WEST YORKSHIRE POLICE

Bradford District

Bradford Partnerships
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12 October 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian

As Bonfire Night approaches, we would like to remind families about the importance of firework safety. Every year, children and young people are injured through the misuse of fireworks, and irresponsible behaviour can cause distress to neighbours, vulnerable people and animals. We are asking for your support in helping ensure that the bonfire season is enjoyable and safe for everyone.

The law places restrictions on the sale, possession and use of fireworks to help keep people safe. These restrictions are particularly important in relation to young people under the age of 18. As parents and guardians, you have a vital role in helping children understand these responsibilities and the consequences of unsafe behaviour.

- **Age Restrictions:** It is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to possess certain fireworks in a public place, and retailers must not sell age-restricted fireworks to anyone under 18.
- **Responsible Supervision:** Fireworks should only be used by responsible adults and in accordance with the manufacturer instructions. Children should be supervised at all times.
- **Respect for Others:** Fireworks can have a significant impact on pets, livestock, elderly residents and individuals who may be sensitive to loud noises.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour**: Throwing fireworks, targeting people, vehicles, emergency workers or property, or setting off fireworks irresponsibly can amount to criminal offences and may result in police action.
- **Community Safety:** Fireworks should never be used in a way that causes alarm, harassment or distress to others.
- **Police Action:** West Yorkshire Police and partner agencies will take positive action where fireworks are used dangerously, irresponsibly or in an antisocial manner.

By working together, we can help ensure that Bonfire Night remains an enjoyable celebration whilst reducing the risk of injury, safeguarding our young people and protecting our communities.

If you witness dangerous firework use or antisocial behaviour, please report it via 101, through the West Yorkshire Police website, or via 999 in an emergency.

Thank you for your support. We wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable Bonfire season.

Sincerely,

Osman khan

Osman Khan
Police Inspector
Bradford Partnerships