

Safeguarding information for children



'Never settle for less than your best'

Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.' John 8:12

SAFEGUARDING INFORMATION FOR CHILDREN

Our school motto

Never settle for less than your best.

Our Vision

Following in the footsteps of Jesus, each member of our community will flourish as resilient, respectful and adaptable individuals prepared for life's journey. Along the way we will encourage and inspire each other to continue growing as beacons of light in our own lives and the wider world.

Our Mission Statement

St. George's Central seeks to provide quality education rooted in the Christian faith, serving the spiritual, moral, and educational needs of the community of which it is part.

What is Safeguarding (Child Protection)?

Safeguarding is simply the things schools do to keep you safe so that you can grow and develop. This includes:

- Keeping the school land safe for you to be on.
- Securing the school land so you are safe during the day.
- Keeping the school clean, using the right cleaning materials and storing them safely.
- Staff monitoring children's behaviour so that you are safe.
- Having staff who look after you - 1st Aid, access to varied school work, physical and mental well-being, Anti-Bullying Policy, Child-on-Child Abuse Policy, Online Safety Policy.
- Providing access to life experiences (Extra-Curricular Clubs, Trips, classroom resources etc)

Who is responsible for Safeguarding you and your friends?

We all are. If you have any concerns about your friends, then you should share this with your parents and / or school staff. We are all here to help keep you safe.

Who can you speak to in school if you are worried or concerned?

You can speak to **any adult** in school. They will listen to your concerns and pass on your worries to the appropriate adults in school.

Will the adults keep what I have told them a secret?

No. They are not allowed to keep what you have told them a secret. They have a duty (responsibility) to keep you safe and they must pass on what you have shared so that they can help you or a friend. Sometimes, they will need to pass on the information to the Safeguarding Leads.

Who are our Safeguarding Leads?

In school, we have 5 staff members who are trained as Safeguarding Leads:



Mr M Grogan



Mrs O O'Brien



Mrs L Kearns



Mrs A Malley



Mrs S Davies

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At our Lancaster Avenue Nursery, we have 2 staff members who are trained as Safeguarding Leads:



Miss S A Cowley



Mrs R Helme

We also have a Governor responsible for Child Protection and Safeguarding:



Mrs F Taylor – Chair of Governors

What are the key concerns for children or schools?

There are 3 main areas to be aware of:

- Forming and having healthy relationships.
- Child-on-child abuse is now a big factor causing concerns for children and schools.
- County Lines is also a growing concern amongst young children.

What is abuse?

Abuse is something which usually physically or emotionally **hurts** another person by using behaviour that is meant to **scare, hurt or upset** that person. It can happen inside and outside of school and it can happen online or in-person.

It is important to let an adult know if you think you or someone else is being affected by peer-on-peer abuse.

What is child-on-child abuse?

It can be many different things, including:

- Saying hurtful things.
- Saying or making rude jokes about someone.
- Touching someone's clothes or hair when they don't want you to.
- Showing someone a rude picture or drawing.
- Controlling them by asking or making them do things (take pictures, say something, do things) which they do not want to do.
- Physically hurting them

Some behaviours are illegal and consequences for these actions are severe. Remember to **ask a teacher** if you are unsure or forget what peer-on-peer abuse looks like. It is not always easy to identify abuse when it is coming from someone you know, such as a friend or a classmate, but it is really **important** to look out for the signs of peer-on-peer abuse and **report it** so that we can make sure it stops.

What is County Lines?

Storing or moving things, stolen goods, drugs or money from one place to another.

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Relationships

Any relationship you have should be **positive** and make you feel **safe, happy and comfortable**. A negative relationship might make someone feel **scared, confused, worried** and even **unsafe**. It is really important that you know the **difference** between a positive relationship and a negative relationship.

Positive relationships

- You are **comfortable** around that person.
- You can be **honest** with that person and **trust** them.
- You can say how you **feel** and what you are **thinking**, and you **listen** to each other.
- You **support** each other and treat each other **well**.
- You feel **safe**.

Negative relationships

- The person might **push** you, **hit** you or **break** your things.
- The person might **tell you what to do**, what to wear or who you can be friends with.
- You might feel **scared** – they might say they will hurt you if you don't do something.
- The person **calls you names**, makes you feel bad in front of other people and makes you **feel bad about yourself**.
- The person **might not take no for an answer** when you say you don't want to do something.

If you are unsure about your friendship with someone, speak to a trusted friend or adult.

You should know that abuse is never OK and it is serious.

It is not funny, or part of growing up.

If you abuse someone, you will get into trouble.

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