

Keeping Children Safe in Education

A Guide for Parents

Holbrook CofE Primary School is committed to creating a happy and safe environment for our children to learn. We look at ways to support and protect every child (safeguarding) and we also have procedure to follow if children are at risk of harm (child protection). This leaflet will help you understand how we keep your children safe by telling you:



- How children can be harmed
- What we must do to keep your children safe from harm
- What you must do as a parent to help your child be safe and enjoy school

Child Protection

This is an important area in which all staff receive regular training. Our priority is to work with you but there may be times when we have to involve other people. Everyone has a responsibility to keep all children under the age of 18 safe. If a child is at risk of harm, then this becomes a child protection issue. Harm is identified in four ways:

Physical-This is when a child is deliberately hurt or injured;

Sexual-this is when a child is influenced or forced to take part in a sexual activity. This can be a physical activity or non physical, eg, being made to look at an inappropriate images;

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

Neglect-This is when a child is not being taken care of by their parents. It can be poor hygiene, poor diet, not keeping appointments for additional support, not attending school or being left home alone.

Local and national risks to children including the risk of criminal and sexual exploitation of children are also a focus for training for staff.

Designated safeguarding Lead: Mrs Ingrid Taylor (Headteacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mr Tom Lloyd and Mrs Kay Swinfield

Designated safeguarding Governor: Mrs Sue Staton

Other Safeguarding Issues:

Attendance: Your Child's attendance is monitored daily and significant absences are always followed up by the schools Attendance Officer Mrs Swinfield. A healthy child is expected to achieve an average of above 95.5% attendance and when attendance falls below this amount, progress in their academic achievements can be seriously affected.

Behaviour: Holbrook has clear behaviour rules for the whole school community that must be followed to keep everyone safe and happy. We understand that children do sometimes fall out and this will be dealt with by an adult who will listen to the children involved and help to resolve the situation.

Bullying: The school takes all cases of bullying very seriously and will work with children and families to try and resolve any problems. The school has an Anti-Bullying Policy that you should read and understand (available on the website).

Health and Safety- Everyone at Redhill has a responsibility to keep each other safe. The school has a clear health and safety policy which everyone must follow. The school has a number of trained first aiders to deal with any accidents in school.

E-Safety- The school recognises that technology plays an important role in the education of our children and is committed to safeguarding children in the virtual world. To support parents, the school has online safety information to help keep children safe both in school and at home. We also have an Online Safety Policy available on the website.

Complaints- If you have any complaints about how the school is working with you or your child, please feel confident to speak to us. The Headteacher will always be happy to speak to you to resolve any difficulties. It is better to speak to us as soon as you have a concern so that it does not become a bigger issue. If you feel the matter has not been resolved, you can raise your concerns with the governing Body. Our complaints procedure is on the school website.

Safeguarding Responsibilities of the School

A child should be able to go to school and feel safe so that they can achieve their very best.

- Everyone who works or volunteers at Holbrook will have a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)
- School will check to make sure all staff are safe to work with children and then trained to identify child abuse and what to do if they are concerned.
- The school has a Designated safeguarding Lead, Mrs Ingrid Taylor (Headteacher) and
- Deputy Safeguarding Leads, Mr Tom Lloyd and Mrs Kay Swinfield who are fully trained in safeguarding procedures.
- We will always listen to you and work closely with you if we are concerned about your child but, sometimes, we may not be able to discuss our concern if it could put a child at further risk. The school has a Child Protection and safeguarding Policy which tells you more about this and when we must speak to the Police or Children's Services. You can see this policy on the school website.
- We will help your child to learn about keeping themselves safe. Lessons can include healthy eating, stranger danger, anti-bullying, e-safety, road safety, healthy relationships, drug and alcohol awareness. As part of these lessons your child will be told what to do if they worried or concerned about their safety.

What Parents/Carers Must Do

Parents are the most important people to keep their children safe. You should always:

- Feel confident to raise concerns about your child.
- Talk to school if you need help or support.
- Read the school policies about safety issues (available on website).
- Let school know if your child has a medical condition.
- Let the school know if you have any court orders relating to the safety of your child.
- Let the school know if there is any change in your circumstances such as a house move, a new contact number, a change of name, a change of parental responsibility.
- Let us know who will be dropping off or collecting your child and two other emergency contacts.
- Inform school of any changes to agreed arrangements.
- Inform the school if your child is going to be absent and the reason why.
- Inform the school (confidentially) if you have any concerns or suspicions about the safety of any other children.
- Inform school if you have made temporary arrangements for someone else to care for your child.

Remember, if you have concerns about the immediate safety of a child, phone the police.

If you have concerns that a child may be at risk, you can ring Derbyshire Starting Point on

01629 533190