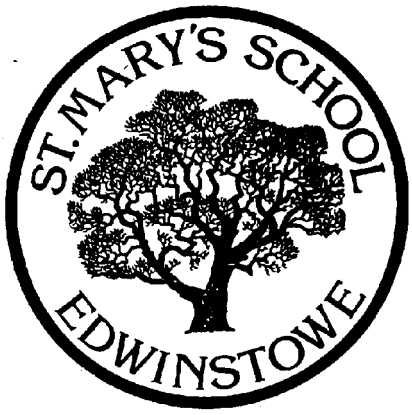
Nottinghamshire
SAFEGUARDING
CHILDREN Board



WHOLE SCHOOL POLICY FOR

CHILD PROTECTION TO

SAFEGUARD

AND PROMOTE THE

WELFARE OF

INTRODUCTION

Edwinstowe St Mary's CE (VA) Primary School recognises its responsibilities for safeguarding children and protecting them from harm.

This Child Protection Policy will be reviewed by the Pupils and Personnel Committee of the Governing Body.

Date of last review: autumn 2017

Date of next review: autumn 2018

Role	Name	Contact Details
Designated Governor for Child Protection/ Safeguarding	Chair of Governors Mrs Paula Martin	School: 01623 822518
Snr Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Sue Ilett-Coupe	" " 07817233679
Deputy Safeguarding Lead	Miss M Parkin	" " 07983087395
Names of additional Safeguarding Officers	Mrs T Bee	" " 07930649790
LA Safeguarding Children in Education Officer	Cheryl Stollery	0115 8041047
LA Child Protection Contact/LADO	Eva Callaghan or covering LADO	0115 8041272
MASH (Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub)		0300 500 80 90
Emergency Duty Team (Children's Social care)	Outside of office hours	0300 456 4546

Edwinstowe St Mary's

Our policy applies to all staff, governors and volunteers working in the school and takes into account statutory guidance provided by the Department for Education and local guidance issued by the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board.

We will ensure that all parents/carers are made aware of our responsibilities with regard to child protection procedures and how we will safeguard and promote the welfare of their children through the publication of this school child protection and safeguarding policy.

These duties and responsibilities, as set out within the Education Act 2002 sec175 and 157, DfE Statutory Guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016 and HM Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 are incorporated into this policy.

SAFEGUARDING

Child Protection Statement

We recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils. We endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice.

The procedures contained in this policy apply to all staff, volunteers and governors and are consistent with those of Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB).

Safeguarding children is defined as:

- The actions we take to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm are everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and families has a role to play

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's 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
  Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 (page 6)

NB. Children includes everyone under the age of 18 years of age

Safeguarding is not just about protecting children from deliberate harm. It also relates to the broader aspects of care and education including:

Pupils' health and safety and well-being, including their mental health

- Meeting the needs of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities
- The use of reasonable force
- Meeting the needs of children with medical conditions
- Providing first aid
- Educational visits
- Intimate care and emotional wellbeing
- Online safety and associated issues
- Appropriate arrangements to ensure school security, taking into account the local context

Safeguarding can involve a range of potential issues such as:

- Neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse and emotional abuse
- Bullying, including online bullying (by text message, on social networking sites, etc.) and prejudice based bullying
- Peer on Peer abuse
- Racist, disability and homophobic, biphobic or transphobic abuse
- Gender based violence/violence against women and girls
- Extremist behaviour and/or radicalisation
- Child sexual exploitation and human trafficking
- The impact of new technologies, including 'sexting' and accessing pornography
- Teenage relationship abuse
- Substance misuse
- Issues which may be specific to a local area or population, for example gang activity and youth violence
- Particular issues affecting children including domestic violence, female genital mutilation and honour based violence and forced marriage

Our ethos is that the effective safeguarding of children can only be achieved by putting children at the centre of a system where we listen and hear what they say. Every individual within Edwinstowe

St Mary's will play their part, including working with professionals from other agencies, to meet the needs of our most vulnerable children and keep them safe.

We will take opportunities to teach children about important safeguarding issues in a way that is age appropriate.

Our school therefore, led by senior members of staff/governors aims to provide a safe environment and vigilant culture where children and young people can learn and be safeguarded. If there are safeguarding concerns we will respond with appropriate action in a timely manner for those children who may need help or be suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm.
Where staff members have concerns about a child (as opposed to a child being in immediate danger) they will decide what action to taken in conjunction with the Designated

Safeguarding Lead. Although any staff can make a referral to children's social care where a child is identified as being in immediate danger there should be no delay in a member of staff reporting the concerns directly to children's social care or the policy as required.

The Head Teacher who is familiar with national and local guidance will share concerns, where appropriate, with the relevant agencies.

The Policy

There are five main elements to our policy:

- Providing a safe environment in which children can learn and develop
- Ensuring we practice safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children
- Developing and then implementing procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases of abuse
- Supporting pupils who have been abused or harmed in accordance with his/her child protection plan
- Raising awareness of safeguarding children, child protection processes and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe

We recognise that because of the day to day contact with children, school staff are well placed to observe the outward signs of abuse.

The school will therefore:

- Establish and maintain an environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk and are listened to
- Ensure children know that there are trusted adults in the school whom they can approach if they are worried
- Ensure that every effort is made to establish effective working relationships with parents, carers and colleagues from other agencies
- Include opportunities in the PSHE or SRE curriculum for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse:
    - availability of local and online advice
    - recognising and managing risks including online, sexual exploitation, sexting and running away as well as radicalisation
    - developing healthy relationships and awareness of domestic violence, and abuse which is linked to 'honour' such as female genital mutilation and forced marriage, bullying and peer on peer abuse
    - recognising how pressure from others can affect their behaviour
- Take all reasonable measures to ensure any risk of harm to children's welfare is minimised

- Take all appropriate actions to address concerns about the welfare of a child, working to local policies and procedures in full working partnership with agencies
- Ensure robust child protection arrangements are in place and embedded in the daily life and practice of the school
- Promote pupil health and safety
- Promote safe practice and challenge unsafe practice
- Ensure that procedures are in place to deal with allegations of abuse against teachers and other staff including volunteers (DfE Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016 Part Four Pages 40 to 50), and the NSCB Local Inter-agency Procedures
- Provide first aid and meet the health needs of children with medical conditions
- Ensure school site security
- Address drugs and substance misuse issues
- Support and plan for young people in custody and their resettlement back into the community
- Work with all agencies with regard to missing children, anti-social behaviour/gang activity and violence in the community/knife crime and children at risk of sexual exploitation
- Everyone having a duty to safeguard children inside/outside the school environment including school trips, extended schools, activities and vocational placements

We will follow the procedures set out by the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB) and take account of guidance issued by the DfE in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016 to:

- Ensure we have a Snr Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) (who is a member of the school/college leadership team) and a Deputy Safeguarding Lead for child protection/safeguarding who has received appropriate training and support for this role
- Ensure we have a nominated governor responsible for child protection/safeguarding
- Ensure that we have a Designated Teacher for Looked-After children
- Ensure every member of staff (including temporary and supply staff and volunteers) and the governing body knows the name of the Snr Designated Safeguarding Lead and their deputy(s) responsible for child protection and their role
- Ensure all staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or to children's social care/police if a child is in immediate danger
- Ensure all staff and volunteers are aware of the early help process and understand their role in it
- Ensure that there is a whistleblowing policy and culture where staff can raise concerns about unsafe practice and that these concerns will be taken seriously
- Ensure that there is a complaints' system in place for children and families

- Ensure that parents have an understanding of the responsibility placed on the school and staff for child protection and safeguarding by setting out its obligations in the school prospectus and on the school's website
- Notify Children's Social Care if there is an unexplained absence of more than two days of a pupil who is subject to a child protection plan
- Develop effective links with relevant agencies and cooperate as required with their enquiries regarding child protection matters, including attendance at child protection conferences
- Keep written records of concerns about children, even where there is no need to refer the matter immediately; documenting and collating information on individual children to support early identification, referral and actions to safeguard
- Ensure all records are kept securely; separate from the main pupil file, and in a locked cabinet in an office (not a classroom)
- Ensure that we follow robust processes to respond when children are missing from education or missing from home or care
- Develop and then follow procedures where an allegation is made against a member of staff or volunteer
- Ensure safe recruitment practices are always followed
- Apply confidentiality appropriately
- Apply the escalation policy if there is any concern about the actions or inaction of social care staff or staff from other agencies

Supporting children

We recognise that children who are abused or who witness violence may find it difficult to develop a positive sense of self-worth. They may feel helplessness, humiliation and some sense of blame. The school may be the only stable, secure and predictable element in the lives of children at risk. When at school their behaviour may be challenging and defiant or they may be withdrawn. We also recognise that there are children who are more vulnerable than others, which include children with special educational needs and or disabilities. The school will endeavour to support the pupil through:

- The content of the curriculum
- A school ethos which promotes a positive, supportive and secure environment and gives pupils a sense of being valued
- The school behaviour policy and anti-bullying policy which is aimed at supporting vulnerable pupils in the school. The school will ensure that the pupil knows that some behaviour is unacceptable but they are valued and not to be blamed for any abuse which has occurred
- Liaison with other agencies that support the pupil such as Children's Social Care (in line with the Pathway to Provision Version 6, published in March 2017), Behaviour and Attendance Service and Education Psychology Service, use of Complex Case Resolution Meetings and the Early Help Assessment Form (EHAF), etc.
- Ensuring that, where a pupil leaves and is subject to a child protection plan, child in need plan or where there has been wider safeguarding concerns, their information

is transferred to the new school immediately and that the child's social worker is informed

- Ensuring that the vulnerability of children with special educational needs and or disabilities is recognised

Safe Staff and Supporting Staff

- Safer recruitment processes will be followed in accordance with NCC HR Guidance found on the Schools Portal and from DfE Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016
- Checks and references are an essential part of this process
- Staff will have access to advice on the boundaries of appropriate behaviour and will be aware of our code of conduct. This includes contact between staff and pupils outside the work context
- In the event of any complaint or allegation against a member of staff, the Head Teacher (or the Designated Safeguarding Lead) if the Head Teacher is not present, will be notified immediately. If it relates to the Head Teacher, the chair of governors will be informed without delay. We will respond to all allegations robustly in collaboration with the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) LADO/Allegation Officer and HR colleagues
- Staff may find some of the issues relating to child protection and the broader areas of safeguarding upsetting, and may need support which should be provided by the school and their Human Resources Team. Advice and support will be made available by the Safeguarding Children in Education Officer (SCiEO), LADO and NCC HR where appropriate to the leadership team
- A link to the Induction Checklist for Safer Recruitment can be accessed from HR's guidance section of the School Portal

Links to other Local Authority policies

This policy, together with the following, should be read alongside and in conjunction with other policies and statutory guidance regarding the safety and welfare of children. These together will make up the suite of policies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in this school.

- Anti-Bullying revised for 2016-2018
- Attendance Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Scheme and Access Plan
- Central Record of Recruitment and Vetting Checks
- Complaints' Procedure Statement
- E Safety and Acceptable Use Policy
- Freedom of Information.
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Guidance
- Radicalisation – (Prevent Duty Action Plan)
- Health and Safety Disability Equality Action Plan
- Positive Handling
- Register of Pupil Attendance
- Personal, Social, Health and Relationships Education
- Special Educational Needs

Also available on Nottinghamshire LA Services to Schools Portal

- Staff Behaviour (Code of Conduct policy)
- Staff Discipline, Conduct and Grievance (procedures for addressing)
- Schools information published on a website
- Whistle Blowing Policy

All Agencies

- ***Pathway to Provision Version 6 (NCC)***
- ***Guidance where children are at risk of missing education***
- *Escalation policy (NCC)*
- ***Interagency Safeguarding Children Procedures of the NSCB***