



Safeguarding

NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term 1 – October 2024

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is all about keeping children safe. It includes a wide range of topics including: policies and procedures we follow in school, training for staff, processes for reporting concerns, procedures for recruitment and checks on staff, governors and volunteers, online safety, mental health and wellbeing support, health and safety and our curriculum. It underpins everything we do and is one of the key priorities of every school.

What's In This Month's Issue?

- An overview of safeguarding
- What to do if you have a concern about a child
- Online Safety



Who is responsible for safeguarding?

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

All of our staff are trained in safeguarding to know signs to look out for if a child is at risk from harm and they know our procedures to follow if they have a concern.

Two members of staff have additional training: Mrs Sillars is the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Mrs Gent is the Deputy DSL. They help to coordinate everything in the school related to safeguarding and are the first point of contact for anyone who has a concern.

Two of our governors – Liz Brett and Jenny Reeves – are our nominated safeguarding governors and they monitor and check the work of the school in keeping pupils safe.

What should I do if I have a concern about a child?

If you have a concern about any child at our school, you should speak to the Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mrs Sillars or Mrs Gent. They can then help to follow up on any information and put the appropriate support in place or make a referral to Children's Services if needed.

You can also report concerns via the NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000 or via their online form: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/reporting-abuse/report/report-abuse-online/> You can also contact Hampshire Children's Services on 0300 555 1384 (between 8:30am and 5pm Mon-Fri).

If you think a child is in immediate danger then you should call the police on 999.



ONLINE SAFETY

Our pupils are growing up in a world of ever-changing technology. While there are many positive aspects to access to technology, we cannot ignore the risks that can be associated.

Throughout school we aim to teach children:

- about the impact of cyber-bullying and what to do if they have been affected.
- to be vigilant when communicating online recognising that people may not always be who they say they are and to be sensible about what they share.
- to tell an adult they trust if something is upsetting them.
- to question the reliability of information given through a web based source.
- to search responsibly for information while using internet browsers.

We have added a new page to our website under the parent section called 'Online Safety'. Here we have added lots of resources and links to organisations that can help if you are not feeling confident in talking with your child about how to keep themselves safe online.

You may also be interested in the 'Smartphone Free Childhood' movement who are working to highlight the potentially damaging impact smartphones can have. You can find out more information on their website:

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/the-problem>