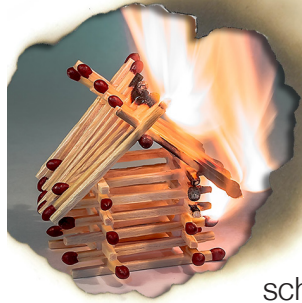


Advice for Parents / Carers

- Make sure matches and lighters are stored out of sight and reach of children and young people.



- Never leave children or young people alone in the house, even for short periods of time.
 - Search for lighters and/or matches in bedrooms and school bags.
- Keep outbuildings, garden sheds and garages locked to prevent access to flammable materials.
- Explain to the child or young person that matches and lighters are not toys.
- Explain to children that fires can hurt and kill.
- Make sure the home is fitted with smoke alarms. A smoke alarm will quickly alert you to any fire-setting activity.
- Make a fire escape plan with your family and practice it.



How to make a referral

If you think the problem is serious or you cannot deal with it on your own, seek help.

Getting help is easy, free and confidential. Please contact Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service.



Visit our website at:
www.notts-fire.gov.uk



or write to us at:
The Firesetters Co-ordinator,
Highfields Fire Station,
Hassocks Lane,
Beeston,
Nottingham,
NG5 8PD.

We will acknowledge receipt of each referral within two working days.



Office - 0115 838 8766
Mobile - 07971 720 032



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Addressing fire-setting behaviour in children and young people



FIRESSETTERS
INTERVENTION PROGRAMME



Why?

Most children and young people show a natural interest and curiosity in fire.

Even if they do not display any fire-setting behaviour, many children and young people may be fascinated by fire - the glow from a real flame, blowing out their birthday candles, or even watching an adult light up a cigarette. It is not uncommon for children as young as two years of age to show an interest in fire. However, for some young people this interest develops into something more dangerous.

Without help and guidance, fire-setting behaviour can become increasingly serious and lead to injury, damage to property and tragically, death. Please read this leaflet and act on its advice. You could reduce the chances of your child or young person starting a destructive fire.

What the programme does

The aim of the programme is to help children and young people understand and control the feeling and circumstances that lead them to set fires.

Interventionists

Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service has a dedicated team trained in the delivery of the Firesetters programme, which is partnered with Fire and Rescue Service experience to achieve excellent results.

What is involved?

The aim of the first visit by the Firesetters team (they always work in pairs) will be to find out more information about the child or young person involved and to establish a trusting relationship.

The number of visits we make, and the precise way in which we deal with the child or young person, will vary depending on the circumstances and issues involved. The team will be available to answer any questions throughout the process.

Tell-tale signs of regular fire-setting

- Small burn holes in carpets, beds and/or furniture.
- Charred paper in sinks or wastebaskets.
- Matches or lighters hidden in your child's cupboards and drawers or under their bed.
- An unusual fascination with fire.
- Unexplained fires in your home.

Early recognition and confrontation of this behaviour through a Firesetters referral can ensure it does not continue into adulthood.

