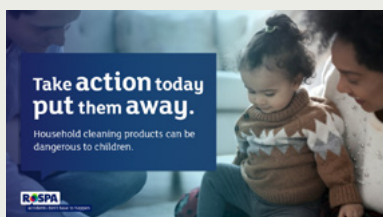


SafeHome

Keeping Children & Young People Safe in BANES

Welcome to the 11th edition of 'Safe Home', which includes a spotlight on Trading Standards, information about the poisoning prevention campaign launch in B&NES during Child Safety Week, water and sun safety, and a webinar recording on button batteries.



LAUNCH OF B&NES TAKE ACTION TODAY, PUT THEM AWAY! CAMPAIGN

Wednesday 8 June, 2-3.30pm, aimed at anyone working with families of children under 5.

The B&NES Injury Prevention Partnership is working with Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) to launch an unintentional poisoning prevention campaign.

To book and for further information, visit [eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)



Neville Brown, Specialist Officer (Trading Standards), Public Protection, B&NES Council gives us the low-down on the important function that Trading Standards has around protecting children and young people from unintentional injury.

Trading Standards is not necessarily the organisation that springs to mind when thinking of protecting children from harm... we are perhaps better known for checking scales and dealing with rogue traders targeting older and vulnerable people. And yet our role in protecting the young is also long-standing.

A current priority area is to ensure only safe products are available. This is particularly important when looking at goods targeted at children and young people, from baby dummies and pushchairs to toys for all ages. We regularly check and test products for sale to make sure goods are safe and remove non-compliant ones, taking enforcement action when necessary.

We also check that the cosmetics young people wear, such as deodorants, perfume, etc. are free from harmful chemicals and that the equipment children and young people use for hobbies - for example, batting helmets - are made to the right standards.

Our protection of young people continues as they move into adulthood, playing a vital role in restricted access to goods such as alcohol, tobacco, vapes, solvents and knives. We advise and educate traders on how to avoid making underage sales and undertake test purchases, where we ask an underage person to test whether they will sell to them.

To report concerns about product safety, please call 0808 223 1133.

BE SUN SMART!

Children love spending time outdoors. However, their skin is more delicate than an adult's and can easily be damaged by the sun, even when it doesn't seem strong.



What you can do

1) Pass on the following top tips to parents/carers:

- ☀ Always keep babies and toddlers in the shade.
- ☀ For older children, seek shade between 11am – 3pm when the sun is at its strongest.
- ☀ Use a minimum SPF 50 sunscreen on your children, with at least 4 stars for UVA protection.
- ☀ No sunscreen offers 100% protection so cover up with close weave clothing and a wide brimmed hat.
- ☀ Generously apply sunscreen 15-20 minutes before going out. Reapply every two hours and immediately after swimming or sweating.
- ☀ Encourage children to wear sunglasses with wrap around lenses or wide arms, which carry CE and British Standard marks.

2) Download and share the British Skin Foundation awareness raising posters.

Further information on avoiding dehydration in babies and young children and keeping them cool is available on the NHS website.



CHILD SAFETY WEEK

As mentioned in the Spring edition, Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT)'s Child Safety Week is from 6-12 June 2022. This offers a perfect opportunity to engage with families about keeping safe in and around the home.

Check out the resources [here](#)

TIME TO THINK ABOUT GAS SAFETY WEEK: 12-18 SEPTEMBER.

Badly fitted and poorly serviced gas appliances and installations can cause gas leaks, fires, explosions, and carbon monoxide poisoning. Visit the [Gas Safe Register website](#) for resources and to help plan how to be involved.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION SAFETY

Unintentional injury tends to be common in unfamiliar environments, especially on the first or last day of a family holiday. This could be due to parents/carers being distracted by unpacking or packing, while children explore.

Precautions to remind parents/carers of:

- Exercise the same caution in holiday accommodation that you do at home.
- Keep medicines and cleaning products out of children's reach.
- Move furniture away from windows.
- Supervise children on balconies.
- Tie blind cords out of children's reach.
- Children under six shouldn't sleep on the top bunk.
- Check that the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms work.
- Never bring lit or smouldering barbecues inside, including into a tent.
- If families are staying somewhere with a swimming pool, share [RoSPA's resources on holiday swimming pool safety](#)

WATER SAFETY

Whilst we want families to have the chance to enjoy water over the warmer months, there are several safety considerations. Messages for families include:

In and Around the Home

- Keep hot tubs covered. Children can drown in just an inch of water. Clean them in line with the manufacturer's instructions, as legionella can develop.
- Empty paddling pools after every use.
- Make sure your child cannot get into neighbours' ponds.
- Supervise children around water both at home and when visiting others.

Open waters

- Dangers include strong currents, reeds and other plant life betting tangled around limbs, deep water, cold water, waterborne illnesses and hidden objects under the surface.
- Children of all ages may overestimate how strong they can swim; they may swim well in warm indoor pools, yet not be able to swim in cold water.

- Choose safer places to swim like public pools and beaches with lifeguards. [See local suggestions](#)
- Canal locks are dangerous to play around.
- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water after swimming.

At the seaside

- Always supervise children.
- Teach children to swim between the two-coloured red and yellow flags.
- Keep children off inflatables when the orange windsock is flying.
- Check [water pollution forecasts](#).
- Read the safety information displayed at each beach about currents, tide information, local help information, etc.
- Download the free Tide Times app from [Googleplay](#) or [App Store](#).

It's always a good time to remind families about water safety. However, you might want to take advantage of:

- 1) [Drowning Prevention Week](#), 18 – 25 June
- 2) [World Drowning Prevention Day](#), 25 July

Further water safety information to share with parents/carers:

- Canal and River Trust Water Safety [Resources and Activities for Children](#)
- [Top Tips for parents/carers](#) from CAPT
- [Cold Water Shock – the facts](#) from the Royal Life Saving Society
- Royal Life Saving Society [resources for parents/carers](#), which include how to teach children basic water safety skills
- [Reducing the risk of becoming ill after outdoor swimming](#)

BUTTON BATTERY WEBINAR RECORDING AND NEW RESOURCES



In this 45-minute webinar, which you may wish to share with colleagues, CAPT spoke to a Consultant in Paediatric Emergency Medicine, a parent whose son swallowed a button battery, a health visiting lead and an industry standards expert. [View the recording here](#).

A [button battery resource section](#) on the CAPT website has recently been launched.

Order free button batteries picture booklets

We hope you have found this newsletter useful. We are interested in receiving your feedback and contributions for the next newsletter. Please do get in touch with us:

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**Bath & North East
Somerset Council**