



**ST. JOHN'S SAFEGUARDING TEAM**

**THE DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD TEACHER IS HEAD TEACHER  
MS. MACCI DOBIE**

**He leads a Safeguarding & Child Protection Team that comprises of:**

**DEPUTY HEAD TEACHER – MRS. CLAIRE HORNE**

**SENDCO – MRS. STACEY MAN**

**DESIGNATED GOVERNOR – ANTHONY KUTI**

**THE PURPOSE OF THE SAFEGUARDING TEAM**

- To ensure that the school operates within the legislative framework and recommended guidance for Safeguarding.
- To ensure that all staff and volunteers are aware of safeguarding procedures and know what to do if they are worried about a child.
- To ensure that the appropriate information, training and support is given to all staff to enable them to identify vulnerable children and to take action by following appropriate procedures.
- To develop effective working partnerships with other safeguarding agencies and services.
- To liaise with the social care team over suspected cases of child abuse or neglect.
- To ensure there is effective monitoring, and accurate records kept, of vulnerable children.
- To provide guidance for parents/carers, staff and children as to ways of obtaining support.
- To keep parents, staff and children informed about latest safeguarding developments through annual training programmes.
- To ensure governors are aware of latest legislative requirements and have the opportunity to challenge the school's procedures for safeguarding.

## SCHOOL PROCEDURES

- If a member of staff or volunteer is concerned about a child, or a disclosure is made by a child, they must inform the designated lead teacher or, in their absence, a member of the designated team, immediately.
- Information regarding the concern/disclosure must be recorded on MyConcern or paper 'Concern Forms' on the same day and signed by the adult, if appropriate.
- If the DSL decides that a referral must be made to Children's Social Services, this will be done with prior discussion with the parents *unless to do so would place the child at further risk of harm*.
- A child may make a disclosure themselves either verbally or on the 'Children's Concern Form' and handed to any adult they feel most comfortable with. That adult will follow the school's procedures (as above).

## CONFIDENTIALITY

Child Protection raises issues of confidentiality that must be clearly understood by all staff and volunteers in school:

- All staff, both teaching and non-teaching, and all volunteers, have a responsibility to share relevant information about the protection of children with other professionals, particularly the investigative agencies of The Children's Service and the police.
- If a child confides in an adult and requests that the information is 'kept secret', the adult **MUST** tell the child sensitively that they have a responsibility to refer cases of alleged abuse to people who can help them, and only to people who need to know.

General gossip and chat amongst adults is strictly forbidden.

## PROVISION AND PUPIL AWARENESS OF SAFEGUARDING

Children are regularly reminded about Safeguarding matters throughout the curriculum but especially in PSHCE, circle time discussions, Relationships, Health and Sex Education lessons, Drugs Education, Anti-bullying, Online safety, Safeguarding providers (NSPCC), Road safety, Police talks, Y6 citizenship, themed assemblies.

## PARENTAL AWARENESS OF SAFEGUARDING

Parents/Carers are informed of safeguarding issues through the school newsletter, website, training providers such as NSPCC, 'Helpers and Volunteers Safeguarding briefings', Safeguarding and Child Protection policy, Anti-bullying Policy, Behaviour Policy, Equality Policy.

## FOUR CATEGORIES OF CHILD ABUSE

*These terms are used in workshops given to Junior children and are focused upon in training given to staff.*

**PHYSICAL ABUSE:** physical injury to a child where there is reasonable suspicion that the injury was inflicted or knowingly not prevented.

**SEXUAL ABUSE:** the involvement of children and adolescents in sexual activity they do not comprehend, to which they are unable to give informed consent.

**EMOTIONAL ABUSE:** the severe adverse effect on the behaviour and emotional development of a child caused by persistent or severe emotional ill treatment or rejection.

**PHYSICAL ABUSE:** the persistent or severe neglect of a child which results in serious impairment of the child's health or development.

**GRAVE CONCERN:** not a separate category of abuse but covers a number of 'at risk' situations, such as those which do not currently fit any of the other categories but where social and medical assessments indicate that children are at significant risk of abuse.