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**CAISTER
ACADEMY**
*Creative
Education
Trust*

Friday 28 November 2025

Dear Parent

Keeping Children Safe While Enjoying Time in the Community

We have been asked by the Norfolk Community Safety Partnership, which includes partners such as Targeted Youth Support Service, Norwich City Council, Norfolk Constabulary, and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, to share important information regarding the safety of children and young people when spending time in the community.

In recent weeks, there have been reports of large groups of young people gathering in the Haymarket area of Norwich on Saturday afternoons. On 15 November, approximately 280 young people were present, and similar numbers were seen on 22 November despite poor weather. Concerns have been raised about underage drinking, drug use, criminal damage, and the risk of vulnerable young people being exploited.

We want all children and young people to enjoy their independence safely. As parents and carers, it can be challenging to balance independence with wellbeing. Here are some helpful tips:

- **Know the basics:** Do you know where your child is and who they are with? Encourage them to stick together and choose safe places.
- **Spot the signs:** Talk about recognising warning signs in others' behaviour and what to do if something feels wrong. Find out more at Know the Signs - [Home | Know the Signs](https://knowthesigns.info/) (<https://knowthesigns.info/>)
- **Plan for support:** Make sure they know how to seek help for themselves or a friend. Check they have safe transport home and enough money for the return journey if using public transport.
- **Stay connected:** Is their phone charged so they can contact you? Consider location-sharing apps like Life360 or your provider's safety features.
- **Open conversations:** Regularly discuss online and offline risks, including grooming and exploitation, and reassure them they can come to you without fear of getting into trouble.

A little preparation goes a long way in helping your child enjoy independence safely. For more advice and resources, visit the Support section of Know the Signs at Norfolk County Council: : [Support | Know the Signs](https://knowthesigns.info/help-and-support/support/) (<https://knowthesigns.info/help-and-support/support/>).

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Registered Office: 67-68 Long Acre, London WC2E 9JD
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Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in grey ink, which appears to read 'Claire Neave'. The script is cursive and fluid.

Claire Neave
Leader of Safeguarding