



Hatch Warren Infant School

Information for parents on our safeguarding procedures



How do you ensure my child is safe in school?

We aim to provide a happy, comfortable, productive and, above all, safe and secure environment for pupils to thrive in.

This leaflet outlines the ways in which we keep your children safe, including:

- The different types of harm children can face.
- What we do to keep your child safe.
- What you should do, as a parent, to keep your child safe.

Policies for safeguarding children

Ensuring wellbeing within school grounds and creating a safe environment is a responsibility for all staff, governors and parents. We have several policies in place to ensure there is a consistent approach to meeting these responsibilities.

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy: this ensures all staff are trained to identify and respond to areas of concern. Training is held regularly to keep staff up-to-date with child protection and safeguarding legislation and policy updates.

Recruitment Policy: this aims to prevent risk and highlight to the community the robust standards within the school. We use safer recruitment techniques including DBS checks, reference requests and identity checks.

Anti-Bullying Policy: this enables staff to highlight areas of concern to the correct person through the correct channels. Pupils will understand the behavior that is expected of them, and that bullying is not tolerated.

Attendance and Truancy Policy: the school monitors the attendance of pupils and follows up on any patterns or trends. This ensures there is a full level of support given to pupils and any barriers to learning can be addressed.

Staff Code of Conduct: this must be adhered to by all staff. It outlines the standards the

school maintains in order to provide the best learning and support for pupils.

Online Safety Policy: As part of the overall safeguarding policy, e-safety is of the utmost importance. Pupils spend time using a variety of electronic devices, both at school and at home. Support must be given to guide them on how to use the internet safely, as well as how to recognise and report threats.

Visitor Policy: This policy outlines how the school accommodates visitors. The provisions allow the school to monitor who is on the site and ensure proper safeguarding procedures are followed regarding those who potentially have access to pupils.

Other policies include **Allegations of Abuse Against Staff Policy, Prevent Policy, Children Missing Education Policy** and **Pupil Code of Conduct**.

Useful contacts

The DSLs are Sue Boorman (HT), Jo Padfield (DHT), Louise Weston and Sam Flodman (team leaders). If you have any questions or comments about the safeguarding of pupils, then you can contact either of them by ringing 01256 350313.

Types of harm and neglect

All staff, governors and volunteers receive regular training that covers all aspects of safeguarding pupils. The following is a list of possible forms of harm that young people can face:

Physical abuse - a child suffers physical harm or injury, e.g. through hitting.

Emotional abuse - a child receives emotional maltreatment which causes adverse effects on their development, e.g. being told they are worthless.

Sexual abuse - a child is forced or enticed into taking part in sexual activities in which they do not give consent for, whether or not they are aware of what is happening.

Neglect - a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs are consistently not met, resulting in serious impairment of their health or development, e.g. by providing inadequate amounts of food.

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) - a child is subject to a form of sexual abuse where an individual or group takes advantage of, or manipulates, a child into sexual activity, in exchange for something the victim wants/needs, and/or for the financial advantage of the perpetrator.

Peer-on-peer abuse - peer-on-peer abuse can involve domestic abuse, CSE, serious youth violence and harmful sexual behaviour. There is no clear boundary between peer-on-peer abuse and

incidents that are treated as bullying; therefore, it is a staff member's professional judgement that plays the main role in the identification process.

What we do

At Hatch Warren Infant School, we endeavour to ensure that our pupils come to school and feel safe so that they can achieve their best potential.

We will always listen and work closely with you and our staff if concerns are raised about the safety of your child; however, we may not always be able to discuss our concerns with you, if certain safeguarding procedures apply. Our **Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy** details the circumstances in which we will inform the police or social services.

We will ensure your child is taught about how to keep themselves safe. This includes lessons on anti-bullying, online safety, road safety, healthy relationships and drug and alcohol awareness. We will ensure that your child knows what to do if they are worried or concerned for their safety.

The person who leads on safeguarding pupils is called the designated safeguarding lead (DSL). Our DSLs are Sue Boorman, Jo Padfield, Louise Weston and Sam Flodman, who has had the appropriate training to handle all safeguarding concerns.

All staff members will undergo the relevant checks to ensure they are safe to work with children. They will all be trained to identify child abuse and will know what to do if they are concerned about the safety of your child.

What you should do

You play the most important role in keeping your children safe. You should:

- Feel confident when raising concerns about your child.
- Talk to us if you feel you need help, support or if you have a concern about your child's safety.
- Read our policies regarding child protection and safety issues.
- Let us know if your child has any medical conditions.
- Let us know if you have any court orders relating to the safety of your child.
- Let us know if there is a change in your circumstances, e.g. moving house or new contact details.
- Ensure we know who will be dropping off and collecting your child, and provide us with up-to-date emergency contact details. You must inform us of any changes to these arrangements.
- Always let us know if your child will be absent or late, and what the reasons for this are.
- Monitor any changes in your child's behaviour and be aware of any risky activity, such as bringing home unexplained new things.

