

Child Friendly Safeguarding Policy

Elmore Green Primary School



You don't have to keep your worries a secret!



What is this policy?

All schools have a Safeguarding Policy for staff, families and governors. This is a child friendly policy, designed to be easier to read for young people and should be read as a guide to the main policy.

This is to help you decide what could be a problem and where to get help and support when you need it. It is really important that you know who you can talk to and also when you might need to talk to them.

What is safeguarding?



The NSPCC defines safeguarding as "the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm." It ensures all children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care. **We want you to feel safe, and if you don't, it is important for you to talk to somebody.**



Who should you talk to if you have a problem?

You might have seen or heard the phrase DSL, but what does it mean?

DSL stands for Designated Safeguarding Lead. In every school, there are people who have the responsibility of keeping you safe. At Elmore Green, our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

- Mrs Jones-McDonald (Head DSL)
- Miss Flood (Deputy DSL)
- Mr Jones (Deputy DSL)
- Mrs Lloyd (Deputy DSL)
- Mr Dinneen (Deputy DSL)

However, all member of staff are trained to know how to keep children safe. **Remember you can talk to any member of staff at school that you trust.**

What sort of problems should you talk to a member of staff about?



- If someone has said something to you, or you have heard something that you do not like or upsets you. This can be at school or outside of school.
- If someone is bullying you.
- If someone has asked you if you want to smoke a cigarette, or to have a drink of something that you do not know.
- If someone has hit, punched, smacked or hurt you in any way.
- If somebody has touched you on a part of your body that makes you feel uncomfortable:

It is not okay for someone to touch you and make you feel uncomfortable. People who do things like this often lie and tell you things to frighten you, to make sure you don't tell anyone. It is important to remember it is not your fault, and you must tell someone at school so we can help you.



What are the most common safeguarding concerns?

Physical Abuse - hitting, smacking, shaking, throwing, burning, biting etc.

Sexual Abuse - be aware this doesn't always mean touching a child. It could be someone making you watch things of a sexual nature or encouraging you to act in an inappropriate way.

Neglect - This can involve not providing meals, warmth, clothing or perhaps not taking you to doctors appointments when you need to go. There can be lots of different types of neglect, **so it is really important that school know what is happening, so that we can help.**

Emotional Abuse - This is often someone upsetting you or making you feel bad. **If someone says hurtful things to you, then you should speak to a member of staff you trust.** They will be able to support you

Remember these are just a few examples. If you think you are dealing with one of these issues, or something similar, then you should talk to someone to get help.

What happens when you tell somebody?



If you speak to a member of staff, sometimes they will need to discuss the problem with your DSL. Please try and understand that staff, and the DSL, only want to help you and make you feel better about the situation.

Sometimes, they may need to contact some other agencies for support. These may be Children's Social Care (social workers) or the Police. This might sound a little bit scary, but the social workers and the Police will be specialist professionals who are great at helping young people.

There are lots of other agencies who support children and their families, sometimes these may be youth workers, mentors or family support workers.

Don't worry, your DSL and trusted member of staff will talk to you and explain all of this, and you can always go and ask them questions if you are unsure about anything. **They are there to help you.**

Who else could I talk to about my problems?



If you feel like you can't talk to someone that you know about your problem, you can contact Childline. They are trusted adults and can offer you support and advice. You can either call them for free, or visit their website where you can speak to a counsellor online. They also

