

Information about

Springwood Primary School



What is SoSafe?

SoSAFE! is a system designed to help children with SEND to be able to learn about keeping themselves safe, appropriate ways to act and accept support in different types of relationship, and what makes a positive healthy relationship. It uses a standardised framework of symbols, visual teaching tools and concepts and provides visual communication tools for reporting physical or sexual abuse so that young people can advocate for themselves. It is important to stress that SoSafe! is not a sex education tool.

SoSafe! provides a set of conceptual tools designed to promote social safety through:

1. The provision of a simplified and 'rule-governed' model of social reality
2. Teaching the type and degree of verbal and physical intimacy appropriate with different categories of people
3. Teaching strategies for moving into intimate relationships in a safe and measured manner
4. Providing visual communication tools for reporting physical or sexual abuse
5. Facilitating and maintaining support networks

At Springwood, we know that all our children are vulnerable because of their special educational needs, in particular how they communicate and how they understand interaction with others and relationships. Through our teaching, including using SoSafe! Tools, we endeavour to build their understanding and awareness of how to always keep themselves safe.

How is SoSafe taught?

SoSafe! is taught through a combination of discrete teaching and utilising teaching opportunities throughout the day.

Units that are taught discretely are repeated throughout the week and key concepts are reinforced at opportune moments throughout the day e.g. going to the toilet, changing for PE/swimming. This builds a solid understanding of the core SoSafe! language, so that it becomes embedded. There are a range of engaging activities used including Lotto games, flash card activities, and Social Stories©.

The SoSafe document guides you through units 1.A-1.G. Other units will be covered within the PSHE curriculum. Formal classes will receive discrete SoSafe lessons.

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