



# Safeguarding & Online Safety Newsletter

## February 2026

(image from [www.kaspersky.com](http://www.kaspersky.com))

Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome to the February edition of our Safeguarding Newsletter. Every half term, we aim to highlight a number of important issues in safeguarding, including online safety, across the school.

Your safeguarding team at school are Mrs Lagodzinska (all sites), Ms Cheesewright (Early Years), Mr Stephenson (Primary), Frau Lintfert (Secondary) and Ms Thomas (Secondary).

Our head of IT is Mr Berman.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's safety, or are seeking advice on IT issues, please contact us via:

[safeguarding.bbs@berlinbritishschool.de](mailto:safeguarding.bbs@berlinbritishschool.de)

[mark.berman@berlinbritishschool.de](mailto:mark.berman@berlinbritishschool.de)

### Younger children and consent

Consent is a very important topic, and we tend to think of it in terms of teenagers who are starting to think about relationships. However, this can be effectively discussed with young children at an age appropriate level, to help them to understand how to set boundaries to protect themselves.

Starting the conversations at an early age makes it easier to keep communication flowing as children mature.

There are many texts suitable for Early Years that help to teach the concept of consent. You may have enjoyed the book: [My Body is Special](#) in Miss Chaliasou's recent Early Years assembly. The NSPCC also offers good advice on their website and 'Pantosaurus' has a [story book](#) and a fun song for little ones.

[Pantosaurus - pants song](#)

### **Talking to children about racism**

As you will perhaps be aware, the Primary School community is a member of the nationwide network “Schule ohne Rassismus- Schule mit Courage”. Frau Winter and Mr Stephenson have been the driving forces in introducing this to the Primary students. This organisation aims to engage students to speak up against all forms of discrimination, both in school and outside of it. However, these discussions also need to be initiated at home. Here is a link to some ways you can begin these discussions and ways to support your child if they feel they are experiencing discrimination in any form. It should be stressed that parents should always raise concerns with their child's class teacher in the first instance if this is the case.

[www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/children-race-racism-racial-bullying/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/advice-for-families/children-race-racism-racial-bullying/)

### **Discussing safe behaviour with teens**

A recent tragic accident in Charlottenburg highlights the need to be aware of the high risk of trespassing onto train lines. It may seem obvious, but people can be tempted to pick up dropped items - consider having a quick conversation about ‘What would you do if ...(eg your phone fell onto train tracks)?’.

<https://www.rbb24.de/content/rbb/r24/panorama/beitrag/2026/01/berlin-ubahn-hof-17-jahre-alt-tot-stromschlag.html>

### **Seasonal safeguarding tips**

Another topic worth discussing with students who are old enough to socialise independently, is the danger of walking over frozen lakes - every year there are fatalities from this. Even if you are met with the, “Yeah, yeah, we know that.. “ response, it can still be worth a reminder, and we have had reports of older students walking onto the frozen Havelsee.

**“Parents don’t understand’...**

# HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide explores why children often struggle to talk about their online lives, and offers practical ways to help.

We've focused on the subjects young people said were most important:



Under each topic we'll cover:

THE ISSUE AT HAND	WHAT CHILDREN THINK	TOP TIPS
A general outline and explanation of the issue	A summary sharing thoughts and feelings from children aged 13 to 18	Tips from young people on how to discuss the issue with them.

Young people today are growing up in a digital world, with aspects that are very different to the childhoods of their parents. The children's commissioner organisation in the UK has produced a thorough, but readable document, offering practical tips to parents about staying informed and bridging this gap.

It includes information on the type of apps and platforms young people are typically using, advice on having conversations and setting boundaries around this topic and supporting them if they have negative or harmful experiences online.

On this website, you can download the guide, plus activities for working with your child at home.

[What I wish my parents knew](#)

## Ineqe website

As we have mentioned before, a good source of updated information on digital safety is the INEQE website. In the online safety centre [here](#) you can ask specific questions about different websites, or sign up to receive a regular parent newsletter [here](#).

**Deutschland diskutiert über ein Handy-Verbot an deutschen Schulen:**

**Germany is discussing a ban on cell phones in German schools.**

<https://www.zeit.de/politik/deutschland/2026-02/cdu-handys-digitale-endgeraete-schulen-unterricht-nutzung-gxe>

<https://www.bildungsserver.de/schule/handyverbot-in-der-schule-13214-de.html>

<https://www.fr.de/panorama/video-cdu-diskutiert-ueber-digitale-schutzzonen-an-schulen-zr-94163348.html>

Best wishes for a safe, happy and healthy half-term,

Your BBS Safeguarding Team

Remember safeguarding is in all of our hands

