



Why have a Safeguarding Newsletter?

Safeguarding & Child Protection is such an important issue for our children and young people that we have decided to have a termly newsletter that shares key information and advice with parents and carers so that we can all work together with the same aim of keeping children safe in school, at home and in the wider community. Safeguarding relates to many areas of life at St Peter's including children's physical health and safety, mental health issues and wellbeing, attendance, managing medical conditions, internet safety, substance misuse, bullying, the dangers of radicalisation, child sexual exploitation, gang culture, FGM, neglect, domestic violence, forced marriages, sex and relationships education, British Values and road safety among other issues.

At St Peter's we feel it is really important to work with our parents and with the high quality agencies that support schools and young people so that we can offer a safe environment that allows children to be aware of the risks they may face and how to respond to them safely. We hope that our school curriculum gives children opportunities to explore many of these issues in a safe situation—through PSHE, SRE, dedicated topic time and as key learning points arise in subjects such as science so that we can equip our children with the knowledge, understanding and the right tools to make safe choices.

What is a DSL?

The Designated Safeguarding Lead has a crucial role in taking lead responsibility for child protection issues in school. DSLs must be senior members of the school's leadership team, and at St Peter's we have 4 DSLs forming a team with Ms McBride as the Senior in position. A DSL is always available during school hours for staff to discuss any safeguarding concerns. DSLs are always contactable by telephone or email outside these hours.

The DSL has many responsibilities including working with staff and agencies involved in safeguarding children, working with parents and families, giving advice to staff, training staff, managing referrals from staff and investigating concerns passing them onto the correct body as necessary, managing the records of safeguarding and Child Protection concerns, keeping own knowledge up to date etc

Who's who at St Peter's

Ms McBride
Mrs Scott
Miss Doe
Miss Hazleton

Safeguarding Lead
Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Useful Acronyms & Vocabulary about Safeguarding

DSL: Designated Safeguarding Lead

PREVENT: Part of the Governments Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn into extremism

CP: Child Protection

LSCB: Local Safeguarding Children Board

CEOP: - Child Exploitation and Online Protection centre (tackling child sex abuse and providing advice)

TAF: Team Around the Family (part of Early Help)

LADO: Local Authority Designated Officer—who deals with position of trust safeguarding issues

DBS: Disclosure & Barring Service used to make safe recruitment decisions

Early Help: “providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years”. Essentially intervening to prevent abuse/neglect before it occurs.

TAC: Team Around a Child (part of Early Help)

Support for Parents

The Heathway Centre

The Heathway Centre is an inclusive resource centre for families with children and young people aged 0 to 17 years (up to their 18th birthday) with additional needs or disabilities. They provide information and advice on a wide range of issues affecting families with children and young people with additional needs or disabilities. They also support families access to specialist training aimed at increasing confidence and awareness for those caring for a child with an additional need.

They are in a purpose built building with a track and hoist system fitted throughout, wet room, fully equipped kitchen with adjustable height cooker and washing facilities. They have a secure outside play area with a wheelchair accessible swing and mobility adapted bikes.

They provide a variety of adapted resources including a multi sensory room, adjustable cooker, iPads, interactive floor, interactive screen and adapted IT equipment. They also have available a public use computer suite with free internet access.

They can signpost and refer you to specialist local organisations including:

- [Carers of Barking and Dagenham](#)
- [Sycamore Trust](#)
- [Barnardos](#)
- [Portage Team](#)
- [Disability Service](#)