

"The school has an outstanding ethos of care. Each pupil is valued as an individual and this underpins the outstanding personal development of all pupils.

The school fully complies with statutory requirements regarding health and safety. Child protection arrangements are robust and effective systems keep pupils safe and secure, with regular risk assessments and safety routines clearly understood by staff."

Ofsted Sept 2007



PARENTS GUIDE TO:

Safeguarding



Parent Guide No 11

'....achieving excellence for ourselves and others'

SAFEGUARDING: The Process of protecting children from abuse or neglect, preventing impairment of their health and development, and ensuring they are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care that enables children to have optimum life chances and enter childhood successfully.

Taken from 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' 2006, HM Government.

The Aims of our Safeguarding Policies

- Keeping children safe is everybody's business. The principles and values underpinning all of our work are based on the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child to protect them from harm and to maximise life chances and on Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 which places a duty on all agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- At Peasedown St John Primary School we fully recognise our roles and responsibilities for child protection. Our children have the right to protection, regardless of age, gender, race, culture or disability. They have a right to be safe in our school. We use consistent, fair and thorough recruitment and selection procedures that aim to deter, reject or identify people who might abuse children and young people and to ensure that those

recruited are suitable to work with them. Our Safeguarding policies apply to all staff, governors and volunteers working in our school.

The Role of Teachers

- To establish and maintain an environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to.
- To ensure children know that there are adults in the school whom they can approach if they are worried.
- To include opportunities in the curriculum for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse.
- To understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated safeguarding lead.

School Procedures

- If a member of staff has a concern that a child has been mistreated, either physically, emotionally, sexually or by neglect, they **must** report the matter immediately to one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads (Jenny Tombs or Damian Knollys)
- The member of staff will keep the matter confidential to as few people as need to know. If there is anyone who needs to be informed, the head or designated lead will ensure this happens. Confidentiality is crucial.

- It is important to keep an accurate written record of what has occurred or been noticed and to pass a signed and dated copy, to one of the Designated safeguarding leads. These records will be filed into a locked drawer in the School office. Information from notes may be passed onto social services and other agencies as required.
- If the designated safeguarding lead decides to make referral to Social Services, the referral will be discussed with the family and we will seek to gain agreement. This will be done as long as such discussion and agreement seeking will *not* place a child at increased risk of significant harm.
- The Social Services Department and the Police have a duty to investigate cases of suspected abuse. As a school we have a duty to co-operate with any such investigation. This might involve providing information, monitoring the child, or in some cases attending a child protection conference.

School Policies relating to Safeguarding:

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY
 SAFE HANDLING POLICY
 SAFE RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION POLICY
 UNCOLLECTED CHILD POLICY
 MISSING CHILD POLICY
 E SAFETY POLICY
 SCHOOL TRIPS AND EXCURSIONS POLICY
 SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS POLICY
 BEHAVIOUR POLICY
 HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY
 ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINES POLICY
 SEX AND RELATIONSHIPS POLICY
 DRUG EDUCATION POLICY
 PHSE AND CITIZENSHIP POLICY
 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY
 RACE EQUALITY POLICY

Copies of all Peasedown St John Primary School policies are available from the school office upon request and many of them are on our school website.