



Newdale Primary School and Nursery
Marlborough Way
Newdale
Telford
TF3 5HA

Tel: 01952 387720

Fax: 01952 387730

Headteacher:
R Cook B.Ed (Hons) NPQH

Dear Parents/Carers,

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A key aspect of our curriculum at Newdale is to educate children about how to stay safe. One of the many ways in which we do this is through themed weeks. Next week is Expect Respect Week. During this week, we work sensitively with children, looking at the importance of healthy, non-violent relationships.

Why we have Expect Respect Week

Unfortunately, domestic abuse is a widespread social problem that impacts children and young people's lives directly in many ways. One in seven (14.2%) children and young people under the age of 18 will have lived with domestic violence at some point in their childhood, with damaging impact on every area of children and young people's lives. Learning about what positive relationships are is important from a young age. Such lessons can help to support children's understanding of what healthy, non-violent relationships look like.

What staff do at Newdale to help keep children safe, with regards to domestic abuse:

- Have up-to-date knowledge and understanding of domestic abuse
- Support children to seek help and safety
- Model and promote healthy, non-violent relationships
- Report disclosures by following our safeguarding procedures

All professionals who work with children and young people have a responsibility to help keep them safe and supported. The sessions are designed to be active, engaging and enjoyable for all children. Many of the lessons do not discuss domestic abuse directly; instead, they focus on themes that help children develop healthy relationships, confidence and safety awareness. Please see below for the theme being explored in each year group. We would like to reassure parents that all content is carefully planned to be age-appropriate for the children taking part.

Year Group	Theme
Nursery	Sharing of books which challenge gender stereotypes/role play jobs.
Reception	Looking at and challenging gender stereotypes using toys
Year 1	Friends, secrets and people who help us
Year 2	Gender, careers and assumptions
Year 3	Resolving conflict and where to get help
Year 4	Examining violence, excuses and responsibility
Year 5	Secrets and stories
Year 6	Courtroom game and My identity online

We know the value of preventative work and the real importance that early conversations can have on children and young people's lives. I am pleased that we can engage with prevention work to address gender-based violence from its roots.

If you need more information, or are suffering from the effects of domestic abuse, please contact the school or visit <https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/> for further support and guidance.

Yours sincerely,

Miss R Cook