



Brunshaw Primary School Safeguarding Newsletter

Issue 5-October 2026

When on the school gates in the morning and afternoon, we often see children travelling without the appropriate car or booster seat. Please remember that, by law, children must use the correct child car seat until they are **12 years old or 135cm tall**, whichever comes first. Using the correct car or booster seat helps ensure that the seat belt is positioned safely and correctly, providing the best possible protection for your child in the event of a collision.

Car Seat and Booster Seat Rules

Keeping our children safe on every journey

Car seats and booster seats help keep children safe in the car by giving them the right support and protection. Here are the current UK rules:

Under 12 years old and less than 135cm Your child must use a booster seat (with a standard seat belt) until they are 12 years old or taller than 135cm (4ft 5in).	12 years old or over and taller than 135cm Your child can use the car's standard seat belt without a booster seat once they are 12 years old or taller than 135cm (4ft 5in).	Under 12 years old and less than 135cm If your child is under 12 years old and less than 135cm, they should use a child car seat with a harness (where possible) for the best protection.
--	---	--

Why it matters

Car seats and booster seats reduce the risk of serious injury in the event of a crash. They help protect children's heads, necks and spines.

Top tips

- ✓ Check your child's height and age.
- ✓ Use the right seat for their size.
- ✓ Make sure the seat is fitted correctly.
- ✓ Always use a seat belt – even on short journeys.

Remember

It's the law to use the correct child car seat or booster seat in the UK.

For more information, visit:
www.gov.uk/child-car-seats

Online Safety

As you know we taught the children about online safety this half term. As a parent you can often feel under pressure when children say that “everyone else has it” or that they are being left out if they do not use social media. It can be difficult to balance children’s wishes with keeping them safe online. However, age limits are in place to help protect children from content, contact and experiences that may not be suitable for younger users.

Most social media platforms, including Snapchat, TikTok, Instagram and X, have a minimum age requirement of 13 years old. WhatsApp also requires users to be 13 years old or older in the UK. These age restrictions are set by the companies and are designed to help keep children safer online. Primary-aged children may not yet have the skills or maturity to manage some of the risks linked to social media, including:

- Contact from people they do not know.
- Exposure to inappropriate or upsetting content.
- Pressure linked to group chats, messaging and social relationships.
- Cyberbullying or unkind behaviour.
- Sharing personal information, photographs or videos.
- Feeling worried, excluded or anxious about online interactions.

As parents and carers, it is okay to say, “Not yet.” Delaying access to social media is a positive step to help children develop the skills, confidence and understanding they need to stay safe online as they grow older.

If you do choose to allow your child to use online apps, it is important to:

- Check the age ratings and terms of service.
- Use parental controls and privacy settings.
- Keep devices in family spaces where possible.
- Regularly talk with your child about their online experiences.
- Know who they are communicating with and which apps they are using.
- Encourage children to tell a trusted adult if something online worries them.

At primary school age, children benefit most from supervised online activities, open conversations and clear boundaries. If you would like some more information around this **RYBEC** are coming into school on **Friday 20th November 2026** for a parent workshop. More information will be shared nearer the time.

