



# Nether Stowe School

Inspiring, Empowering and Achieving Together

February 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

As the evenings gradually become lighter and opportunities for children to be out increase, it is important to give reminders about how to keep safe. One important message is safety around water.

Stowe Pool is an area which is popular for young people to meet. It is also on the route to and from school for many of our students. As with any body of open water, there are hidden risks and dangers. The section directly opposite the school and St Chad's Church can be particularly hazardous due to the slabbed area, which can become very slippery and young people will easily lose their footing. This surface also makes it difficult to climb back out, without assistance.

We want to make sure all our students act safely and sensibly around water, and they have been reminded about the dangers of Stowe Pool as part of our PSHE assemblies last week. Please talk to your child about staying clear of the water and sticking to the paths.

Staffordshire fire and rescue service has issued the following warning in the past about Stowe Pool:

*"Even water which looks calm can be dangerous. Although some of these spaces are beautiful places to visit, please do not under any circumstances enter the water. We know it can be tempting ....., but there are hidden hazards under the surface. Even if the water seems calm, the underlying current can be deceiving. The temperature can also be colder than you expect even when the weather is warm. You can still go into cold water shock, leaving you unable to swim to the edge".*

We would very much appreciate your support in reinforcing this message at home.

Yours sincerely,

*DJ Sullivan*

Miss D Sullivan

Assistant Headteacher

Safeguarding, SENDCO, Personal Development