

Botley C of E Primary School

Parental Safeguarding Update: 2022

Parental Questionnaire

Thank you to all of the parents who took the time earlier this week to answer the parental safeguarding questionnaire on the school gate. The outcomes were generally very positive and showed that 95% of the parents that responded were confident that the school has a sound approach to safeguarding and that 95% felt that they would be able to report a concern to the school if they had one.

However, it was really clear that many parents would benefit from more information about safeguarding. There is lots of it available to you, particularly on the school website, but the idea of this update document is to bring some of it together into one place for ease of use. I hope that you do indeed find it helpful.



Mr Joe Cooil, Headteacher

Designated Safeguarding Leads

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is the person appointed to take lead responsibility for child protection issues in a school. The person fulfilling this role must be a senior member of the school's leadership team. All schools must have a Designated Safeguarding Lead in place to deal with child protection concerns. As a larger school we have a 'designated safeguarding team' that supports the DSL. This consists of a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and other senior members of staff that have had DSL training. However, the lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection always remains with the DSL.

For your information, below is this school's Designated Safeguarding Team and how they can be contacted. It is really important that you are confident in contacting us if you feel that you need to.

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mr. Joe Cooil (Headteacher)
j.cooil@botley.hants.sch.uk

Deputy-Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Becci Shuttle (Acting Deputy Headteacher)
r.shuttle@botley.hants.sch.uk

Trained Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Kate Roberts (SENDCo)
k.roberts@botley.hants.sch.uk

Trained Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Gill Westlake (Key Stage One Lead)
g.westlake@botley.hants.sch.uk

Our Statutory Responsibilities

The school's statutory responsibilities with regards to safeguarding and child protection comes from a number of important documents and laws. The key document is entitled "Keeping Children Safe in Education". Each year this document is updated by the Department for Education. The link below will take you to the latest version of this document:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1021914/KCSIE_2021_September_guidance.pdf

We have a number of policies that ensure that we fulfil our legal requirements and these are available for parents to view on the school website in the Policies part of the Parents section. Key policies relating to safeguarding that parents might want to view are:

- Child Protection Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- E-Safety Policy
- Managing Allegation Against Pupils Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy

School Safeguarding Culture

It is important that as a school we do not just follow the procedures and policies as set out within Keeping Children Safe in Education but that we also have a strong and robust culture around safeguarding. To that end we have three key elements to our culture that underpin the work we do at school and are understood by all members of staff:

1. Safeguarding is the most important thing we do.
2. Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility.
3. It could happen here.

Keeping the School Secure

We ensure that the school is a secure sight. The gates are only unlocked just before the end or start of the school day and are closed and relocked quickly. Once the children have started their day the only way for anybody to enter the school sight is through the office. All visitors are required to sign in and have to show appropriate identification before they have access to the school. Visitors are not left unaccompanied on the school site, Regular visitors such as volunteers are always DBS checked.

Staying Safe on School Trips

Whenever we take the children off of the school site we ensure that they are kept safe just as they are when they are in the school building. Before we go on any school trip a senior member of staff who will be leading the trip always undertakes a pre-visit. From this they produce a comprehensive risk assessment that ensures that any risks are clearly thought about in advance and can be appropriately mitigated. We also always ensure that we have an appropriate adult to child ratio and are grateful in the support we get with trips from our parental body, which allows us to do this.

E-Safety

Staying safe online is a hugely important aspect of the lives of our children in the modern world. The children learn about this through the curriculum in both PSHE and computing lessons. Although this subject is stranded through their learning we also participate in significant events such as Safer Internet Day. Every year we look to have an outside speaker who works with the children on this topic and we have also regularly run E-Safety workshops for parents. The last one of these was in June 2021. As a school, we believe that for parents knowing how to support your child to use modern communications technology safely is imperative. Earlier this academic year we sent out a flyer to support parents with this. It is available on the school's website but is also attached to this email for ease of access.