ST. PAUL'S C.E PRIMARY SCHOOL - Autumn 1

Safeguarding Newsletter

WHO TO CONTACT If YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD?

If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies straightaway.

If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police on 999

Meet the Safeguarding Team:

The Safeguarding Team oversee and co-ordinate all aspects of the school's work to ensure that children are kept safe. They regularly attend training to ensure their skills and knowledge are up-to-date.

Designated Safeguarding Leads at STP:

Mrs Walton



Miss Harvey



Miss Abram



Mr Cosgrove



School Safeguarding Governors:

Mr. Higgins

All can be contacted via the office or by telephone on:
0161 850 2455

For a copy of our school's Child Protection Policy, please visit the Safeguarding page on our school website: Home - St Paul's CE Primary School



Welcome to Our First Safeguarding Newsletter!

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

Welcome to the **very first St Paul's safeguarding newsletter** and to a brand-new academic year. A particularly warm welcome to all of our new families who have joined the St Paul's community this year.

As we continue to learn, develop and strengthen our understanding of the ever-changing safeguarding landscape as a staff team, we also want to work closely with our parents and carers to ensure that safeguarding remains something we understand and prioritise together.

At **St Paul's C.E. Primary School, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility and our highest priority.** Everyone who encounters our children and families has an important role to play in keeping children safe.

Everything we do has our children at its heart. **Their safety, wellbeing, happiness, health and achievement underpin every decision we make.**

When we talk about safeguarding, it is often associated with child protection and situations where a child may be experiencing, or be at risk of experiencing, harm. However, **safeguarding is much broader than this.** It encompasses a wide range of areas that help children to grow up safely, confidently and healthily.

At St Paul's, we are committed to ensuring that all staff receive **high-quality, up-to-date safeguarding training**, which is regularly revisited throughout the year. Safeguarding is not simply something we cover once a year; it is an ongoing part of our school culture, practice and daily work.

We also recognise the important role that parents and carers play in keeping children safe. Through our curriculum, school communication and partnership with families, we aim to provide children with age-appropriate knowledge and skills to help them understand risks, make safe choices and know where to go for help.

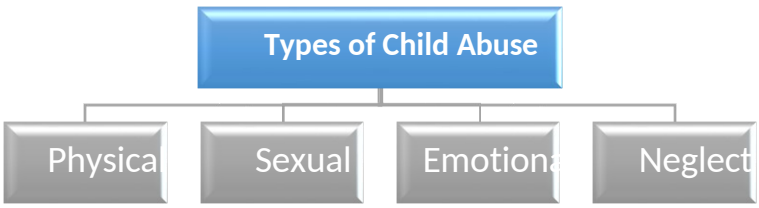
Keeping you informed

From this academic year, we will be sharing a **safeguarding newsletter with families each half term**.

Each edition will provide you with useful and accessible information about safeguarding, including:

- Important safeguarding updates and reminders
- Changes to guidance and legislation
- Key information about current safeguarding themes
- Ways you can support your child to stay safe
- Online safety advice
- Attendance and punctuality
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Signposting to support and services for families

Our first edition introduces you to our **Designated Safeguarding Team** and includes important annual reminders, as well as the importance of **regular attendance and good punctuality**. We hope that this newsletter will help us to build an even stronger safeguarding culture across our school community.



Report any concerns if you suspect a child is being abused or is in danger of being abused. Please contact a Designated Safeguarding Lead, or any member of staff.

You can also contact the Salford Bridge partnership on: 0161 603 4500

Out of Hours service: 0161 794 8888

Immediate danger call 999.

What is a Designated Safeguarding Lead?

Each school must have an appropriate senior member of staff to take lead responsibility for child protection. Key aspects of the 'Designated Safeguarding Lead' role include:

- Ensuring that **all** staff are aware of the processes for raising safeguarding concerns
- Ensuring all staff understand the signs of child abuse and neglect
- Referring any significant concerns to Social Care
- Monitoring children who are the subject of Child Protection and CiN (Child in Need) Plans
- Maintaining accurate and secure child protection records
- Raising awareness of the school's safeguarding policies and procedures, and ensuring these are implemented and reviewed regularly.

Safeguarding Governor Role

The Safeguarding Governor's responsibilities include:

- Ensuring the school is following safer recruitment procedures when recruiting any new staff members
- Reviewing all activity and policy relating to the physical and emotional well-being of all children
- Seeking improvement to ensure the school follows best practice in creating a productive and safe environment for all

Useful Safeguarding Acronyms and Vocabulary

DSL: Designated Safeguarding Lead **MASH:** Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub **CP:** Child Protection
CiN: Child in Need
CEOP: Child Exploitation and On-Line Protection Centre
KCSIE: Keeping Children Safe in Education **PREVENT:** Part of the Government's Counter-Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn in to extremism
CAMHs: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
SEND: Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

The Safeguarding Curriculum

We believe that one of the best ways to safeguard children is to equip them with the knowledge and skills to be able to keep themselves safe. Safeguarding themes are interwoven throughout our curriculum and the opportunities we offer in school. Some examples include:

- Our 'Values' assemblies which are delivered to all children from EYFS to Y6
- Online Safety days with age-appropriate workshops
- Online safety discussions within computing and other relevant lessons
- Involvement in Anti-Bullying Week and Mental Health Awareness Week among others
- Relationships, Sex & Health Education (RSHE) lessons
- Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE) lessons

Our Values for this half term is :

RESPECT
Tolerance, including Black History Month



Attendance Matters

...every school day counts!

We are sure that, like us, you as parents and carers realise the importance of attendance and punctuality. At St Paul's we continue to work hard to maintain our excellent attendance levels and to reduce incidences of lateness.

Attendance facts:

- All schools **must report their termly attendance percentages to the local authority.**
- Parents have a **legal** responsibility to ensure that their child receives a full-time education.
- Parents can be issued with a **fixed penalty notice** for failing to ensure their child attends school regularly – this includes taking a child out of school on holiday.
- **The local authority** has the power to **prosecute parents** in the magistrate's court for the offence of failing to ensure their child attends school regularly.
- If your child arrives after 9am we are required to mark them as having an unauthorised absence for the whole morning – **arriving after 9am once in a week brings their attendance down to 90% for that week.**

There is much evidence to show that good attendance plays a vital role in helping your child to achieve their potential. We also know that poor attendance can lead to other problems for children.

Children who do not attend school regularly **are more likely to:**

- Fall behind in their school work
- Find it difficult to make and keep friends
- Be unhappy at school
- Misbehave so that others cannot see that they are finding the work difficult
- Learn poor attendance habits that follow through to secondary school
- Being frequently late adds up to lost learning. For example, arriving 15 minutes late every day is the same as being absent for 2 weeks of the year
- When children are late they find it harder to settle in to the routine of the day
- When children arrive late they often miss key messages and teaching which continues to have an effect on their learning for the rest of the lesson or day
- Poor punctuality disrupts the class and is embarrassing for the child
- Your child being late disturbs the learning of the whole class

Getting here on time every day <u>really is important</u> in helping your child to become a happy and successful learner.
EVERYDAY COUNTS!



How can you help your child attend school regularly and on time?

- ✓ Talk to your child about school
- ✓ Take a positive interest in your child's work, including their homework
- ✓ Make sure your child understands why school is important
- ✓ Show your child that you are interested in what they have done at school
- ✓ Get everything ready for school the night before
- ✓ Arrange appointments before or after school or during the school holidays wherever possible
- ✓ If an appointment must be taken during the school day, wherever possible bring your child to school before and after that time
- ✓ Take holidays during school holidays and not during term time
- ✓ Set your alarm and an alarm for your child – see who can beat the clock!
- ✓ If your child is just slightly under the weather, still send them in to school. Children often feel better as the day goes on and they get busy. If school is worried, we will call!
- ✓ Children can attend school if they are taking medication – speak to Mrs Cooney in the school office.
- ✓ **We can give children certain medications** with your permission.

Please also ensure that you:

- ✓ Keep in touch with school staff – we may be able to help you with advice, rewards for your child or other incentives for coming in
- ✓ Contact school on the first day of absence if your child is unable to attend for whatever reason and keep in contact on subsequent days
- ✓ Make sure school has up-to-date contact details
- ✓ Attend meetings about your child's attendance if you are invited to do so. At these meetings we can agree an action plan so that school, parents and children can work together to improve things
- ✓ If your child is absent for an appointment, please show the office the appointment card or letter



How can we support at school?

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All staff are all here to support the children in school and you as families. If there are any issues or concerns that cannot be solved by the class teacher who should always be the first port of call, please contact the school office.

If you have any concerns or difficulties affecting your child's attendance, **Miss Abram, our Attendance and Behaviour Lead, is here to help**. She can work with you to understand any barriers to attendance, offer support and help families access the right advice or services where needed.
Please speak to us early if you are experiencing difficulties — **we are here to support, not judge.** Working together, we can help your child attend school regularly and make the most of every opportunity to learn.
Please contact her at: stpoffice@vantageacademies.co.uk

Miss Harvey, our Deputy Headteacher and SENDCo, can work with families to understand whether a child's additional needs are affecting their attendance and consider what support or reasonable adjustments may help them to feel safe, settled and ready to learn.
Miss Harvey will work closely with families, class staff and other professionals where appropriate to make sure the right support is in place. **If you feel your child's additional needs are affecting their attendance, please speak to us early so that we can work together to help.**
Please contact them at: stpoffice@vantageacademies.co.uk

