

School is working with you or your child please feel confident to speak to us. The safeguarding staff will always be happy to speak to you. It is better to speak to us as soon as you have a concern so that it does not become a bigger issue.

### **Safeguarding includes a wide range of issues such as...**

- Bullying
- Fire safety
- Child abuse
- Young carers
- Private fostering
- Running away
- Eating disorders
- Disabled children
- Child protection
- Depression
- Mental Health issues
- Domestic violence
- Gangs and weapons
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Road safety
- Sexual exploitation
- Child trafficking
- Drugs & alcohol
- Self harm
- E-Safety
- Health & Safety issues
- Prevention of Radicalisation

### **Recognising abuse**

At the most extreme, safeguarding is the protection of children and young people from abuse.

Child abuse is when anyone under 18 is being harmed or isn't being looked after properly.

Sometimes a child or young person can be abused by a stranger, or by another child or young person, but usually they know the person who is causing them harm.

Children and young people can be abused anywhere, for example at home, at school, a local sports centre or after school club, etc. Sometimes someone else knows what is happening, but they don't stop it. This is wrong too!

### **Types of abuse**

There are 4 main types of abuse: Emotional, Physical, Sexual and Neglect.

#### **Emotional abuse**

Is when parents/carers fail to show their children sufficient love or attention or when they threaten, taunt or belittle them, causing them to become nervous, withdrawn, aggressive, or disturbed in their behaviour.

#### **Physical abuse**

Is when parents/carers or adults deliberately inflict injuries on a child or a young person, or do not protect their child from being physically harmed by someone else.

#### **Sexual abuse**

Is when an adult, child or a young person involves a child or a young person in sexual activity to which they do not, or cannot, consent because of their age or understanding.

#### **Persistent or severe neglect**

Is when a parent/carer fails to meet a child or a young person's essential need for food, clothing, shelter or medical care, or when children are left without proper supervision which leaves them unsafe or unprotected.

#### **Domestic abuse**

The school receives an alert from the police when a Domestic Abuse event happens in a child's family. They will offer support, monitor and contact Social Care if they have other concerns.

**THANKYOU FOR READING THIS IMPORTANT LEAFLET. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE SCHOOL IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS OR ISSUES RELATING TO SAFEGUARDING.**



## **Keeping Children Safe in Education**

### **Information for Parents**

- Mr Mike Spackman – Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Mrs Sue Haynes – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Mrs Fiona Fergie – Safeguarding Lead
- Miss Elizabeth Wogan – Safeguarding Lead
- Miss Paula Hubbort – Safeguarding Lead
- Mr Ian Evans – Safeguarding Lead

## What is Safeguarding?

All children and young people need to have trusted adults around them to make sure they are kept safe from harm by other people or from hurting themselves. It is also about taking action to enable all children to have the best possible outcomes.

## How can this be done?

We should ensure that all children and young people:

- Are well cared for
- Are healthy
- Are safe
- Have the best chances in life

And that:

- All people working with children and young people are safe and suitable to do so
- All places where children and young people go are safe.

## Safeguarding is also about...

- Giving support to children, young people and their families
- Getting other people to help if necessary
- Early identification and intervention if a child or young person needs help
- Knowing what to do if you're worried about a child or young person
- Recognising if a child or young person is at risk of harm or abuse
- Taking action to protect the child or young person.

Safeguarding is about working together to prevent harm or abuse happening in the first place. It's not just about protecting and getting involved with those families where children and young people are most at risk of harm or being hurt.

**Everyone is responsible for safeguarding children and young people.**

## What Schools Must Do

A child should be able to go to school and feel safe so that they can achieve their very best.

- Anybody who works or volunteers at St. Peter's Catholic School will be checked by the Police (vetted) to make sure they are safe to work with children and then trained to identify child abuse and what to do if they are concerned.
- St Peter's Catholic School has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who has had extra training to know what to do when a concern is brought to them.

The DSL is: **Mr Mike Spackman**

The DDSL is: **Mrs Sue Haynes**

The Anti-Bullying Champion is: **Mr Mike Spackman**

The E-Safety Champion is: **Mr Iain Browne**

The Pastoral Support Worker is: **Mrs Clare Czechak**

- We will always listen to you and work closely with you if we are concerned about your child but, sometimes, we may not be able to discuss our concern. The school has a safeguarding policy which tells you more about this and when we must speak to the Police or Children's Services. Please ask us about how you can see a copy of this policy.
- We will help your child to learn about keeping themselves safe. Lessons can include healthy eating, anti-bullying, e-safety, road safety, healthy relationships, drug and alcohol awareness. As part of these lessons your child will be told what to do if they are worried or concerned about their safety.

## What Parents/Carers Must Do

Parents/Carers are the most important people to keep their children safe. You should always

- Feel confident to raise concerns about your child.
- Talk to the school if you need help or support.
- Let the school know if you have any court orders relating to the safety of your child.

- Let the school know if there is a change in your circumstances such as a house move, a new contact number, a change of name, a change of parental responsibility.
- Let the school know who will be dropping off or collecting your child and two other emergency contacts. You must inform the school of any changes to agreed arrangements.
- Let the school know if your child is going to be absent and the reasons why.

## Safeguarding Issues

**Attendance** – your child's attendance is monitored daily and significant absences are always followed up by the attendance officer. The school has an attendance policy that you should read and understand.

**Behaviour** – St. Peter's Catholic School has clear behaviour rules for the whole school community that must be followed to keep everyone safe and happy. We understand that children do sometimes fall out and this will be dealt with by an adult who will listen to the children involved and help resolve the situation.

**Bullying** – the school takes all cases of bullying very seriously and will work with children and families to try and resolve any problems. The school has an anti-bullying policy that you should read and understand.

**Health & Safety** – Everyone at St. Peter's Catholic School has a responsibility to ensure that adults and children work in a safe environment. The school has a clear health and safety policy which everyone must follow. The school has fully trained first-aiders to deal with any accidents in school.

**E-Safety** – The school recognises that technology plays an important role in the education of children and is committed to safeguarding them in the virtual world. To support parents, the school has e-safety information to help keep your children safe both in school and at home.

**Complaints** – If you have any complaints about how the