

Halloween, Firework and Bonfire Safety Messages from Bedfordshire Police, Fire and Rescue Services

Police

As Halloween approaches, Bedfordshire Police is reminding parents and guardians to keep their children safe.

If possible, parents and guardians should go out trick or treating with their children, sticking to well-lit areas and only knocking on the doors of people they know. Some people may have 'No trick or treat' posters up at their doors and we ask that these are respected.

Bedfordshire Police is also reminding children and parents to be mindful that some of the more vulnerable or elderly members of the community may feel intimidated by people calling at their doors and appeals to all residents to look out for their neighbours who may feel frightened during this time.

Extra patrols will be on hand over the Halloween and Bonfire Night period to ensure that the evenings can be enjoyed safely. If you do have any concerns during Halloween, it's important that you call 101 in order to keep 999 free for genuine emergencies – 31st October is one of the police's busiest nights of the year!

For more advice about Halloween please visit <https://www.bedfordshire.police.uk>

Fire and Rescue Service

Halloween Safety

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service want everyone to enjoy a safe and spooky Halloween, but every year many adults and children are injured when lit candles come into contact with trailing costumes and wigs.

At the moment these costumes are classed as toys and therefore, are not subject to the same requirements as children's clothing. It is important to be aware of the danger this poses and that costumes are kept away from open flames. It is also important that children know what to do if their clothing is set alight. You can make a game of teaching your children to "Stop, drop, cover and roll" if their costume does catch light. This means having them practise stopping still, dropping to the ground, covering their face with hands, and rolling over and over to put the flames out.

Firework and Bonfire Safety

The majority of fireworks and bonfire accidents happen at private parties. Organised displays will be safer than having a party of your own. If you do hold your own party, Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service want you to keep safe and have advice on their website

<https://www.bedsfire.gov.uk/home.aspx>