



Safeguarding Information for parents

Overview

We believe that all pupils should remain safe and free from harm. As such, we are committed to playing a full and active part in the multi-agency response to child protection concerns. Additionally, we as a school, have a legal duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to have a Safeguarding Policy.

Staff at Slade Primary School, have day to day contact with pupils, and some direct work with families, which means that we have a crucial role to play in noticing signs of possible abuse or neglect. Parents and Carers need to be aware that if it appears to a member of staff that a child may have been abused, the school is required, as part of the local safeguarding procedures to report the concern to Social Care immediately. Therefore, to avoid any misunderstandings, parents and carers should inform the school immediately if their child sustains any accidental injuries that result in cuts/bruises/fractures.

Principles

Children have a right to be safe, to be listened to, valued and respected.
Parents and Carers have a right to be informed of any concerns regarding their child.
Children are best protected when parents and school work together.
All staff and volunteers are given appropriate training and support.
All staff and volunteers are subject to rigorous recruitment checks.

Principles into practice

In order to ensure children are effectively protected we have:

- A Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) with responsibility for safeguarding and child protection. This person is Viki Garrett.
- A team of deputy DSLs to support the DSL and members of staff. Our Deputy DSLs are: Karen Slade, Catherine Barber, Christina Ekperigin, Maxine Button, Hazel Smith and Sean Osborne.
- All members of staff receive training throughout the academic year in order to ensure they are kept up to date with key issues and updated guidance.
- A Safeguarding Policy which is updated at least annually and is available on the school website.

- Clear systems in place to monitor the effectiveness of safeguarding at Slade which includes robust monitoring from the school governors.
- A governor with responsibility for safeguarding. This is David Evans.
- Safeguarding reports are presented at the Full Governing Body meetings.

Prevention

We will take positive action to prevent children from suffering abuse and neglect through the development of an open culture that informs children of their rights and encourages them to speak about any concerns. Pupils also learn about keeping themselves safe within the curriculum.

Responding to concerns

In line with guidance, the team of DSLs will agree the best way to respond to any allegations or concerns that are brought to our attention. This may include drawing on support from our Family Liaison Officers or School Counsellor as well as consulting with other agencies. Depending on the seriousness of the allegation or concern we will refer to Children's Social Services. For the majority of cases we will discuss our concerns with parents and carers.

Confidentiality

Information from parents about possible child abuse cannot be kept confidential. Information and records about children on the Child Protection Register will be given only to those people who need it and will be kept strictly confidential by them.

A full copy of the schools safeguarding policy is available on our school website.

(<https://www.slade.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=20>)