



East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service

Lewes Community Fire Station, North Street, Lewes
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BN7 2PE

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E-mail: enquiries@esfrs.org
Web: www.esfrs.org

In the case of emergency please dial 999

FAO: The Headteacher/Principal

October 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

FIREWORKS – STAYING SAFE

As the firework season approaches, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service would like to remind your staff and students about firework safety.

Fireworks are exciting to watch, but every year many people get hurt in firework accidents or may get involved with fireworks in a way that puts themselves or others at risk. Most accidents happen at family/private displays or in the street.

Could we please ask for your help in reminding students about the following safety messages on our behalf. Many young people will be aware of these dangers already and some are more aware than the adults around them. This year, we want to encourage students to share this information with their parents and carers, keeping everyone safe during the fireworks seasons.

We have also given you links to resources that specifically cover firework safety teaching materials.

For Key Stage 3 & 4 students the main safety messages are:

- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them
- When you are watching fireworks, always stand well back
- Never go near a firework when it has been lit. Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode
- Never give sparklers to a child under five
- Keep pets indoors

Safety Messages for Parents/Carers Setting Off Fireworks

- Only buy fireworks marked with the British Standard mark, BS7114
- Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks
- Keep fireworks in a closed metal box
- Follow the instructions on each firework by torchlight, not a naked flame
- Fireworks should be lit at arm's length, using a taper
- Always supervise children around fireworks
- Keep pets indoors

What does the law say?

The Fireworks Regulations 2004 make it an offence to:


- Sell fireworks to people under 18 years of age
- Possessing fireworks in a public place, if you are under 18 years of age
- Throw a firework in the street or public place
- Don't let off noisy fireworks after 11.00pm

Further information on staying safe can be obtained from the following websites and may be useful for teachers and students:

- <https://www.rospa.com/Home-Safety/Advice/Fireworks-Safety>
- <https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/fireworks.html>
- <https://www.fireservice.co.uk/safety/firework-safety/>

On behalf of East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Walby', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tom Walby
Group Manager - West Group (City and Lewes)