



July 2022

Dear Parent/guardian

2022 Summer safety message

In my role as your local Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant, I wrote to all parents before the beginning of last year's summer holidays to talk briefly about safety and anti-social behaviour. I wanted to take the opportunity before the end of this school year to reach out and appeal to you again.

I will start by impressing upon you as strongly as I can, that in Sleaford and its surrounding villages we are fortunate enough to live in an extremely safe area, with low levels of crime and a safe environment for our children. I say "our" children because I live and raise my children in Sleaford also, and so I am as invested in this town and it being a safe place for families as any other parent. The policing team here at Sleaford will be visible and patrolling pro-actively during the summer. Please if you see anything locally which concerns you or you think we should be aware of, contact the team and tell us.

We have seen some instances and complaints of anti-social behaviour involving school children in Sleaford and nearby villages in recent months. This has mostly affected local business owners in the town centre. I know full well that the vast majority of children in Sleaford and surrounding areas do behave appropriately and the numbers of those who cause genuine issues is small. I do not in sending this letter, tar all children with the same brush. My appeal to you however is the same as last year. Please make sure you keep communicating with your children and talk to them about keeping themselves safe and out of trouble. This includes not just anti-social behaviour but also sound advice about playing on building or derelict sites, railway lines, open bodies of water or main roads. We still attend incidents over the summer months where children put themselves in risky situations such as this and I am determined to see that none of them come to harm. Now in the modern age of social media, sensible advice and monitoring to keep our children safe online is also important. Please, to the best of your abilities during the holidays, know where your children are, which friends they are with and what they are doing. Please agree a sensible curfew so you, and they, know what time they should be home.

My wish is for everyone in the Sleaford area to enjoy the holidays safely and free from concern. I also want to remind you again, as last year, that Sleaford Police will be providing a 24/7 policing service as normal throughout the summer, and we will be out on patrol. Please raise issues or concerns to us direct to the neighbourhood policing team, by calling on 101, or 999 in an emergency.

Yours sincerely

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