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Hevingham & Marham Primary School Partnership

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our termly safeguarding newsletter. The aim of this newsletter is not only to keep you informed about the latest safeguarding guidance our schools are using, but also to help you keep your child/ren safe. If you have any questions about the content of any of these newsletters, please come and see any of our school Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL).



Lydia Board- Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Emma Aston – Alternate
Designated Safeguarding
Lead



Jen Brooker – Alternate
Designated Safeguarding

Safeguarding Newsletter Issue 1 – 7.1.19

The importance of keeping in touch

In January last year, Helen Daykin began to speak out about her recent tragic experience. In October 2016, Helen was working away from home when her husband, Chris, died suddenly whilst looking after their young children. After his sudden death from heart failure in the house, Helen's little girls, four and two, spent almost 24 hours with the body of their father. The older girl had recently started school, and when she didn't arrive, the school rang their father, to no avail. Tragically, they didn't then follow up with a call to the girls' mother, 200 miles away in London. The alarm wasn't raised until tea-time when Chris' mother visited the home.



Helen is telling her heart breaking story to raise awareness of the importance of first-day calls, and in maintaining an up-to-date record of two or three phone numbers which schools can phone when children do not attend. We will do everything we can to prevent such situations occurring as I am sure you would agree that your child's safety is paramount to us all.

As a result we will be tightening our already rigorous procedures.

Remember:

- If your child is not going to be in school please call the school office before 9.30am to report their absence
- If we have not heard from you by 9.30am we will attempt to contact the home by phone. We will continue to call the telephone numbers in the order on your child's contact list
- If we still have not been able to ascertain where your child is then we may make a home visit
- However, if we still haven't been able to get a response then we will report it to the police as your child will then be classed as a 'missing child'. This is to ensure that we know where your child is and that you are all safe

Please let us know in good time why your child is absent from school and support us by keeping your contact details up to date.

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

Lydia Board
Headteacher

