

Child Friendly Safeguarding Policy



Wistaston Church Lane
Academy



September 2024

Most importantly you do NOT have to keep your worries a secret!

What is this?



Your school has a Safeguarding Policy for staff, families and governors. This child friendly policy is designed for young people and this should be read as a guide to the main policy. We have tried to write this in a way that makes sense to you as the Safeguarding Policy is very long..... 😊



What is it for?

To help you decide what could be a problem and where to get help and support. It is really important that you know who you can talk to and also to understand why you might need to talk to someone.

What is a DSL?



You might have seen or heard the phrase DSL, but what does it mean?

DSL stands for Designated Safeguarding Lead

In every school there is always somebody who has the responsibility to keep you safe and all staff have to tell that person if they are worried about you. Staff have training and are taught how to keep children safe as it is the most important part of their job.

These people who are the DSL may have other job titles you may recognise like Safeguarding Officer, Safeguarding Manager, Wellbeing or Pastoral team. If you don't know who your DSL is, then ask a member of staff.

It is the job of everyone that works at your school to keep you safe so remember you can talk to any grown up that you trust.



Has someone said something to you, or have you heard something that you do not like or upsets you?

Is someone bullying you?

You must tell someone at school so we can help you.

Examples of people you can tell are:

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- Teacher
- Headteacher / DSL
- Swan stars staff
- Pastoral team
- Teaching Assistant
- Middy Supervisor
- A grown up that you trust

Has someone touched you on a part of your body like your bottom, chest or anywhere else you do not like?



Touching you

It is not okay for someone to touch you and make you feel uncomfortable. People who do things like this often lie and tell you things to frighten you and make sure you don't tell anyone. You must tell someone at school so we can help you and it is not your fault and you will be taken care of and supported

Examples of people you can tell are:

- Teacher
- Headteacher
- Pastoral team
- Teaching Assistant
- Middy assistant
- Swan Stars staff
- A grown up that you trust



Has someone asked you if you want a tablet or to smoke a cigarette or vape?,
Maybe they have used you to drink of something and you do not know what it is?

Do not eat, drink, vape or smoke what they are giving you

You must tell someone at the school so we can help you.

Examples of people you can tell are:

- Teacher
- Headteacher / DSL
- Swan stars staff
- Teaching Assistant
- Middy Supervisor
- Pastoral team
- A grown up that you trust.

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Has someone hit, punched or smacked you or hurt you in anyway?



Hitting, punching or smacking you

You must tell someone at the school so we can help you.

Examples of people you can tell are:

- Teacher
- Headteacher / DSL
- Swan stars staff
- Pastoral team
- Teaching Assistant
- Midday Supervisor
- A grown up that you trust

The four main areas of Child Protection concerns are:

1. Physical Abuse - hitting, smacking, shaking, throwing, burning, biting etc.
2. Sexual Abuse - be aware this doesn't always mean touching a child. It could be someone making you watch things to do with sex or encouraging you to act in an inappropriate way.
3. Neglect - this means things like not providing meals or warmth or clothing. Or perhaps not taking you to the Doctors when you need to go. There may be lots of different reasons why a child is neglected, and it is really important that we know so we can help.
4. Emotional Abuse - This means when someone upsets you or makes you feel bad. If someone in your family says horrible things to you and makes you feel sad and worthless.

These are just a few examples for you and if you think you may have a problem that is like one of these then talk to someone to check

How does your school work hard to keep you safe?



There are lots of different ways, but one of the main ways is making sure the staff here at your school know how to keep you safe and also make sure you have someone to talk to if you need to.

Your Principal, Mrs Elsley, is here to support young people and their families if there is a Child Protection concern.

Safeguarding and Child Protection mean the same thing and they mean that we look after children and keep them safe.

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If you are upset or worried about something that has happened to or you or someone else then please remember you can be brave and talk to someone who will listen to you and help you



What happens when you tell someone?

If you speak to a grown up, sometimes they will need to check things with your DSL and then if they can deal with the issue themselves, they will. Please try and understand that staff and the DSL will only want to help you and make you feel supported and better about the situation.

There are times though when they may need to contact some other agencies for support. These may be Cheshire East SCIEs team or Police. This is because schools can't do everything on their own and need to work with other professionals who are best placed to help with arranging other things. It might sound a little bit scary, but these people and Police will be specialist trained professionals who are great at helping children and young people.

There are lots of other agencies who support children and their families as well and it isn't always that people need to have a Social Worker involved with their family. Sometimes people are Youth Workers or Mentors or Family Support Workers.

Don't worry, your DSL will talk to you and explain all of this, and you can always go and ask them questions if you are unsure about anything.

If you have any questions about this policy, then please contact one of the people below:

Designated Safeguarding Lead: You can find her in her office.	Mrs Elsley	
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:	Mrs Clifford	Mrs Watson
	Mrs Culshaw	Mrs Stones
	Miss Willington	Miss Baugh

You can always speak to any member of staff in school who will be able to support you.

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