



# FIRE SAFETY INTERVENTION

## PROGRAMME

**Children of all ages may set fires or set alight to various objects. Gender, race and background do not determine whether children set fires.**

*Children who experiment with setting fires do so for various reasons, ranging from natural curiosity to un-natural fascination.*



*Fire play and fire-setting must always be taken seriously due to the risk of a fire getting out of control and causing injury or death.*

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Our **Fire Safety Intervention Programme** was established to deter children and young people aged up to 18 years old becoming involved in fire play and fire-setting and supporting our Service vision of 'Creating the Safest Community'.

## **AIM**

The aim of the programme is to help children, young people and their families, understand the dangers of fire and its consequences.

## **WHAT WE DO**

Fire and Rescue Service staff will visit the family to carry out a Safe and Well check and give children, young people and their family's education in fire safety, the dangers of fire and the consequences of fire. No education will be carried out without parental, guardian or informed consent and every case is considered on an individual basis. The duration of education and home visits will vary.

## **WHO WE WORK WITH**

- Children and young people aged under 18 years old.
- Children and young people who show an overactive interest or fascination with fire or are actively fire setting.

## **ADVICE TO PARENTS AND CARERS**

- Talk to your children about fire safety.
- Always keep matches, lighters and candles out of the reach of children.
- Fit smoke alarms on every level of your home and test them weekly.
- Never assume toddlers and infants are incapable of lighting a match or lighter - be safe, not sorry.
- For older children, teach appropriate uses of fire under an adult's supervision.
- Plan an escape route together.
- Make sure electrical appliances such as TV's and computers are switched off at night.
- Take care not to overload sockets and extension leads.
- Close inside doors at night.
- Teach children to 'stop, drop and roll' if their clothes should catch fire.
- Teach children to 'get out, stay out, and call 999' if a fire starts at home.
- Teach children not to put things on top of heaters or lights.
- As an adult, consider your own actions and how they may influence the behaviour of children for whom you are responsible for.

## **TO MAKE A REFERRAL**

During office hours, contact can be made by telephoning Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters on **0191 444 1500** and asking for the Prevention and Education department or you can email details to **fsi@twfire.gov.uk**

If you don't have a working smoke alarm, contact our freephone number for a Safe and Well check. Telephone **0800 0327777** or for further information visit **www.twfire.gov.uk**

**Tyne and Wear Fire  
and Rescue Service**

