

Talbot Primary School Safeguarding Newsletter

Spring 2026

Salt & Ice Challenge - please be aware:

The "Salt and Ice Challenge" is an online trend where young people place salt on their skin and press ice on top for as long as possible.

This creates a chemical reaction, rapidly lowering the temperature and causing cryogenic (cold) burns, similar to frostbite. Children and young people may underestimate the harm as the cold numbs the skin, masking pain until significant damage has occurred. Risks

Second- or third-degree burns, potential need for skin grafts, lasting scarring, nerve damage, and impact on wellbeing.

Peer and online pressure amplify the likelihood of wider uptake. Recent Cases ED teams in North East London have already treated children for significant burns linked to this challenge. Similar surges have been reported nationally and internationally in the past.

Recently published in the media

The Spy Dogs/Pups and Spy Cat books written by Andrew Cope contain a link to a website which contains highly pornographic content. The book asks children to explore the website to find more about the characters in the book. It appears the website identified has now been compromised and takes users to a pornographic website with no age verification.

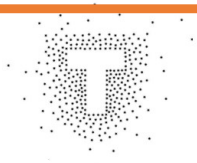
Tips to keeping your child safe online

- Check age ratings and platform features.
- Have regular conversations; Talk about what to do if something worries or upsets them and remind them that they can always come to you for help. These conversations help children feel supported and more confident in recognising and reporting anything unsafe.
- Review safety setting: Help children stay safe online by turning off location sharing and setting accounts to private. Use privacy controls to limit who can send friend requests, send message or comment on posts. Support their wellbeing by helping them block or report harmful content, set app time limits, and have regular conversations about what they see and experience online.

Attendance reminders:

All children need to be in school by 8:40am daily, otherwise this will be marked as late.

Please ensure medical evidence is provided for any external appointments for your child e.g. doctors appointment.



Online Safety hub for parents

As you have been made aware our trust Hamwic Education Trust have set up an Online portal guidance for parents.

[Online Safety Hub - Hamwic Education Trust](#)

As pupils become older and move through the school the guidance could be really useful for parents.

Whats App

The 'Add Everyone' WhatsApp group is recirculating amongst children. This group has been highlighted as a significant safeguarding concern due to the potential to expose children and young people to explicit, abusive and harmful content.

The group's purpose is to invite children to join a chat that contains inappropriate content and encourage them to add inappropriate comments and add other children but not their parents or safe adults. Children as young as 9 have been reported as being on this group.

Please be aware!

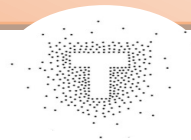
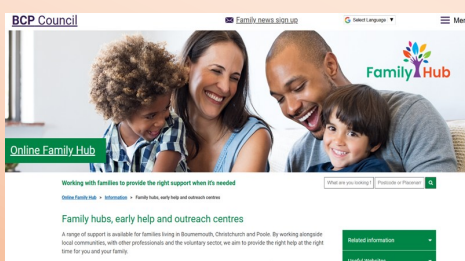
Self referral Early Help parenting support– Please use if you need support.

Early Help

As part of the new Early Help BCP strategy parents are encouraged to use the Early Help advise point for support with challenging behaviour, family support or parenting advise (information on left of page).

Please visit:

[Family hubs, early help and outreach centres](#)





Talbot Primary School

Punctuality Matters

Being late for school every day can lead to lost learning time



Did you know being late 15 minutes each day is the same as missing two weeks of school?

School Times

8:25am Gates open

8:30am Classroom doors open

8:40am Classroom doors and registers close

Children arriving after 8:40am must enter the school via the Office and use the Sign In app for Safeguarding purposes.

Easy as

- 1 There are 190 school days in a year; this leaves 175 days to spend on family time and holidays.
- 2 It is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure that their child(ren) attend school **every day** and on time.
- 3 The school opens at: ; registration is from . Please arrive as close to as possible to maximise learning opportunities for your child.



Attendance Matters

Every student Every Day

We're here to help!

We understand that there are many reasons why children may be absent or late for school. Please speak to staff about ways that we can support you with this.



If your child misses...	That equals...	Which is...	And over 12 years of schooling that's...
1 day per fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	almost 1.5 years
1 day per week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	over 2.5 years
2 days per week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	over 5 years
3 days per week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	almost 8 years

Key Contacts:

Attendance Champion:

Attendance Officer:

Leave of absence is only given in very exceptional circumstances. We have a duty to follow the Local Authority code of conduct for issuing Fixed Penalty Notices for absence.

Our Attendance Policy should be read in conjunction with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.

Reporting Absences:

A parent/carer must notify the school of the reason for a child's absence before on the day of absence.

To report absence please:

