Safeguarding Letter no. 4

January 2025

Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs)

Miss Richardson -Headteacher

Mrs Dale -Pastoral Lead & Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Ketley - SENCO

What is a DSL?

A designated safeguarding lead (DSL) is a member of staff who has received specialist training in whole school safeguarding. A DSL will manage safeguarding in school, deliver training to all staff and will also work with outside agencies to help keep children safe.

A DSL will also follow up any concerns that have been raised about the safety and wellbeing of a child.

Safeguarding

January 2025

A warm welcome back for the start of the spring term 2025. I hope you have all had a good break and the children are energised and ready to learn.

We all know that good attendance supports children's education, which in turn is vital in helping children to learn and achieve. It supports them to be curious about the world around them, to help them form ideas and gain the confidence to ask questions and develop a sense of themselves and become the person they want to be. This process becomes a lot more difficult if the children are not regularly in school.

However, school attendance is much more than simply improving opportunities for children to learn; it is equally important in keeping children safe. Knowing who is absent from school and the reason for it is fundamental to effective safeguarding. Patterns of absence and poor punctuality, including persistent and sudden absence, are clear signs of concern and sadly there are many examples nationally over many years of a clear link between poor attendance and serious safeguarding cases. Our aim is to ensure that all of our pupils are safe and therefore our attendance procedures are rigorous and absences will always be questioned.

If there are any concerns which affect your child's school attendance, wellbeing or behaviour, please let us know as soon as you become concerned, as working in partnership with you for the benefit of your child is far more productive and far more supportive than ignoring the difficulty.

Safeguarding Vocabulary

CCE – Child Criminal Exploitation

CEOP – Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre

LADO – Local Authority

Designated Officer – deals
with positions of trust
safeguarding issues in Norfolk

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 before it occurs

DBS – Disclosure and Barring Service – a way of checking the suitability of adults to work with children

KCSIE – Keeping Children Safe in Education - a key document for schools for ensuring children are safeguarded

CAMHS – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

Prevent – part of the government's counter terrorism strategy to stop people being drawn into extremism

Road Safety

It's that time of year when we have dark nights along with dark mornings. This can bring additional risks and requires the need for extra safety measures, particularly on the roads, whether that means when riding a bike or simply being a pedestrian. There are many safety measures that we may wish to consider and to remind our children of. Hopefully the resources below may be helpful when talking about how to keep safe.

Teaching Road Safety: A Guide to Parents

https://www.rospa.com/media/documents/roadsafety/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf

Safety First – Cycling at Night

https://www.cycletraining.co.uk/cycle-training-and-cyclesafety/safety-first-cycling-at-night/

Be Bright, Be Seen Poster

https://www.think.gov.uk/resource/be-bright-be-seengame/

Keeping Children Safe in the Dark

https://firstaidforlife.org.uk/keeping-children-safe-in-dark/

Dark Nights

https://www.childcare.co.uk/information/dark-nightschildren-safety