

## WHAT IS SAFEGUARDING?

Safeguarding is **our** responsibility to protect the children in our care. Us as staff, and you as parents, all have a responsibility to keep children (under the age of 18) safe, both at home and in the Academy.

**If you are concerned that a pupil is at risk of harm, please speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team immediately.**

It is important to remember that child abuse can happen to any child regardless of elements such as gender, culture, religion, social background ability or disability.

## CHRIST CHURCH ACADEMY SAFEGUARDING TEAM

**Designated Safeguarding Lead:**  
Mrs H Dawson – Assistant Principal

**Deputy Safeguarding Leads:**  
Mrs T Thorn - Principal  
Mr M Hodson – Head of Key Stage 2

**Safeguarding Governor:**  
Mrs Maryanne Lloyd

Email:  
[safeguarding@cca.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@cca.staffs.sch.uk)

## HOW CAN YOU GAIN SUPPORT - INCLUDING OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS?

If you have a concern which is not urgent – please ring or email Mrs Thorn as soon as school is open.  
01785 334900 or [t.thorn@cca.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:t.thorn@cca.staffs.sch.uk)

**If a child is in immediate danger – please ring the police.**

For other support agencies please see further support section overleaf.

## TYPES OF HARM

There are four recognised types of harm:

**Physical** - when a child is deliberately hurt or injured.

**Sexual** - when a child is influenced or forced to take part in a sexual activity. This can be a physical activity or non-physical, e.g. being made to look at an inappropriate image.

**Emotional** - when a child is made to feel frightened, worthless or unloved. It can be by shouting, using threats or making fun of someone. It can also be when children see their parents, or visitors, fighting or using violence.

**Neglect** - when a child is not being taken care of by their parents / guardians. It can be poor hygiene, poor diet, not keeping appointments for additional support, not coming to school and being left home alone.

## OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Operation Encompass is a National initiative to ensure that schools are made aware of any issues in the home which may impact a child in school.

We have completed the training and have signed up to receive notifications in order to support our pupils.

See here for more information:  
<https://www.operationencompass.org>



## WHAT IS CSE (CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION)?

Every year, thousands of children in the UK are forced or manipulated into sexual activity. This is child sexual exploitation.

This type of abuse can happen to boys and girls living at home in rural and town environments, and from any social background.

Individuals or groups befriend, or 'groom', the child in a process designed to break down their existing relationships with family and friends, in order to establish control and power over them.

Grooming is like a process of recruitment and the victims are introduced into a lifestyle which they are made to believe is normal, but which is actually abusive.

It is unlikely that the child will be aware that they are being groomed by their 'friends' or 'boyfriend'. They may deny abuse and defend their new social group.

Grooming can take place online or offline and can include both affection and violence, lies, blackmail, or threats.

There are different models of grooming – children might experience exploitation at parties, by groups of older men or (less often) women, as part of a gang, or even by friends their own age.

Once groomed, the child is expected to participate in sexual activities, often in exchange for something such as alcohol, gifts, money, affection, drugs, or a place to stay.

## WHAT ARE COUNTY LINES?

### THE UK GOVERNMENT DEFINES COUNTY LINES AS:

"County lines is a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more importing areas within the UK, using dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of "deal line". They are likely to exploit children and vulnerable adults to move and store the drugs and money and they will often use coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons."

County lines activity and the associated violence, drug dealing and exploitation has a devastating impact on young people, vulnerable adults and local communities.

The **NSPCC** have more information available on County Lines:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/county-lines>



## FURTHER SUPPORT

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/>

<https://www.internetmatters.org>

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>

<https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/family-life/parent-support>

<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk>

<https://www.staffsscb.org.uk>

<https://www.bullying.co.uk>

<https://frg.org.uk>

<https://www.nhs.uk>

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/childnets-kidsmart-website-where-kids-do-the-talking>