



Safeguarding at St Nicholas

- Keeping our children safe, happy and heard.

Welcome to our first safeguarding newsletter of the year!

Friday 4 September 2026

Safeguarding is a word we hear a lot in schools, but what does it actually mean?

At St Nicholas CE Primary Academy, keeping children safe is at the heart of everything we do. Safeguarding isn't just the job of one person or one team — it is something that all of us play a part in every day.

Our aim is simple: **we want every child to feel safe, valued, listened to and respected.** We want our children to know that there are trusted adults around them who they can talk to whenever they are worried, upset or unsure about something.

What does safeguarding mean?

Safeguarding is about **protecting children from harm and promoting their wellbeing.**

It also means helping children to:

- recognise potential risks
- make safe and sensible choices
- understand healthy relationships
- know how to keep themselves safe
- have the confidence to speak to a trusted adult when something doesn't feel right.

Safeguarding is part of **everyday life at St Nicholas**. It includes:

Online safety

Helping children stay safe when using the internet, games, apps and social media.

Friendships and relationships

Teaching kindness, respect, boundaries and what healthy relationships look like.

Keeping safe

Helping children recognise different risks and understand how to respond.

Emotional wellbeing

Making sure children know who they can talk to when they are worried, upset or struggling.

Attendance

Working with families to make sure children attend school regularly and are safe and well.

Behaviour and bullying

Promoting positive behaviour and supporting children when they experience difficulties with others.

First aid and health

Making sure we are ready to respond when children become unwell or are injured.

Trips, visits and activities

Carefully planning clubs, trips and activities so that children can enjoy exciting experiences safely.

Child protection

Taking action when we have concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing.

We listen to our children

One of the **most important parts of safeguarding is listening.**

We encourage all of our pupils to talk to a trusted adult if something is worrying them. This could be their teacher, a member of our safeguarding team or another adult they feel comfortable talking to.

We want our children to know:

- **You can talk to us.**
- **We will listen.**
- **We will take you seriously.**
- **We will help you.**

Sometimes children may find it difficult to explain what is worrying them, and that's okay. We will always try to create a safe and supportive space for them to talk.



Meet the Safeguarding Team at St Nicholas.

We have a dedicated team who oversee safeguarding and child protection across our school.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Mrs Victoria Turner

Deputy DSLs

Mr Dale • Mrs Starmer-Smith • Mrs Gunn • Mrs Smith • Mrs Lee • Mrs Pursey • Mrs Butler • Mrs Richardson

All members of staff receive safeguarding training and are expected to remain alert to signs that a child may need help or support.

Our safeguarding team works closely with staff, families and, where appropriate, outside agencies to make sure children receive **the right support at the right time.**



What happens if we have a concern?

If a child tells an adult something that worries us, or we notice something that makes us concerned about their safety or wellbeing, **we have a responsibility to take action.**

Often, this will simply mean that a member of our safeguarding team contacts you to talk through the situation, hear your perspective and, where appropriate, offer support or signpost you to another service.

Sometimes, when a concern is more serious, we may need to seek advice or make a referral to **Early Help or Children's Social Care**. If this happens, it is because we are acting in the best interests of the child and following our safeguarding responsibilities.

We understand that this can sometimes feel worrying for families. Please be assured that **our aim is always to support children and families and to make sure children are safe.**

Safeguarding information is treated sensitively and confidentially, and our safeguarding team will work together to ensure that concerns are appropriately managed.

Remember, if you have any worries or concerns about safeguarding, please come and talk to us. DSLs are always available on the gates in the morning and afternoon.