

# Whitkirk Primary School



## Safeguarding and Child Protection Summary

## A summary

Whitkirk Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of its Pupils.

Each Pupil's welfare is of paramount importance.

All Pupils have the right to be safeguarded from harm or exploitation whatever their race, religion, first language, ethnicity, gender, sexuality. Age, health, disability or political or immigration status.

We will always take a considered and sensitive approach in order that we can support all of our Pupils. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all professionals should make sure their approach is child-centred. This means that they should consider, at all times, what is in the best interests of the child.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility.

**All** staff members receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training which is regularly updated. In addition, all staff members should receive safeguarding and child protection updates as required, but at least annually, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively.

This document summarises the principles, methods and procedures that we all follow to safeguard children which are contained in the Red Kite Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

## What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- protecting children from maltreatment;
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development;
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

A child is anyone who has not yet reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. All Pupils in the Trust, including over-18s in year 12 and 13, follow the remit of the Policy.

## How do we safeguard?

### 1. Legislation and guidance

Our policy and practice follows:

- Section 175 of the Education Act (2002)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2021)
- The school's duty under the Children Act 2004 to co-operate with other organisations and agencies.
- Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2021
- Sexual Violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges DfE 2021
- What to Do If You Are Worried A Child Is Being Abused 2015
- Recommendations from national and local Serious Case Reviews
- DfE guidance relating to COVID 19
- LSCP Guidelines

### 2. A child-centred approach

To safeguard all pupils staff should consider, at all times, what is in the best interests of the child. We do this by:

- ✓ valuing them, listening to and respecting them

- ✓ involving them in decisions which affect them
- ✓ building pupils' resilience to radicalisation through a broad and balanced curriculum that promotes fundamental values and enables pupils to challenge extremist views.
- ✓ Ensuring that **all** staff know the indicators of abuse and neglect, as well as other safeguarding issues children and young people may face.
- ✓ Ensuring **all** staff to do if a child tells them he/she is being abused or neglected.
- ✓ Staff know how to manage the requirement to maintain an appropriate level of confidentiality whilst at the same time liaising with relevant professionals such as the designated safeguarding lead and children's social care.
- ✓ Staff never promise a child that they will not tell anyone about an allegation, as this may ultimately not be in the best interests of the child.
- ✓ sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving pupils and their parents/carers appropriately
- ✓ adopting a code of conduct for all staff and volunteers
- ✓ ensuring staff and volunteers understand about 'whistle blowing'
- ✓ dealing appropriately with allegations/concerns about staff or volunteers, in accordance with Government guidance

### 3. Professional curiosity

- ✓ All staff are encouraged to take an approach that seeks to explore and understand what is happening for a child or family, rather than make assumptions or accept things at face value.
- ✓ Critically evaluating a situation, and any information received, whilst maintaining an open mind, means that the focus is always on the safety of the child.
- ✓ Staff are encouraged to have an attitude that '*it **could** happen here.*'

### 4. Training

- ✓ All staff must have read at least part one and Annex A of KCSIE 2021 and understand their duties under the RCLT Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)
- ✓ We provide effective management of safeguarding through staff induction, support and regular training.

Staff at Whitkirk Primary School have completed the following training:

Whole School	Designated Safeguarding Lead	Headteacher
Safer Working Practice – all staff – 29.9.2021 Online Safety (online) – 2020-21 Basic Awareness – January '20 FGM Awareness – January '18	Understanding and managing harmful and problematic behaviours (AD) Domestic Abuse and links to CP (GQ) – 29.11.2021	Child Protection for Headteacher – 12.5.2022

### 5. Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

At Whitkirk Primary School the following staff are DSL's:

Name	Mrs Afua Downes - DSL	Miss Gemma Quarmby – Deputy DSL	Ms Sarah Fletcher - DSO	Mr Matt Dawson - DSO

Photo				
Contact details	Tel: 0113 2606203 <a href="mailto:downesa@wps.rklt.co.uk">downesa@wps.rklt.co.uk</a>	Tel: 0113 2606203 <a href="mailto:quarmbygg@wps.rklt.co.uk">quarmbygg@wps.rklt.co.uk</a>	Tel: 0113 2606203 <a href="mailto:fletchers@wps.rklt.co.uk">fletchers@wps.rklt.co.uk</a>	Tel: 0113 2606203

The DSL's will:

- ✓ Act as a source of support, advice and expertise to staff on matters of safety and safeguarding and when deciding whether to make a referral by liaising with relevant agencies
- ✓ Refer all cases of suspected abuse to the local authority children's social care
- ✓ Liaise with the relevant Headteacher to inform him the in line with relevant legislation.

## 6. Curriculum

We are committed to ensuring that pupils are aware of behaviour towards them that is not acceptable, how they can keep themselves safe, how to share a concern and complain. All pupils are informed that we have a DSL or Staff with responsibility for child protection. We inform pupils of whom they might talk to, both in and out of school, their right to be listened to and heard and what steps can be taken to protect them from harm.

There are opportunities in the school curriculum, for example through the Personal Development Programme and by providing an age-appropriate, comprehensive curriculum which includes:

- Relationship and sex education - For students to understand healthy relationships and be aware of relationship abuse, and other abuse, sexual violence and harassment, peer on peer abuse, bullying, prejudice-based bullying and violence based on a person's sexual orientation, gender, faith or race, hate crime
- Online and offline risks – This includes risks from criminal and sexual exploitation, domestic abuse, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, substance misuse, gang activity, radicalisation and extremism as well as the support that is available to them
- The safe use of mobile technology – Enabling pupils to recognise the dangers of inappropriate use of mobile technology and social media and the impact on sexual behaviour, for example sexting and accessing pornography
- Substance Misuse
- Mental health and emotional wellbeing - developing pupils' confidence, resilience and knowledge
- British Values - developing and deepening pupils' understanding of democracy, individual liberty, the rule of law and mutual respect and tolerance, recognising how pressure from others can affect their behaviour, including the risks of radicalisation to extremist behaviour.

The PSHE curriculum develops the knowledge and skills pupils need to recognise when they are at risk and how to get help when they need it and stay safe from abuse. Further information about our Personal Development curriculum can be found here: [PHSE - Whitkirk Primary School : Whitkirk Primary School](#) and our Relationships and Sex Education Policy can be found here: [PHSE - Whitkirk Primary School : Whitkirk Primary School](#).

## 7. Prevent Duty

All staff receive relevant training and can identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and follow the procedures set out in this policy. E-safety across the RKLTP puts measures in place to ensure online-safety.

## 8. e-Safety and Social Media

Section D of the RKLTP Safeguarding and Child Protection policy contains information on how we manage e-Safety.

Each school will identify an 'E-Safety Coordinator' who:

- keeps abreast of current issues and guidance through organisations such as CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) and Childnet
- support staff in handling incidents
- support the education of students and staff in the safe use of ICT

Our e-Safety co-ordinator is:

Name: Mr A Stout



Contact details: [stouta@wps.rklt.co.uk](mailto:stouta@wps.rklt.co.uk)

Further details of this can be found in Section D of the RKLTP Safeguarding and Children Protection Policy: [Safeguarding - Whitkirk Primary School : Whitkirk Primary School](#).

## 9. Peer on peer abuse

The Trust recognises that children are capable of abusing their peers, that this can manifest itself in many ways and may reflect gender issues.

The Trust will make every effort to minimise the risk of peer abuse by teaching pupils, in an age appropriate way about: how to recognise, understand and build healthy relationships; self-respect and respect for others; commitment; tolerance; boundaries; consent; how to manage conflict; and how to recognise unhealthy relationships. The Trust will also decide for minimising risk and raising awareness amongst staff through its training procedures.

We have a **zero-tolerance** approach to abuse. It is never to be passed off as "banter", "just having a laugh", "part of growing up" or "children being children" as we know that can lead to a culture of unacceptable behaviours and an unsafe environment for our children and young people.

We recognise that it is **more likely** that girls will be victims and boys' perpetrators, but all peer on peer abuse is unacceptable and is taken seriously. We will ensure that no child or young person is ever made to feel ashamed for making a report.

Where there are concerns or allegations of peer abuse all such reports will be managed by the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

On the 1st of April 2021, the NSPCC, working with the DfE, launched the Report Abuse in Education helpline to provide support and advice to victims of abuse and harassment. Young people and adults can contact the helpline on [0800 136 663](tel:0800136663) or email [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

## **10. Self-Harm**

School staff can play an important role in preventing self-harm, building resilience and supporting students, peers and parents of students currently engaging in self-harm. Separate information on this can be found in Section C of the RKLТ Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

## **11. Safer Recruitment and School Single Central Record**

We recruit staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made. All staff and volunteers are aware of, and committed to, the Safeguarding policy as well as statutory guidance. We hold and keep up to date our School Single Central Record of Recruitment and Vetting Checks.

## **12. Site and premises**

There are appropriate arrangements to ensure the security of school premises including Access Control and CCTV.

## **13. Monitoring and review**

There is a half termly safeguarding meeting in school where the DSL's, Site Manager, HR Officer, Network Manager and link Governor review the implementation of policy and practise.

An audit of safeguarding practise is conducted every two years and submitted to the Local Safeguarding Children's Board.

The Trust's Safeguarding Lead, Tim Milburn, meets with RKLТ schools' DSLs on a termly basis to review the suitability of the policy and share concerns and cases that are relevant to the effective delivery of their duties.

The nominated Red Kite Learning Trustee for Safeguarding is Dr Tricia Stowell.

### **Working with the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)**

Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 requires each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). For this area it is Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP). As a named relevant agency, we are under a statutory duty to co-operate with the published arrangements.

### **THE SCHOOL WILL ALWAYS ACT IN LINE WITH THE LSCP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES AND PRACTICE GUIDANCE**

Further details of what this means is detailed in Section B of the RKLТ Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

#### **Making a referral**

Anyone can make a referral to the Leeds Duty and Advice Team if you are worried about any child and think they may be a victim of neglect or abuse, whether as a member of the public or as a professional. A referral will be made to the local authority children's social care via LSCP- Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership if:

- A child has suffered significant harm and/or;
- Is likely to suffer significant harm and/or;
- Has development and welfare needs which are likely to be met only through provision of family support services (with agreement of the child's parent), or is likely to suffer significant harm.

Discuss your concerns in the first instance with your **Safeguarding Lead** or line manager if you are unsure if they are suffering significant harm

Inform the parents and / or gain their consent for you to make this contact unless doing so would put the child at risk

Gather initial information using the Contact Form as guidance

**During office hours** (9.00am – 5.00pm) call the Duty & Advice Team on 0113 376 0336 (option 2)

**Out of office hours** (evenings, weekends and bank holidays) call the Children's Emergency Duty Team (EDT) on 0113 5350600

If you believe a child is in **immediate danger** and at risk of harm call the police on 999

It is good practice that agencies work in partnership with parents and carers, that they are informed of any concerns and that consent is obtained for referrals. Consent is not required if we believe informing the parents or carers would place a child at significant risk of harm.

### **Allegations regarding person(s) who work with children working in or on behalf of the RKL T (including volunteers)**

Where an allegation is made against any person working in or on behalf of the school (including where that person is no longer working in or on behalf of the school and/or the allegation is historical), allegations management in the school will be undertaken by the Headteacher (where the Headteacher is the subject of an allegation this will be the CEO or Chair of LGB), with the support of the HR Team. School will immediately contact:

The Local Authority Designated Officers in Leeds, who can be contacted Monday to Friday on: 0113 3789687

Between them they operate a duty system for LADO Notifications.

If you think that a professional has harmed a child:

1. Request a notification form from [LADO@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:LADO@leeds.gov.uk)
2. Email the completed form to [LADO@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:LADO@leeds.gov.uk)

If you would like to discuss your concerns or are unclear about the criteria call the Local Authority Designated Officers, Monday to Friday on: 0113 3789687.

Please make sure that you follow the West Yorkshire procedures in conjunction with the above.

### **What to do if you are worried about a child?**

#### **If you are worried that a child**

- Has suffered significant harm and/or;
- Is likely to suffer significant harm and/or;
- Has development and welfare needs which are likely to be met only through provision of family support services (with agreement of the child's parent), or is likely to suffer significant harm;  
**contact the school's DSL.**