



Rye Community Primary School & Starfish Pre-school
The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7ND
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Headteacher: Miss Kelly Martin
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Thursday, 11th January 2024

Stranger Danger

Dear Parent/Carer,

Schools occasionally receive reports about Stranger Danger.

This is where suspicious behaviour by a member of the public is reported to us by pupils, parents/carers or staff. When we receive these reports, we inform the Police and our pupils and staff, so that they can remain vigilant.

Events such as these remind us to ensure that children are always aware of “stranger danger”; particularly when they walk to and from school unaccompanied.

We address this in school as part of safeguarding, and the teachers are reminding the children today of the basic rules to keep safe at all times, at an age appropriate level.

The key reminders are:

Try and always stay with your grown ups

Always ignore strangers who ask questions or tell you to do something and never go anywhere with someone you don't know.

Wherever possible avoid walking alone, and speak only to trusted adults if you are concerned about anything; examples are given for how to find a trusted/ safer adult for help.

We also advise that you have a conversation yourselves with your children, particularly if they come to/leave school unaccompanied.

As parents – you may wish to talk to your children about the following safety points:

- Try to avoid walking/cycling alone – especially after dark.
- Be aware of people around you.
- Stay to well-lit roads or main paths.
- If you feel uncomfortable and you are able to, go to the home of a friend, if nearby, and ask for help or to a local shop and tell them you are worried.
- Do not be tricked into invitations to accompany someone you do not know, sit in someone's car or go to their house. Seek help immediately if anyone does this.



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- If someone did try to grab you it is ok to break all the rules of politeness to others e.g. scream, kick, punch, bite etc. to draw attention and alert others to the fact that you are in danger.
- Please also remember that sometimes a stranger can be the only person who can help us and is a far safer option than not talking to anyone; if you feel uncomfortable in any situation go to the nearest **public building, for example a shop, or a public place.** Whilst it is important we remain vigilant it is equally important to remember that not ALL strangers are “bad” and the right people can help us if we are in trouble.
- Tell an adult straight away if you have any concerns.

Thank you for your support, and as always if you do see anything suspicious in the local area, please contact the police and the school.

Kind regards,

Miss Martin

Headteacher