

SchoolBeat.org



The All Wales School Liaison Core Programme

Newsletter

Spring 2016



Dear Colleague,

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

This spring's issue is packed full of interesting features, including a special feature on the new **Smoke-free Vehicles law**.

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Smoke-free Vehicles



It is now against the law to smoke in cars when someone under the age of 18 is present.

The law has changed to protect children and young people from the harm of secondhand smoke.

The new law, which came into force on 1st October 2015 in Wales and England means a car must be smoke-free if;

- it is enclosed
- there is more than one person in the car and;
- one of them is under the age of 18.





What are the offences?

- It is an offence for a person of any age to smoke in a car when someone under the age of 18 is present.
- It is also an offence for a driver, including a provisional driver not to stop someone smoking when someone under the age of 18 is present.

Who will enforce the law?

- Police
- Local Authority Enforcement Officers

What are the penalties?

- The fixed penalty notice for both offences is a £50 fine.
- A person who commits both offences risks receiving 2 fines.



What about E-Cigarettes?

- The new law does not currently apply to e-cigarettes.

For more information on this new law visit;
www.freshstartwales.co.uk

In the SPOTLIGHT...

E-Cigarettes

What are E-Cigarettes?

E-cigarettes are devices that do not contain Tobacco and instead produce a vapour from Nicotine dissolved in Propylene Glycol or Glycerine. They have grown in popularity in recent years with 18% of smokers using e-cigarettes in 2014 i.e. approximately 2.1 million people.

E-cigarettes are perceived to be certainly much safer than smoking cigarettes. However, there is little evidence so far of the long term health implications. Some traces of toxic chemicals have been found in e-cigarettes, although generally in much lower levels than Tobacco cigarettes.

Possible Risks

There are some concerns that seeing people imitate smoking behaviours in a public place may increase the acceptability of smoking.



There is some limited evidence to show that e-cigarette vapour contains some toxic chemicals, but at much lower levels than cigarette smoke which is a known carcinogen.

“ The presentation of e-cigs as a safe way to smoke may lead to Nicotine addiction for children and young people. ”

Dr Tracey Cooper, Chief Executive of Public Health Wales

Use of e-cigarettes amongst teens



“ The use of e-cigarettes was common place in some areas, most girls could name at least five different flavours of vapours which include strawberry milkshake, gummy bear and bubble gum. ”

Andrew Jones Executive Director of Public Health for Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

Regulations controlling the use of e-cigarettes

It is not illegal to use e-cigarettes in enclosed public spaces or workplaces in Wales. Some businesses, however, have chosen to ban their use.

18

In October 2015, regulations to protect children made it an offence:

- for retailers to sell electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) or e-liquids to someone under 18
- for adults to buy (or try to buy) tobacco products or e-cigarettes for someone under 18

A study carried out in North Wales in 2014 found that girls as young as 11 and 12 years had experience of using e-cigarettes and could obtain them easily from friends, parents and shops. It also found that girls with low aspirations, and those that didn't take part in after school activities were more likely to smoke or use e-cigarettes.



Keeping Learners

SAFE?

New Welsh Government guidance **Keeping Learners Safe** was published in January 2015 following a full and public consultation exercise. This replaces circular 005/2008 – Safeguarding Children in Education: The role of local authorities and governing bodies under the Education Act 2002.



Everyone who works in education should share the same goals to keep children and young people safe.



We all need to work together and make sure that children and young people are kept safe and have everything they need for a happy healthy life.

Key Principles

All our work needs to:

- be child centred
- be rooted in child development
- be outcome focused
- be holistic in approach
- be founded on equal opportunities
- be built on strengths
- be multi-agency in approach
- be a continued process
- be informed by evidence
- be alert to children's welfare
- involve children and families

The **Keeping Learners Safe** guidance is available on the **Welsh Government website** or for more information email keepinglearnerssafe@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

Everyone's Responsibility

Everyone who works with children and young people should make sure children are safe from harm and take action if they have concerns.

If any member of staff has 'concerns' rather than 'known facts' about a child they should tell the **Designated Safeguarding Person (DSP)** in the school.



Every school should make sure that they have a written statement that is included on all materials and links to their child protection policy and procedures.

The statement can look like this:

“ This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. ”

If a child tells you that they or another young person is being abused or neglected, you should:

- show the child that you've heard what they are saying and that you take it seriously
- encourage the child to talk, but don't prompt or ask leading questions
- not interrupt when the child is telling you events
- not make the child repeat it all again and again
- explain what actions you must take, in a way that is right for their age and understanding
- not promise to keep a secret
- write down what you've been told, using the exact words if possible, as soon as you can
- make a note of the date, time, place and people who were present at the discussion
- not confront the alleged abuser

Children will talk about their problems to people they feel they can trust and are comfortable with.

Schools should show that they are a safe place where it is okay to talk.

In relation to the safeguarding of children, your School Community Police Officer (SCPO) can be contacted for general guidance and advice around police protocol.

What's new ?

Make us part of the Welsh Baccalaureate

We are proud to announce that in collaboration with the WJEC, the AWSLCP has an approved challenge brief within the National/Foundation KS4 Welsh Baccalaureate. This is available for assessment from September 2015.



The Educating Young People on the Dangers of Crime and Disorder Challenge will encourage pupils to focus on supporting their **School Community Police Officer (SCPO)**

with real-life concerns and needs through activities which aim to make a difference in their community.

As an individual or in a team, pupils are invited to make an important contribution to ensure young people living in their community are able to make correctly informed decisions. Working with the **School Community Police Officer** pupils will research and develop their own knowledge and understanding on some of the issues that affect society today.



Pupils will plan and organise how they will spend 10 hours sharing their knowledge and understanding to educate younger pupils to make them aware of the dangers in the local community through the use of a presentation and activities.

Your **School Community Police Officer** will be able to provide pupils with current up to date information about the dangers associated with such issues as substance use and misuse, bullying, anti-social behaviour, strangers, internet safety, weapons, mobile phone usage, car crime, community cohesion and domestic abuse in order to complete the challenge.



For more information, visit the Teacher's section on our website www.schoolbeat.org or contact our North Wales Regional Coordinator at mannon.williams@nthwales.pnn.police.uk



SAFER INTERNET DAY 2016

TUESDAY 9 FEBRUARY
www.saferinternetday.org

Speak to your **School Community Police Officer** about lessons and assemblies around the theme of Internet Safety.

Assembly Presentations...

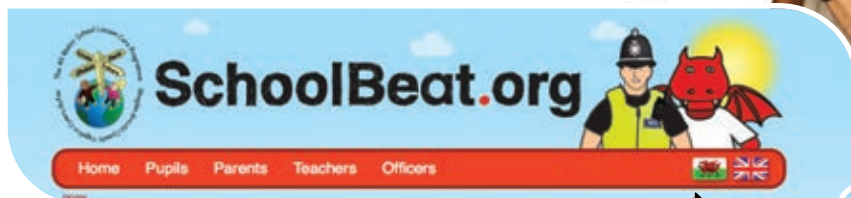
Primary



Secondary



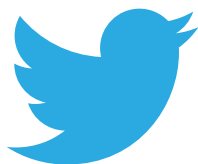
Keep Updated!



Our Schoolbeat website offers up to date and relevant information for **teachers, pupils** and **parents**. Schools across Wales are hyperlinking to our website – we would be delighted to link up to your school website.



<http://www.schoolbeat.org/>



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