



Safeguarding Policy for Pupils

St Chad's C of E (VC) First School is our school and we want it to be a safe place. All of the adults at our school will do everything they can to make sure that you are healthy, safe and happy. In our school we respect you, we listen to you and we help you protect your rights. We do our best to help you make good educational progress and give you lots of opportunities for wider development. We teach you how to recognise the risks in different situations and how to protect yourself and stay safe.

Safeguarding means that school staff should:

- Protect you from harm;
- Make sure nothing stops you from being healthy or developing properly;
- Make sure you are safely looked after;
- Make sure you have the best life chances and can grow up happy and successful.

How will staff try to protect you?

- We will always try to provide a safe and secure environment for you to learn and progress;
- We help to make sure that you remain safe at home, as well as at school;
- We think it is important for you to know where you can get help if you are worried or unhappy about something.

Need to talk?

Our Designated Lead for Safeguarding is Mrs Yeomans. Mr Roden is our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead - this means that between them they have the main responsibility for making sure you are healthy, safe and happy. If you need to talk - we will listen. You can talk to any adult within the school. If you do not want to talk, you can always write it down and hand it to a member of staff. If you know how to do so, you could also send an email electronically to: headteacher@st-chads-pattingham.staffs.sch.uk

Abuse

When someone hurts you it can be called abuse. This is when someone does something to you that is harmful, unpleasant or painful like:

- If someone deliberately hits you, hurts you, injures you or humiliates you in different ways.
- If someone says or does something that makes you feel bad about yourself or hurts your feelings which makes you feel scared, sad, upset or frightened.
- If someone shouts, threatens, hits or hurts someone you love whilst you are around which makes you feel scared, unhappy or worried.
- If someone doesn't take proper care of you so you feel abandoned, lonely or neglected. You might not be able to eat or wash regularly, or you might not be able to come to school every day or on time.
- If someone touches you in a way that you don't like for example touching your private parts.

- If someone teaches you and expects you to do or say hateful things that are unkind or directed towards a group of people, this may be racist, sexist, homophobic or other comments that you know aren't right.
- If someone makes you look at things which make you feel ashamed, embarrassed, uncomfortable or guilty. They may ask you to keep it a secret or give you presents.
- **Abuse is never ok and if you are being hurt or made to feel unhappy or uncomfortable you must remember – it is not your fault. You must always tell someone and they will help it to stop.**

What happens next?

- Sometimes a member of staff at school will need to check things with Mrs Yeomans and then, if they can deal with the issues themselves, they may need to contact other agencies for support. These may be Children's Social Care (Social Workers) or Police.
- There are lots of other organisations who support children and families as well.
- Staff will talk to you and explain all of this and you can always go and ask staff questions if you are unsure about anything.

In and out of school.

All of the staff at St Chad's C of E (VC) First School will do their best to make sure the building is safe for you to learn in and spend time in. We will make sure we know who everyone is in the school by asking visitors to sign in at the school office. You will always know who a visitor to the school is because they will have signed in at the school office and be given a visitor badge. People that we do not know will never be allowed to spend time with you on your own and will not be allowed to walk around the school without a member of staff. The building, outside areas and fields will be as safe as they can be for you so that you don't hurt yourself, although accidents can happen if you are not careful! Staff will look after you if the fire alarm goes off and you should know what to do and where to go. When you leave school to go on a trip somewhere, the staff will make sure they can keep you safe wherever you are going.

What we will do:

- We will do our best to spot if there is a problem. All of the adults in school have had lessons in how to keep everyone safe;
- We will work with other people (including people at home) to help protect you and solve any problems you may have;
- We will listen to you if you want to talk to us and need our help. We will always take you seriously;
- We will support and encourage you and will respect your wishes and views, but we can't ever promise to keep secrets.

It is important you know:

- It is never your fault if someone is hurting or abusing you;
- There is always someone who can help you;
- If someone is hurting you, they might also be hurting someone else so it is important that you tell someone to make it stop;
- Every child should enjoy their right to a happy and safe childhood.
- **DO NOT BE SCARED TO TELL SOMEONE STRAIGHT AWAY – WE WILL ALWAYS LISTEN**

Tips for keeping yourself safe:

Bullying - If you think a child or a grown up is bullying you or someone you know, you must tell your grown up, a teacher or someone you can trust as soon as you can. It won't stop unless you do.

Saying funny things to you - If a pupil or a grown up says something to you, or you hear something that you do not like or that upsets you, you must tell your grown up, a teacher or someone you can trust.

Touching you - Your body belongs to you and not to anyone else. This means all of your body. If someone touches you on a part of your body like your bottom, chest or anywhere else you do not like, it is not ok. You must tell your grown up, a teacher or someone you can trust as soon as you can.

Hitting, punching or smacking you - if a pupil or a grown up hits you, punches or smacks you or hurts you in any way, you must tell your grown up, a teacher or someone you can trust as soon as you can.

Secrets - Secrets, such as surprise parties are fun, but some secrets are not good and should never be kept.

Presents - Presents are a good thing to get, but you should not take a present from anyone without checking with your grown up first. Most of the time it will be ok, but sometimes people try and trick children into doing something by giving them presents (like sweets, money, phones, cigarettes or drugs and alcohol). This is sometimes called a bribe. If it does not seem right, tell someone as soon as you can.

On the computer or your phone - Computers and mobile phones help us all to share things and talk to our friends or family, but they can also make it easier for bullies and other people that want to hurt you or get close to you. It is important to know how to keep yourself safe on your computer, your phone and on websites. St Chad's has an Online Safety policy which is there to protect you. If you are unhappy with any comments or photographs you have seen on your computer or mobile then you can also contact www.thinkyouknow.co.uk as well as adults in school.

Other people who can help you are: NSPCC ChildLine Staffordshire Children's Advice and Support 0300 111 8007 and select option 1.



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!