



POLICY FOR PUPILS ON CONFIDENTIALITY WHEN IT CONCERNS CHILD PROTECTION OR ANTI- BULLYING

In this policy the following members of staff are referred to:

TITLE	NAME
Head Teacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead	Claire Murdoch
Deputy Safeguarding Lead	Gill Sinclair
EYFS Safeguarding Lead	Ambika Curbishley

INTRODUCTION

This policy sets out how the School wants to encourage pupils to talk to people they trust, either at school or outside of it, about concerns they may have with their safeguarding and well-being and how the School will ensure the confidentiality of anything that a pupil says.

Child abuse is when someone under 18 is being harmed or is not being looked after properly. People (they may be an adult or another child) who abuse children may look, and otherwise behave, as quite ordinary respectable people. This can make it difficult for children to be believed, or to find help. Every year in Britain, a large number of babies, young children and teenagers are abused, neglected or deliberately harmed. We have to make sure this is not happening to our pupils. We are all of us responsible for protecting children and young people from harm.

WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE?

The NSPCC says:

"Child abuse is any action by another person – adult or child – that causes significant harm to a child. It can be physical, sexual or emotional, but can just as often be about a lack of love, care and attention. We know that neglect, whatever form it takes, can be just as damaging to a child as physical abuse.

An abused child will often experience more than one type of abuse, as well as other difficulties in their lives. It often happens over a period of time, rather than being a one-off event. And it can increasingly happen online.

A child may be experiencing abuse if they are:

- Frequently dirty, hungry or inadequately dressed;
- Left in unsafe situations, or without medical attention;
- Constantly "put down," insulted, sworn at or humiliated;
- Severely bruised or injured
- Being bullied at home, school or online
- Growing up in a home where there is domestic violence;
- Living with parents or carers involved in serious drug or alcohol abuse.
- Being exposed to sexual activity on a contact or noncontact basis
- Exhibiting signs of harmful sexual behaviour
- Being exposed to criminal activity.

This list does not cover every child abuse possibility. We can include being drawn into terrorism, or being drawn into support for the extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology.

The NSPCC says: "Abuse is always wrong and it is never the young person's fault."

WHAT CAN YOU DO IF YOU ARE WORRIED?

Although it may be difficult, and we know how hard it can be sometimes to share worries, but it is important to talk to somebody:

- If it happens to you, tell someone whom you trust, at once. You need help.
- If it happens to a friend, advise them to tell someone at once. They need help.
- Or use the Worry boxes there is one in every classroom.

WHO CAN YOU TALK TO?

The Head Teacher is the School's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). You can see the Head Teacher at any time if you are being abused or someone that you know is being abused and even if the abuse is taking place outside school. The Deputy DSL of the School and the Deputy DSL, EYFS are also available to speak to at any time. Their names are at the top of this policy.

Some people may prefer to speak to their class teacher or to another member of staff. The important thing is that you talk to someone whom you trust, who will listen to you.

DO YOU WANT TO TALK TO SOMEONE OUTSIDE SCHOOL?

- In an emergency, call the police on telephone 999
- If important, but not an emergency, you could use any of the following contact details to call someone for help or advice:
- ChildLine is a free confidential helpline for children and young people. You can call any time on 0800 11 11, or look at their website at www.childline.org.uk
- The NSPCC have a contact line on 0808 800 5000 for children and young people.
- The Samaritans can be called at any time on 08457 909090
- The local authority
- You could use the internet to find out more; or to make contact:
- Kidscape has helpful advice and contact details at www.kidscape.org.uk
- Another helpful website is www.worriedneed2talk.org.uk

BULLYING

- Any form of bullying is not allowed under the School's expected standards of behaviour.
- The School wants children to take care of each other. If you come across bullying, whether of you or of anyone you know, tell your teacher or any other member of staff outlined above.
- All reported incidents will be investigated at once and we always make a record of reported incidents and the investigation which follows.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Whoever you talk to in the School will take you seriously, but won't ask too many questions. We are careful to get the right people, who are experienced in keeping children safe, to come and help you. We have to ask experts to advise you. We will work to keep you safe; but you may also need professional support from a specialist.

We promise to do all we can to ensure that the other parts of your life are not disrupted more than is necessary.

Please remember no teacher or other member of staff is allowed to keep this type of information to themselves. They have to pass it on so that help can be obtained. However, only those who need to know will be told. We will explain this at the time and tell you who has to be told and the reason. We will suggest that you talk to them yourself.

REMEMBER - nobody has the right to harm or abuse children. It is very important that you tell someone.

Claire Murdoch
Head Teacher
August 2023

Review approved by Deborah Livsey CEO
New Model School Company Ltd
August 2023

Next review date: August 2024.

APPENDIX

RELATED SAFEGUARDING POLICIES

Please refer to the following policies, all available at our website, which relate to Safeguarding matters and which should be read in conjunction with each other:

- **Anti-Bullying Policy**
- **Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy**
- **Educational Visits - EYFS Policy**
- **Educational Visits Policy**
- **Health and Safety General Policy**
- **Induction of New Staff, Board Members and Volunteers in Safeguarding Policy**
- **Missing Child Policy and Procedures when a Child is not Collected on Time**
- **e- Safety Policy**
- **Policy for Pupils on Confidentiality**
- **Recruitment, Selection and Disclosures Policy**
- **Staff Code of Conduct Policy**
- **Taking, Storing and Using Images of Children Policy**