Crewkerne & Ilminster Schools Partnership
Work, Play & Learn Together

Tuesday 3rd November 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Staying Safe in the Local Community

As part of our ongoing commitment to the safety and wellbeing of all our pupils, we would like to ask for your support in speaking with your child about staying safe when travelling to and from school, or when they are out in the community.

Many of our children and young people walk to school or spend time without you in the community as they get older. Therefore, it is important that they regularly review how to keep themselves safe and are aware of their surroundings.

Please take a few moments to discuss the following key safety messages with your child:

Stranger Safety

· Be cautious when approached by people you do not know.

· Do not accept lifts, gifts, money or invitations from strangers.

· If a situation makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe, they should move to a busy public place and seek help from a trusted adult.

· Encourage your child to trust their instincts and report any worrying incidents to you, the school, or the police as appropriate.

Road Safety

· Always use designated pedestrian crossings where available.

· Stop, look, listen, and think before crossing any road.

· Avoid running across roads, especially between parked vehicles.

· Be aware of driveways, junctions and vehicles turning into side roads.

· Never assume that a driver has seen you.

· Wear bright or reflective clothing during darker mornings and evenings where possible.

Mobile Phones and Headphones

· Avoid looking at mobile phones while walking near roads or crossing streets.

· Keep phones securely stored when not in use.

· If listening to music, keep the volume low enough to hear traffic, warning signals and people nearby.

· Where possible, avoid using noise-cancelling headphones when walking to and from school, as these can reduce awareness of the surrounding environment.

Personal Safety

· Stay with friends whenever possible and use familiar routes.

· Let parents or carers know their expected route and arrival time.

· Be aware of their surroundings and avoid distractions.

· If they feel unsafe, they should contact a trusted adult immediately or seek help from a nearby shop, school, or other safe public location

Being Kind and Respectful in Our Community

Finally, we ask that you remind your child to be considerate of others within the community. Behaviour that may seem amusing to them can sometimes be upsetting or disruptive to others. Encouraging children and young people to pause and reflect before they act by asking themselves, "Am I being kind?" can help them make positive choices and show respect for those around them. We greatly appreciate your support in reinforcing these important values both in school and in the wider community.

By reinforcing these messages at home, we can work together to help ensure that all our children and young people are safe in the community.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school community safe.

Yours sincerely,

The Headteachers of Crewkerne and Ilminster Schools Partnership

"Our partnership exists to help every child flourish. Together, we create safe, inclusive community, strengthen wellbeing, support positive behaviour, give children a voice, ease transitions, engage families and raise aspirations and attainment. Rooted in South Somerset. United in excellence."