

Child Protection – Parent/Visitor Guidance



2017 - 2018

Safeguarding

Key Personnel:

Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mr S.Gallears

Safeguarding Officer – Ms S.Simpson

In the event of a safeguarding concern the Designated Safeguarding Officer may have to share information with Lewisham Children's Social Care. As a school we use the Keeping Children safe in Education (KCSIE) document which states that everyone is responsible for keeping children safe.

Child Protection

Role of Designated Teacher

- Dealing with Child Protection issues, including individual cases
- Providing advice and support to staff
- Liaising with the Local Authority and working with other agencies
- Be of sufficient status to be able to commit resources and direct staff
- Undertake refresher training every 2 years

What happens when a pupil confides in you

- As an adult in a professional capacity you will be seen by the pupil as being in a position of trust and influence. You are well placed to recognise if a pupil is being abused at home or in the community.
- Your responsibility is not to decide if a child is being abused, that is the responsibility of the Child Protection professionals.

If a pupil starts to confide you

1: They will be told that you may not be able to keep it confidential and ask if they can take notes.

2: Allow the pupil to speak without interruption and take it seriously; note the time.

3: Reassure them, tell them they are brave for talking to you.

4: Actively listen (maintaining eye contact) and keep listening even if what's being said is difficult.

- When the pupil finishes speaking, they will be asked if there is anything else they want to say, if they have told anyone else and then:

It will be explained that you will have to report this to the Designated Teacher for Safeguarding about what they have told you because they are concerned by it

The pupil will be asked if they are happy to go back to lessons or want some time to reflect on what they have discussed with you

Note: This also applies to suspected abuse/concerns as well as disclosed.

Following the disclosure, detailed notes will be made of what has been disclosed – Only the pupil's language used will be documented, this will also include any slang words used.

If the school have serious, immediate concerns for a pupil, which cannot wait for discussion with a member of the Safeguarding Team, a call will be made either to Child Line 0800 1111 or a referral made to the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) team for Child Protection.

