



Waddington All Saints Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

# Safeguarding Newsletter

Autumn 2 2024

Welcome to the second edition of our Safeguarding Newsletter. These newsletters are designed to keep you informed with key updates and the latest guidance on safeguarding and ensuring the safety of children in education.

I would like to remind you all that safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility and our top priority. Everything that we do has the children at its centre. Their wellbeing, their safety, their achievement, their happiness underpins every decision we make.

The term is moving quickly, and it's been wonderful to witness the incredible progress the children have made since their return in September. Our reception pupils have settled in beautifully, and the rest of the school has transitioned well into their new year groups. We are so proud of the children and all the wonderful learning that they have produced.

We are looking ahead to Christmas and the upcoming celebrations. While this time of year brings joy and excitement, we understand it can also be challenging for some families, particularly given the current economic climate. If you feel you need any support, at this time of the year, please contact our Welfare Officer, Kelly Dudley.

As always, if you need support, guidance, or further information, please feel free to speak to me in person or contact me directly.

**Mandana John**

Deputy Headteacher and Deputy Safeguarding Lead

## Meet Our Designated Safeguarding Team

Our Deputy Safeguarding Leads are:



Mrs Mandana John  
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Kelly Dudley  
Welfare Officer

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is:



Mrs Zoe Jepson  
Head Teacher  
Prevent Lead

Our safeguarding team is responsible for the academy's efforts to keep children safe. They participate in regular training to ensure their knowledge and skills are up to date. If you have any concerns about a child's welfare or safety, please speak to a member of our safeguarding team.

## What is Safeguarding?

We all share a responsibility to ensure the safety and well-being of every child under the age of 18. Protecting children from harm means recognising and addressing the following types of abuse:

- **Physical Harm:** This occurs when a child is deliberately hurt or injured.
- **Sexual Harm:** This involves a child being influenced or forced to participate in sexual activities. These can be physical acts or non-physical, such as being made to view inappropriate images.
- **Emotional Harm:** This happens when a child is made to feel frightened, worthless, or unloved. It can involve shouting, threats, or ridicule. Emotional harm can also occur when children witness violence or conflict between parents or visitors to their home.
- **Neglect:** Neglect occurs when a child's basic needs are not met by their caregivers. This could include poor hygiene, inadequate nutrition, missing important appointments, not attending school, or being left alone at home unsupervised.

By being aware of these signs and working together, we can create a safe and nurturing environment for all children. If you have concerns about a child's safety, please don't hesitate to seek support or advice.

**'Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, every day'**

## Role of Parents

Parents play the most vital role in ensuring their child's safety. To help us work together effectively, please:

- Feel confident in raising any concerns about your child's well-being.
- Reach out to the school if you need help, advice, or support.
- Familiarise yourself with the school's policies on safety and safeguarding issues.
- Inform the school if your child has a medical condition.
- Notify the school if there are any court orders related to your child's safety.
- Keep the school updated about any changes in your circumstances, such as a house move, new contact information, a name change, or changes in parental responsibility.
- Ensure the school knows who will be dropping off or collecting your child and provide the names of two additional emergency contacts. Let the school know immediately if these arrangements change.
- Notify the school promptly if your child will be absent and provide the reason for their absence.

By keeping communication open and up to date, we can work together to keep your child safe and supported.

## Online Safety Advice

The following advice is from NSPCC on speaking to children about online safety.

With technology evolving at an incredibly rapid pace, it can feel challenging to begin conversations with your child about their online activities, who they interact with, and the potential risks they might face.

Having regular conversations with your child about their online activities can go a long way in keeping them safe. By making it a natural part of your daily routine, just like asking about their day at school, you create a relaxed atmosphere where your child feels comfortable sharing.

This approach also makes it more likely that they'll come to you if they ever have concerns or worries. When talking to children:

- tools like **Talk PANTS** and **Techosaurus** can be valuable resources.
- use simple, clear language that your child can easily understand.

For more information, visit [NSPCC Online Safety](#).



## Anti-Bullying

We regularly educate our children about bullying through a range of activities and assemblies that reinforce our school's commitment to addressing and preventing bullying. At Waddington All Saints Academy, we continuously take the opportunity to spotlight bullying and consider steps we can take together to stop it.

Our focus is on ensuring pupils understand:

- The steps to take if they or someone else is being bullied.
- What to do if they feel that they are being bullied
- The importance of taking all forms of bullying seriously because of the long-term impact on friendships, self-esteem, emotional well-being, and mental health.

Through these discussions and activities, we aim to foster a safe, supportive, and respectful environment for everyone.

### Definition- What is bullying?

Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour by an individual or a group of individuals, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. Types of bullying include:

- Physical (hitting, kicking, theft)
- Verbal (name calling, racist remarks or comments, which relate to any personal characteristics including gender and ethnicity)
- Indirect (spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups, or increasingly via 'cyber' bullying through new and emerging technology).

Children are always encouraged to report bullying in school to a teacher or staff member.

For more information and support please visit: [Helping Children Deal with Bullying & Cyberbullying NSPCC](#)