

Community Safety

The newsletter from Hart District Council



Issue 50 June 2025

This Newsletter aims to provide information around safeguarding and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB), raise awareness of current issues across the district, promote the good work of our partner agencies and celebrate the successes we have had.

We can be contacted online: Report antisocial behaviour | Hart District Council by phone: 01252 774476 or by e-mail: communitysafety@hart.gov.uk

In an emergency - do you have a plan for your pets?

Since 2020, when pet ownership saw a steep increase, there has also been a significant increase in animals needing care when their owners have been incapacitated in some way e.g. they have needed to go into hospital or have been arrested etc.

The RSPCA are trying to encourage pet owners therefore to think about what provisions could be made for their pets in advance of that need to help ease the pressure on services. Please follow this link to complete a pet care form and then RSPCA advise you to display one part in the front window and the other on the fridge or similar to assist should the need arise.



School's Nearly Out For Summer - Top Safety Tips

With summer nearly here, school age children will be home for the holidays. To coincide with that, it's time to remind ourselves of some important safety advice to pass onto our children. From water safety, to avoiding the train tracks, see below some helpful tips and links to share the knowledge and keep our children safe and happy this summer!

These are topics that we covered with local Hart School children during our Think Safe initiative – but it never hurts to remind them!



Water Safety – Remember to remind children about practicing safety around open water; to take notice of signage and when/where it is safe to swim. There is some really helpful guidance from Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership here: Water Safety Code

Train Safety – With our community being so close to several train lines, a gentle reminder of the dangers of trespassing on the tracks can help keep children safe. National Rail have some great safety advice here.

Hampshire Police – Safe4Me is a project funded by Hampshire Police that has a number of resources available to parents and carers to help educate children. You can find those resources here.



Prom Season – Having Fun Safely

As the academic year ends, many Year 11 and 13 students will be eagerly anticipating the opportunity to celebrate the conclusion of their respective academic chapters. Prom night for year 11s is a particularly special milestone, celebrated much more now than ever. It is crucial to ensure that our young people stay safe while they enjoy the festivities, especially at any after-party they may be planning to attend. Here are some key safety tips to discuss with any young person embarking on prom celebrations:

Plan ahead: Encourage your child to share their plans for the night, including the party location, who they'll be with, and how they'll get there and back. Make sure they have a safe, reliable way to return home, whether it's a pre-arranged lift from a trusted adult or a reputable taxi service. **Stay in groups:** There is safety in numbers - remind your child to stay with their friends throughout the night and to look out for each other. It is essential that they know never to leave anyone behind or alone, including anyone going off with someone they don't know, especially if they are under the influence of alcohol or any other substance.

Know the host: Make sure your child is attending parties hosted by responsible individuals. If the party is at someone's home, there should be an adult present to ensure things stay under control. **Avoid substances:** Discuss the dangers of alcohol and drugs. Many young people may feel peer pressure to indulge, but it's important they understand the risks involved, including impaired judgment and the potential for dangerous situations.

Emergency contacts: Ensure your child has a charged mobile phone with important contacts saved, including yours and other trusted adults. Remind them that they can call you at any time if they feel unsafe or need assistance. Inform them to always keep their phones with them and not to leave it on a table or bar. Make sure that the phone 'find my location' is switched on so you know where your child is.

Of course, some of these subjects are tricky to discuss with young people who feel they want to be treated like adults, but by having open conversations about these safety measures and stressing that this advice is about them taking responsibility for themselves and their friends, we can help our young people have a fun and memorable prom night while staying safe. Hampshire Constabulary have some further advice for parents/guardians on their Safe4Me website:

Parent/Carers – Safe4Me substances

Parent/Carers – Safe4Me teenage Relationships

Hart Youth Achievement Awards - Reminder for Nominations

We are looking forward to publicly recognising again the talented, giving and community focused young people we have in the Hart District. We now need all members of the community to nominate those young people aged 11-25 who need celebrating – in 2 age categories: up to 16 **and** 16 and over.

The young people must also live or be educated in the Hart District. Nominations nee to be in by 26th **September 2025!**

For more information and to submit a nomination, please visit: <u>Fleet Phoenix Services</u>. Let's come together to honour and celebrate the youth who make Hart a vibrant and compassionate community!

