



Westlands Primary School **Parent Friendly Safeguarding Policy**

At Westlands Primary school, keeping children safe and free from harm is paramount.

We are committed to the multi agency approach in response to safeguarding children.

As a school, we have a legal duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to have a Safeguarding Policy. At times, this may involve contacting children's services for advice and to discuss any safeguarding concerns that may arise. Our policies and procedures aim to give clear direction to staff, volunteers, visitors and parents about the expected behaviour and our legal responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils at our school.

Safeguarding is defined as:

- Protecting children and young people at our school from maltreatment;
- Preventing impairment of our children's and young people's health or development;
- Ensuring that children and young people at our school grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care;
- Undertaking Safeguarding roles and responsibilities so as to enable children and young people at our school to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully.

All staff and visitors have an important role to play in safeguarding children and protecting them from harmful actions and influences.

It is the responsibility of every member of the School community to:

- be familiar with the Child Protection and Safeguarding policy and procedures;
- ensure they follow these requirements at all times and work in a way that will safeguard and promote the welfare of all of Academy pupils;
- be alert to signs and indicators of possible abuse.

Through staff members day to day contact with children and direct work with families, school staff have a crucial role to play in noticing indicators of possible abuse or neglect.

Parents should be aware that where it appears to a member of staff that a child may have been abused, the school is required to report their concern to Social Services immediately.



To avoid any misunderstandings, parents of children who sustain accidental injuries, which result in cuts/bruises/fractures, should inform the school without delay.

If any Safeguarding concerns were to arise, we would inform parents and carers of any concerns about your child (providing it does not compromise the child's safety) and will help support them as necessary.

Principles

- Children have a right to be safe, to be listened to, valued and respected
- Parents and Carers have a right to be informed of any concerns regarding their child
Children are best protected when parents and school work together
- All staff and volunteers are given appropriate training and support
- All staff and volunteers are subject to rigorous recruitment checks, this includes all members of staff that complete the interview process being Safer Recruitment Trained.

Principles in Practice

In order to ensure children are effectively protected we ensure that:

- The Senior Leadership Team and The Inclusion Team are all Designated Safeguarding Leads.
- All staff are trained in Child Protection awareness annually
- A parent friendly and child friendly safeguarding policy are provided for children and their families
- The Safeguarding Policy is available on the school website
- The Safeguarding Policy is reviewed annually by the Governing Body
- The Governors oversee all matters pertaining to safeguarding policy and practice within the school
- Safeguarding reports are provided to the full governing body termly
- Weekly Safeguarding meetings are held to discuss all Safeguarding matters

Prevention

As a school, we will take positive action to prevent children from suffering abuse and neglect through the development of an open culture that informs children of their rights and encourages them to speak about any concerns.

Pupils will also learn about keeping themselves safe within the curriculum, this may include PSHE lessons, Computing lessons and assemblies.



Responding to concerns

- We will refer all allegations or concerns that a child has been or is likely to be abused or neglected, to Social Care.
- We will consult with other agencies when there are concerns that a child may have been abused or neglected.
- We will discuss with parents and carers any concerns they have about children.
- Parents and carers will be kept informed of what has happened as long as this does not place the child or young person in direct risk of being harmed.

Child on Child Abuse

- Physical and emotional abuse of children by other children will be dealt with through the school's behaviour policy, this can be found on the school website.
- Parents and carers will be kept informed of any Child on Child concerns in relation to their child.
- All concerns about possible sexual abuse will be dealt with by referring to the Brook traffic light system of harmful sexual behaviours and if necessary, it will then be referred to Social Services.

Child Protection Conferences

- Child protection conferences will be attended by a Designated Safety Lead and they will provide information about children and families.
- This information will be shared with parents and carers beforehand.
- This will be kept confidential and their child protection records will be kept separately from a pupil's academic and other school records.

Confidentiality

Information regarding Safeguarding will only be shared on a need to know basis. However, information from parents about possible child abuse cannot be kept confidential, this would need to be referred to Social Services through The Front Door.

Information and records about children on the Child Protection Register will be given only to those people who need it and will be kept strictly confidential by them.

A full copy of our Safeguarding Policy can be found on the school website, along with our other policies, including the behaviour policy.