

Summary Of Our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

The Designated Safeguarding Lead for Moordown St. John's is Mr Peter Herbert (Head teacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are Mrs Gina Angiolini (Deputy Head) and Mrs Emma Martin (Assistant Head teacher)

Purpose

- To afford protection to all children in our school.
- Enable staff and volunteers to safeguard and promote the rights and well-being of children.
- Promote a culture which makes the school a safe place to learn and to work.

Aims of Policy

- At recruitment to full employment to raise the awareness of all school staff of the importance of safeguarding pupils and of their responsibilities for identifying and reporting actual or suspected abuse.

Visiting Teachers have a responsibility to:

- Establish and maintain a safe area in which to educate (within the limits of their control).
- Ensure the safety of pupils/minimise risk.
- Adhere to DFE guidelines on teacher behaviour and code of conduct.
- Ensure the activities that they offer are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual.
- Encourage and guide participants to take responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Protect children from harm and abuse.
- Promote fair play, observation of rules, and the positive aspects of sport.
- Treat all young people equally, and with respect and dignity.

To ensure good practice and to safeguard individuals visiting teachers must:

- Adhere to safer working practice, code of conduct and Acceptable Use Policy.
- Avoid spending time alone with individual children (keep doors open if this is unavoidable).
- Avoid taking children alone on car journeys.
- Encourage parents/adults to observe teaching sessions and support at school events.
- Explain actions clearly when physical guidance is necessary to teach new skills.
- Provide a good role model by displaying high personal standards.
- Dress appropriately.
- Follow restraint guidelines.
- Follow the intimate care guidelines when undertaking personal care of a pupil

Visiting Teachers must not:

- Tolerate or minimise any bullying behaviour.
- Allow or engage in inappropriate touching.
- Breach professional boundaries e.g. personal contact outside school (including via internet or over the phone).
- Allow use of inappropriate language or bullying behaviour by pupils or adults.
- Ignore any allegations made by a child.
- Do things of a personal nature that a child can do for him/herself.
- Participate in, or allow sexually provocative activities.

Responding to Disclosures

If a child wishes to confide in you the following guidelines must be followed

- Be honest.
- Do not make promises that you cannot keep.
- Explain that you are likely to have to tell other people in order to stop what is happening
- Create a safe environment.
- Stay calm.
- Reassure the child and stress that he/she is not to blame.
- Tell the child that you know how difficult it must have been to confide in you.
- Listen to the child and tell them that you believe them and are taking what is being said seriously.
- Encourage the child to use his/her own words and do not try to lead them into giving particular answers.

At this point you must speak to one of the Designated Officers identified at the beginning of this policy.

- Maintain confidentiality in school and outside the school building.
- Only tell those people that it is necessary to inform.

Allegations Against Staff (please also see the Staff Allegations policy)

Any report of concern about the behaviour of a member of staff or allegation of abuse against a member of staff must immediately be reported to the Headteacher.

Any concern or allegation against a Headteacher must be reported to the Deputy Head who will then pass the information on to the Chair of Directors.

Staff who are the subject of a complaint or allegation of abuse will be offered support from the school, Local Authority, staff welfare officer or can access counselling via their GP or Union support.

We hope that you find this information useful. If you have any comments or questions relating to this policy please see the Headteacher (Mr Peter Herbert) the Deputy Headteacher (Mrs Gina Angiolini) or the Assistant Headteacher (Mrs Emma Martin).