September 2017

Dear Families

**Safeguarding young people in our school**

Safeguarding young people is the responsibility of everyone. As such all the staff in our school have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of young people. This duty is placed upon school by Section 175 of the Education Act 2002.

This means that we have Designated Officers for Child Protection. In our school these are Mrs J Noble and Mrs J Willis.

If we are concerned that a young person may be at risk from significant harm (abuse) or is being abused, school is required to refer their concerns onto Social Care and the police if necessary. In some circumstances this may happen without the consent or knowledge of parents/carers.

School also has a responsibility to act upon other concerns that they may have about a young person’s welfare in circumstances where there are no suspicions of abuse. Examples of this may be when a young person is demonstrating inappropriate behaviour, is involved in bullying, is failing to come to school or where difficulties at home are having an effect upon the young person’s well being. However this list is by no means exhaustive.

At Longdendale there is an expectation that school will always discuss these issues with parents/carers before deciding upon a course of action to support the young person.

Our school has a safeguarding policy which explains all the above in much more detail. If you would like to see the policy please contact school to find the best way to access it easily.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Jennifer Willis

**Assistant Headteacher**