users do have to click to accept an AirDrop, so we ask that parents/carers talk to their child about using their phones in a safe way.

For further information on how to keep your child safe please [click here](#).

The Big Blue Box!



Two weeks ago, we introduced 'The Big Blue Box' to pupils at Bredon Hill Academy.

The Big Blue box is located in the main corridor on the ground floor, and is for pupils who wish to reach out for some support or if they need someone to talk to.

The box is checked daily and anyone who places a note inside the box will be contacted by a member of our pastoral team.

I am pleased to report that we have already had a number of pupils use the box

If pupils wish to talk to someone, all they need to do is place a card in the box with their name and form on, and we will meet up with them as soon as we can.

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