

Safe Working Within Ridgewell Primary School

- Provide a good example and be a positive role model by being respectful, fair and considerate to all
- Treat all children equally—never build a special relationship or favour a particular child above all others
- Ensure when working with an individual child, that the door is left open, or that you can be visible to others.
- Mobile phone use is not allowed in school.
- Do not photograph children (unless requested by school staff) exchange emails, text messages and phone numbers or give our your personal details
- Do not receive or give gifts unless arranged through the school
- Only touch children for professional reasons and when this is necessary and appropriate for the child's wellbeing and safety

Allegations

- Any allegations should be reported to the Headteacher
- If concerns are about the Headteacher then inform the Chair of Governors

We are committed to safeguarding and meeting the needs of all our children.

Whole School Designated Safeguarding Lead:-

Miss Kirsty Lewis— Joint Head of schools

Deputy Lead:- Mrs Linda Buchanan—Executive Head

Designated Safeguarding Governor: Maureen Rigg

Class Teachers:

Earth (EYFS) Miss S Mason

Mars (years 1 & 2) Mr R Irvine

Jupiter (years 3 & 4) Mrs N Sharp & Mrs I Mackay

Saturn (years 5 & 6) Miss K Lewis

Ridgewell C of E (VA) Primary School SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES



Telephone 01440 785364

Email admin@ridgewell.essex.sch.uk

Volunteers / Visitors Responsibility

All those who come into contact with children through their everyday work whether paid or voluntary are responsible for their own actions and behaviour. You should avoid any contact which would lead any reasonable person to question your motivation or intention. At Ridgewell Primary we all have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of our children.

Please follow our code of behaviour

- Do treat everyone with respect
- Do provide an example you wish others to follow
- Do remember that someone else might misinterpret your actions, no matter how well intentioned
- Do plan activities so that they may involve more than one person or at least are in sight or hearing of others
- Do respect a child's right to personal privacy
- Do act as an appropriate role model
- Do provide access for children and adults to feel comfortable enough to point out attitudes and behaviours they do not like, and try to provide a caring atmosphere
- Do not jump to conclusions without checking facts
- Do not permit abusive activities eg bullying, ridiculing
- Do not play physical contact games, make inappropriate comments or have inappropriate banter with the children
- Do not make suggestive remarks, gestures or tell sexist, racist or homophobic jokes
- Do not rely on your good name to protect you,. It may not be enough
- Do not believe it could not happen to you

IT COULD

DBS Certificates

All staff, including supply staff, regular visitors and volunteers are subject to Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Certificates. This is to help ensure that unsuitable people are prevented from working with children. Advice about DBS certificates is available from the school office.

Identity Badges—Visitors Book

All visitors to Ridgewell Primary must sign the visitors books upon arrival and either wear a visitors badge supplied by us or their own agency/school's identity badge. Any adults without a badge will be challenged.

WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD

Abuse (physical, sexual, emotional) or neglect can have a damaging effect on a child's health education attainment and emotional well being. Some changes in a child's behaviour may not necessarily indicate that a child is suffering abuse or neglect. In some cases those changes may be symptoms of a hidden disability, undiagnosed medical condition or changes in medication. If whilst working with a child you become concerned about:

- Comments made by a child
- Marks or bruising on a child
- Changes in a child's behaviour

Please report these concerns to the class teacher or Headteacher, who if they feel it is appropriate, will pass the information onto the school's Designated Safeguarding Coordinator.

Disclosure of abuse by a child:

Whilst this can be an alarming situation, it is important that you know what to do in such an eventuality and for you to be able to stay calm and controlled.

- Listen to what is being said without displaying shock or disbelief. Accept what is being said.
- Allow the child to talk freely, listen rather than ask direct questions
- Reassure the child, but do not make promises that might not be possible to keep
- Do not promise confidentiality but explain to the child that you have to tell their teacher or Headteacher in order that you can help them
- Do not interrogate the child or ask leading questions
- Reassure the child that it is not their fault
- Stress that it was right to tell
- Make them aware that their disclosure will be reported only to those that need to know and can help
- Record details of the disclosure immediately, including wherever possible the exact words or phrases used by the child. Sign and date the record
- Report your concerns and give your written record to the Designated Safeguarding Coordinator/ Headteacher to enable the matter to be dealt with in the most appropriate way
- Be aware of your own feelings about abuse and find someone you can share your feelings with once the procedures have been completed

It is important to remember the children's details and names must remain confidential and any discussion that you feel you need to undertake does not allow the child to be identified to anyone else