



Elmtree Echo Special Edition

Safeguarding #6



Respect - Ambitious - Curious - Resilient - Inclusive



Safeguarding Team

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. Governing boards must also ensure that the school designates an appropriate senior member of staff to take lead responsibility for child protection.

Key aspects of the 'Designated Safeguarding Lead' (DSL) role include

- Making sure all staff are aware how to raise safeguarding concerns
- Ensuring all staff understand the symptoms of child abuse and neglect
- Referring any concerns to children's social care
- Monitoring children who are the subject of child protection or child in need plans
- Maintaining accurate and secure child protection records
- Raising awareness of the school's safeguarding policies and procedures, and ensuring they are implemented and reviewed regularly

As a school, we have a team of trained and experienced DSLs who work together to support these functions. They form our 'Safeguarding Team'.



Mrs Ohene, Designated Safeguarding Lead



Jan Martin- ODBST Executive Safeguarding Lead



Miss Gettings, KS1 Leader, Deputy DSL



Mrs Garman
Family Liaison Officer
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



I am safe, I feel safe assemblies

These are just some of the themes shared in our safeguarding assemblies this half term. We have also reiterated importance messages about 5 trusted adults, Clever Never Goes, safety in the home and safety on trips.



Children have learnt about emotions and what happens to the brain when we feel angry, afraid, tired, upset or even over-excited. Ask them about, 'flipping the lid.' See the attached poster for more information. Using the Zones of Regulation to move from red to green with calming down techniques helps us to regulate our emotions, feel safe and be able to learn well.

The ZONES of Regulation

			
Blue Zone Sad Bored Tired Sick	Green Zone Happy Focused Calm Proud	Yellow Zone Worried Frustrated Silly Excited	Red Zone overjoyed/Elated Panicked Angry Terrified

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As part of *Wonderful World Week*, the children have been exploring the important topic of sustainability, inspired by the brilliant book *"A Planet Full of Plastic"* by Neal Layton. Through thoughtful discussions and activities, the children have been learning about how plastic affects our environment and what we can all do to take better care of our beautiful planet.

As a school, we're also taking steps to be more environmentally friendly in our everyday practices. Together, we're working towards earning the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award, and every little action counts!

We're so proud of how engaged and passionate the children have been – the future of our planet is in safe hands with them!

Elmtree's Eco-Pledges



Did you know that from **1st September**, every school in the country is required to have a **Sustainability Lead** and a **Climate Action Plan** in place? We're proud to say that our plan is ready and raring to go! It will be available to view on our school website very soon.

As part of our commitment to making a positive impact on the planet, we've created a set of **Eco-Pledges** – promises we're making as a school community to help protect our environment and build a more sustainable future.

- Promote a culture of reduce, reuse, recycle throughout the school.
- Minimise paper and paper towel usage to reduce environmental waste.
- Ensure correct sorting of waste, including food waste and recycling.
- Monitor and reduce water consumption across the site.
- Conduct regular litter picking activities in and around school grounds.
- Lead pupil-driven initiatives to reduce energy consumption and raise awareness.
- Educate pupils on water pollution impacts and proactive solutions.
- Construct and maintain habitats such as bug hotels and hedgehog houses to support local wildlife.
- Develop biodiversity-focused learning zones with class-specific environmental responsibilities:
 - EYFS: Bird Champions (trees and bushes)
 - Year 1: Butterfly Champions (wildflower and grass meadows)
 - Year 2: Bee Champions (wildflower and grass meadows, flower planters)
- Expanding wildflower gardens and pollinator-friendly planting across the school grounds.

Sustainability Spotlight – Let’s Take Care of Our Planet Together!

Reducing Waste • Recycling More • Making Greener Choices

At Elmtree, we’re committed to helping our children learn how to care for the world around them — and we know that home and school working together makes the biggest difference! As part of our sustainability drive, we’re encouraging children and their families to think about how we can *reduce, reuse, and recycle* in simple, effective ways.

Small Changes at Home – Big Impact for the Planet!

Here are some easy and fun ways your family can help reduce waste and take care of the planet:

Reduce & Recycle:

- **Sort your waste** – Set up a clear recycling system at home for paper, plastic, cans, and glass. Children love to help sort items!
- **Cut down on single-use plastics** – Try reusable water bottles, sandwich wraps, and shopping bags. Use biodegradable wipes.

Repair and reuse – Before throwing things away, see if they can be fixed, passed on, or repurposed.

Save Energy & Resources:

- **Lights out challenge** – Choose one evening a week to switch off all lights for an hour and enjoy time together with stories or games by torchlight or candlelight.
- **Screen-free time** – Unplug devices and enjoy time outdoors, creative play, or family chats.

Switch it off – Encourage children to turn off lights, plugs, and devices when not in use.

Go Greener:

- **Plant something!** – Whether it's herbs on a windowsill or flowers in the garden, growing something together helps children appreciate nature.
- **Walk or cycle** – If possible, choose to walk or bike to school or local places to reduce pollution.

Shop smart – Buy only what you need and look for products with less packaging or eco-friendly labels.

Did You Know?

- Recycling just *one tin can* saves enough energy to power a TV for **three hours!**
- If every family swapped one car journey a week for walking, it would make a huge impact on our air quality, especially on ElmTree Hill!

Share Your Eco-Actions!

We'd love to see what your family is doing to go green at home! Send us photos or drawings of your recycling setups, lights-out evenings, or gardening projects, and we'll feature them on our special edition **Elmtree Eco-Echo!**

Thank you for supporting our eco-education efforts. Together, we can make a lasting difference — one small step at a time.

