

# CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING

Saint Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy fully recognises the contribution it can make to protect children and support pupils in school. The aim of the policy is to safeguard and promote our pupils' welfare, safety and health by fostering an honest, open, caring and supportive climate. The pupils' welfare is of paramount importance.

Our Child Protection policy sets out how the school's governing body discharges its statutory responsibilities relating to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children who are pupils at the school.

There are four main elements to our child protection policy:

- **Prevention** (e.g. positive school atmosphere, teaching and pastoral support to pupils, preventing unsuitable people working with children).
- **Protection** (by following agreed procedures, ensuring staff are trained and supported to respond appropriately and sensitively to child protection concerns).
- **Support** (to pupils and school staff and to children who may have been abused).
- **Working with parents** (to ensure appropriate communications and actions are undertaken)

## E-Safeguarding

Saint Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy fully recognises the contribution it can make to protect children and support them in school. The aim of our E-Safeguarding policy is to safeguard and promote our pupils' safe use of internet and electronic communication technology such as mobile phones and wireless connectivity. The internet and other technologies have an important role in the learning and teaching processes however, we feel it is important to balance those benefits with an awareness of the potential risks. This policy will highlight the need to educate children and young people about the benefits and risks of using new technologies both in and away from school.

It will also provide safeguards and rules to guide staff, pupils and visitors in their online experiences.

The school e-safeguarding policy will operate in conjunction with others including: policies for Child Protection, Good Behaviour, Anti-Bullying, Single Equality and Internet Access Agreement with parents/carers.

The school acknowledges e-safety and e-security as important issues for our school community and has made a considered attempt to embed e-safeguarding into our teaching and learning using technology and have considered the wider implications of e-safeguarding beyond classroom practice such as security and data.