



Safeguarding your child at Woodgrange Infant school

The Headteacher- Sarah Soyler- is the designated lead for safeguarding (DSL):
Safeguarding includes a wide range of aspects such as:

- child protection
- attendance
- behaviour
- online safety
- health and wellbeing

CHILD PROTECTION

Sarah as DSL will liaise with Social workers and attend meetings and case conferences.

If a concern is raised about your child Sarah or a senior member of staff will speak to you about it- this may be about their behaviour, their health or wellbeing- for example if they are often very tired, if their clothes are not clean or appropriate for the weather, if they appear hungry etc.

Sarah will also speak with you if your child makes a disclosure- if they tell a trusted adult that something is not right.

This can include times when they tell us that they have been smacked or beaten at home. We MUST take these disclosures seriously and may seek advice from the safeguarding hub (social workers) and consider making a referral for protection or support. If this is the case we will tell you unless we think this may put your child at further risk.

In the UK it is not illegal to smack your child provided you can prove it was reasonable chastisement. In British law it is not considered reasonable to hit your child so that it leaves a mark, to use an implement such as a spoon, stick or belt, to hit them on the face or head, neither is it acceptable to force children to stay in stress(ful) positions or be denied food.

This is the same rule for every child in the country. We do not accept that different cultures have different methods of managing behaviour at home.

ATTENDANCE

The school will monitor your child's attendance- missing school can be an indicator of a problem as well as impacting on your child's learning and progress. We aim for 95% attendance but understand that children do get ill. If your child's attendance falls below 90% we will write to you about it and may stop authorising further absences.

School does not authorise any holidays in term time.

BEHAVIOUR

We will contact you about your child's behaviour if it is impacting on their own OR other children's learning or wellbeing. Often children acting out can be a sign or a wider problem such as problems at home.

ONLINE SAFETY

We will offer advice throughout the year about how to keep your child safe online. Children often know more about technology than adults. Our advice will always be:

- know what they are doing- keep their access to the internet in sight- not upstairs!
- make sure your online security settings are high
- take account of age guidance and ensure older siblings and other families also respect these safety guidelines- make sure they are not being exposed to violent or adult content
- limit the amount of time your child spends online

HEALTH & WELLBEING

We will monitor your child's health and wellbeing and talk to you if we have concerns about your child's weight, their diet, their eyesight or hearing etc.

Every child should have regular health checks- dentist every 6 months/optician at least annually. These services are free.

It is important that your child has a safe home, enough food, a healthy diet, a good night's sleep, has a good routine and arrives at school ready to learn.

WORKING WITH THE CHILDREN

During the course of the school year we will teach sessions that help the children learn how to keep themselves safe. These include using materials from the NSPCC such as

- "Pants are Private" that reinforces rules about privacy
- Stay safe speak out- which teaches children to tell a trusted adult if they are being mistreated in some way.

We will also cover elements such as

- road safety
- fire safety
- safety on school visits
- "stranger danger"
- knowing their full name and address
- online safety

This will supplement the messages they receive from home, not replace them.

SAFEGUARDING IS A PARTNERSHIP.

If you have any concerns about a child please discuss them with Sarah or a senior member of staff.

If you would like advice or support with any issues raised in this document please speak to Sarah OR Shame Saeed (school office)