

Firesetters

Why do some children start fires?

Many children start to play with fire for different reasons, ranging from natural curiosity through to attention seeking. Without help and guidance, fire setting behaviour can increase - and lead to injuries and damage to homes, schools and other property.

Firesetters Advisors

All of our Firesetters Advisors are employees of Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, both operational and non-operational. They work in pairs and at least one will be an experienced firefighter. They are not professional counsellors but training and experience have enhanced their natural skills. All Firesetters Advisors are CRB checked.

Intervention programme

This programme is aimed at children aged 4 and upwards who have behavioural problems associated with fire play that has led to fire setting. The aim of the scheme is to raise the child's awareness of the dangers of fire and the likely results of their actions.

How to request an intervention programme

Requests for help usually come directly from parents. Where another agency, authority, friend or other family member makes first contact, the parents or guardians must be contacted. Parental agreement and support are crucial to the success of the programme. Each session is tailored to the needs and abilities of the child concerned. The programme maintains confidentiality unless we have a legal responsibility to pass information on to other agencies.

Make your home safe for children

- Never leave a young child alone in the house.
- Keep matches and lighters out of sight and reach.
- Explain that fire is dangerous.
- Teach children to 'STOP, DROP and ROLL' if their clothes catch on fire.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working and that you have at least one on every level of your home.
- Make a fire escape plan and practise it with everyone who lives in the house.

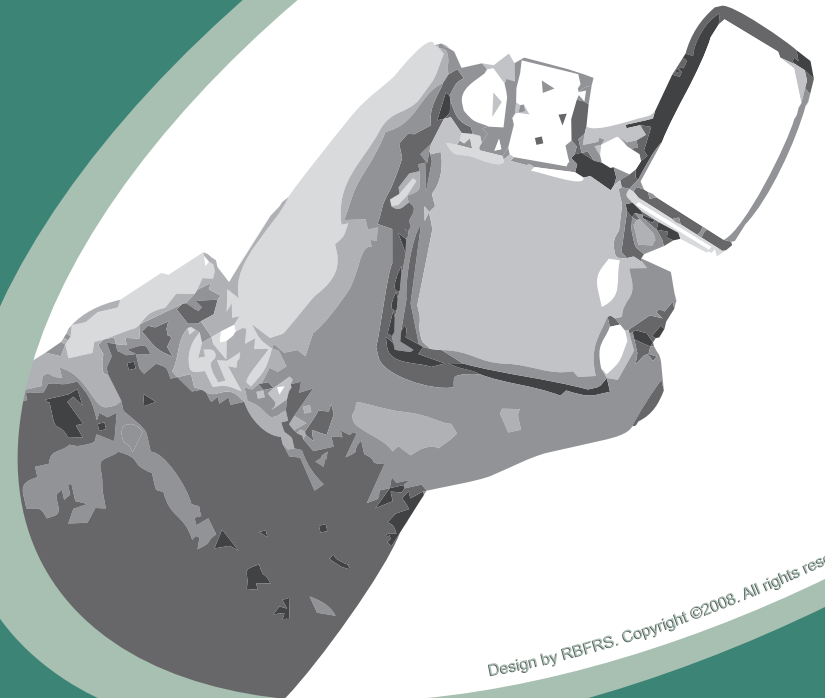
For fire safety information... log on to www.rbfrs.co.uk,
To request an intervention programme... email firesetterreferrals@rbfrs.co.uk

ROYAL BERKSHIRE
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING

CS-020408-04

fire safety advice Firesetters



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