



WMFS

West Midlands Fire Service

Date: 16 July 2025
Our Ref: MI91607253/EF/PW/AMH
E-mail: prevention.queries@wmfs.net

Dear Headteacher,

The tragic loss of a teenager at Powell's Pool in Sutton Park on 10th July 2025 has highlighted the dangers of open water, especially for young people during this period of hot weather.

In the West Midlands our main sources of water danger are from canals, rivers, lakes and ponds but your pupils might be visiting the beach over the summer period.

Given the summer holidays are around the corner, we urge you to pass on the safety messages to pupils through any written communications, during assemblies and in any wider planned communications to parents before the end of term.

Our website provides useful water safety statistics and resources [WMFS - Water Safety](#).

We also highly recommend the resources provided by the RNLI tailored to different age groups [RNLI Education Resources For Young People](#).

Thinking about the next academic year, I would encourage you to book the appropriate WMFS Safety Education for your key stages.

- For Early Years/Foundation we can provide a Nursery Box (at cost) that has resources for child safety.
- For K/S 1 you can request us to come into school to deliver an education package around "Great Fire of London".
- In Year 4 our operational fire crews will visit school to deliver SPARKs. The 1 hour session covers water, fire and road safety.
- Our interactive education centre "Safeside" provides a memorable school trip covering a wide range of safety messages aimed at Year 5.
- We will come into school at Year 8 to deliver a package focussing on fire, water and road safety that also covers wider topics including ASB, arson, personal safety and e-vehicle safety.

- In further education settings, we deliver a focused road safety package aimed at young people who may be driving in the next few years or being passengers with their friends.

Details of how to access these services and other education resources can be found on our website at [WMFS - Education Services](#).

We want all children and young people to have a fun summer holiday, but rest assured, West Midlands Fire Service will be here in an emergency, should we be called upon.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'E' followed by a stylized 'F' and a long horizontal stroke.

Emily Fernandez
Head of Prevention