

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Safeguarding Children Statement

September 2017



At St Joseph's Catholic School we are committed to the safeguarding of all our pupils, staff and visitors. Safeguarding is a priority with arrangements in place to ensure learners feel, and are safe on school premises and during off site activities.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment;
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development;
- Ensuring that children have the provision of safe and effective care; and
- To enable children to have optimum life chances.

The pupils' safety and wellbeing are paramount and safeguarding initiatives are developed to impact positively upon this.

Through our curriculum we teach the children about personal safety, and how to keep themselves safe from harm. There is a strong anti-bullying ethos evident throughout the school. We teach our children how to recognise bullying, how to keep themselves safe from bullying behaviour and how to report it. We listen to our children. Our curriculum includes opportunities to discuss feelings and emotions, and helps our children to think about their own personal safety and their rights as individuals to be kept safe from harm. We teach our children about the uses and misuses of drugs, at an age appropriate time and level.

Our sex education programme teaches our children about keeping themselves safe from harm, at an age appropriate level.

We have clear guidance to help children to use the internet safely.

We ensure safeguarding legislation and guidance are adhered to and taken into account when developing and revisiting policies, procedures and associated arrangements.

St Joseph's provides a safe physical environment for its pupils and staff, ensuring that the premises are of a good standard. Health & Safety arrangements are in place to ensure adherence to current legislation and guidance.

Applicants will be subject to recruitment and selection procedures designed to emphasise our commitment to the safeguarding of pupils and staff. The procedures include questioning at interview stage, verification of appropriate qualification, acquiring references and appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. At least one member of the interview panel will be trained in Safer Recruitment.

All volunteers (including parent helpers) are required to undergo a DBS check.

Ms Rhodes is responsible for updating and managing the Single Central Record List; an electronic copy of this is on the Office Drive.

Pippa Davies, the SENCO, is the Designated Person for Child Protection and **Mrs Foan**, DHT, will deputise for this role in her absence. **Miss Morrison**, as Headteacher, will also be informed of any Child Protection concerns.

The school has policies and procedures in place to deal effectively with child protection and safeguarding issues together with recording and monitoring processes. These include: Anti-Bullying, Child Protection, Single Equality, SEN EPR, School Attendance, Behaviour, Sex Education and Relationships

It is a condition of employment that all staff are trained to a level appropriate to their Safeguarding responsibilities. Staff are expected to attend internal and external training and awareness sessions covering safeguarding issues.

The Governors and Senior Leadership Team will continue to keep abreast of developments in this area and implement arrangements to continually improve the safety and awareness of its pupils, Staff and volunteers.

Father Kieron is the named Governor for Safeguarding.