

# HALLOWEEN & BONFIRE NIGHT



Over the coming month, Merseyside Police Safer Schools Officers and school staff will be delivering assemblies and classroom sessions focusing on Halloween and Bonfire night. This initiative aims to help pupils understand ASB, General Safety & the danger of fireworks, how it affects individuals and communities, and what they can do if they experience or witness it.



## Fireworks & The Law

- It is illegal for anyone under 18 to purchase fireworks.
- Being in possession of fireworks in a public place under the age of 18 is an offence.
- Misusing fireworks can cause serious injury and lead to criminal charges.

## WHAT IS ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR? (ASB)

ASB is behaviour that causes harassment, alarm, or distress to others. Examples include:

- Throwing objects at buses, cars, houses, or people
- Vandalism or damaging property
- Intimidating or threatening behaviour
- Setting off fireworks in the street or in unsafe areas

## Consequences of ASB

Getting into trouble with the police can have long-term consequences, including:

- A criminal record
- Restrictions on travelling abroad, which could affect family holidays
- Impact on future education and employment opportunities

## Safety Advice

- Attend an organised bonfire or firework display rather than using fireworks at home.
- Never go back to a lit firework — even if it looks like it hasn't gone off.
- Never give sparklers to a child under 5 years old.

## IF CLOTHING CATCHES FIRE

- **STOP** – do not run, as this will make the flames worse
- **DROP** – get down to the ground immediately
- **ROLL** – roll over and over to help put the flames out



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## REPORTING OPTIONS

If you witness ASB or dangerous use of fireworks, you can report it to:

- Merseyside Police – Call 101 (or 999 in an emergency)
- Fearless – <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/fearless/what-is-fearless> (anonymous reporting for young people)

By working together, we can help ensure that Bonfire Night and Halloween are enjoyable, safe, and respectful for everyone in our community.

## HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

- Encourage your child to attend safe, organised events.
- Talk to them about the dangers and consequences of ASB.
- Remind them that fireworks are not toys and can cause life-changing injuries.
- Know where your child is and who they are with during Bonfire Night and Halloween.

## QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about the sessions or would like further information on hate crime, please contact your designated safeguarding lead within your school, who may be able to assist, or speak to your Safer Schools Officer on your behalf.