



Learning Together, Growing Together,
Succeeding Together

Child Protection policy

September 2015

See: Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy

Micklehurst All Saints CE Primary School fully recognises its responsibilities for child protection.

Our policy applies to all staff, governors and volunteers working in the school.

There are six main elements to our policy:

- ensuring we practice safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children through enhanced DBS checks and the regular updating of the Single Central Record
- raising awareness of child protection issues and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe
- developing and then implementing procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse
- supporting pupils who have been abused in accordance with his/her agreed child protection plan
- establishing a safe environment in which children can learn and develop
- we recognise that because of the day to day contact with children, school staff are well placed to observe the outward signs of abuse.

The school will therefore:

- establish and maintain an environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to
- ensure children know that there are adults in the school whom they can approach if they are worried
- include opportunities in PSHE, Computing, the 'Spiral' curriculum and other relevant resource packs e.g. Love Rocks for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse.
- Utilise outside agencies such as NSPCC, Crucial Crew to deliver specific sessions
- Ensure all staff are up to date with new guidance and procedures e.g. Prevent Strategy

We will follow the procedures set out by the Local Safeguarding Children Board and take account of guidance issued by the DFE to:

- identify signs and symptoms to prevent children being abused
- ensure we have a designated person for child protection who has received appropriate training and support for this role

- ensure we have a nominated governor responsible for child protection
- ensure every member of staff (including temporary and supply staff and volunteers) and governing body knows the name of the designated person responsible for child protection and their role. In our school this is the Pastoral Manager, Ruth Wright or the Headteacher, Laura Trelfa.
- ensure all staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated person responsible for child protection. In our school this is the Pastoral Manager
- ensure that parents have an understanding of the responsibility placed on the school and staff for child protection by setting out its obligations in the school prospectus
- notify Children's Social Care if there is an unexplained absence of more than two days of a pupil who has a child protection plan, through the Pastoral Manager, or in her absence, the Headteacher
- develop effective links with relevant agencies and co-operate as required with their enquiries regarding child protection matters at case conferences
- keep written records of concerns about children, even where there is no need to refer the matter immediately
- ensure all records are kept securely, separate from the main pupil file, and in locked locations
- develop and then follow procedures where an allegation is made against a member of staff or volunteer (see 'Whistleblowing' policy)
- meet vetting requirements when recruiting staff, to record this and store them in the headteachers office and use to inform Single Central Record (SCR).

We recognise that children who are abused or witness violence may find it difficult to develop a sense of self worth. They may feel helplessness, humiliation and some sense of blame. The school may be the only stable, secure and predictable element in the lives of children at risk. The school may seek outside help and support for the child where appropriate.

The school will endeavour to support the pupil through:

- the content of the curriculum
- the school's Christian ethos which promotes a positive, supportive and secure environment and gives pupils a sense of being valued and feeling safe
- the school's Behaviour and Anti-bullying policies which are aimed at supporting vulnerable pupils in the school. The school will ensure that the pupil knows that some behaviour is unacceptable but they are valued and not to be blamed for any

abuse which has occurred

- 1:1 time with the Pastoral Manager when needed
- liaison with other agencies that support the pupil such as Children's Social Care, Child and Adult Mental Health Service, Education Welfare Service, School Nurse and Educational Psychology Service
- ensuring that, when a pupil who has a child protection plan leaves, their information is transferred to the new school immediately and that the child's social worker is informed.

Signed: _____(Chair of Governors)

Signed: _____(Headteacher)

Date: