

Dorset's Disability Charity

Diverse Abilities

Langside School

Safeguarding Children and Young People at Langside School

Good Practice Guidelines for Parents

This booklet is designed to help all parents and carers who visit our school, including at the beginning and the end of the school day, to understand the expected behaviour around our children in order to ensure their safety. All adults coming onto the school premises, have a duty of care towards the welfare of the children at our school and that of all adults.

Together we have a collective responsibility

Our Designated Safeguarding Leaders in school are:

Safeguarding Lead - Jonathan Seaward

Deputy Safeguarding Lead - Lynda Larke

Deputy Safeguarding Lead - Hazel Thomas

These members of staff are responsible for speaking to parents if concerns arise, and making referrals to Children's Social care with, or without, parental permission.

What is safeguarding?

Every child can potentially be hurt, put at risk from harm or abused regardless of their age, gender, religion or ethnicity.

Safeguarding means that:

- children are protected from mistreatment
- a child's health, or development, is protected
- children grow up with safe and effective care
- action is taken to ensure the best outcomes for all children

Safeguarding is the action we take to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. It is everyone's responsibility.

Equally we are all responsible for ensuring we all safeguard each other as adults.

Child Protection

This is the process of protecting children who may be suffering from, or at risk of, significant harm. This includes physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect and emotional harm.

Child protection promotes the rights and welfare of all children.

Resources for parents to help safeguard their children

The NSPCC website has some fantastic resources to help parents educate their children about keeping themselves safe.

Visit their website at www.nspcc.org.uk

Social Networking

Talking on Facebook - Please refrain from discussing the school, or its staff, on a social networking site such as Facebook or Twitter. This protects not only the school but yourselves too! Members of staff can, and will, contact the police if there are malicious comments made about them.

Photographs - If you would like to upload any photographs of your children at school events such as school productions please remember that only your own child should be on the picture. We have some children who cannot, for safety reasons, be photographed.

Think: how would you feel if your child was visible online without your permission or your knowledge?

School Guidelines

By following these simple guidelines you safeguard students at our school and yourself.

Parents in the school grounds

1. Parents must never approach other peoples' children to discuss any type of issue with them. This is unacceptable and the school will take immediate action should this happen. This will involve calling Children's Social Care as this is our legal duty. We may also call the police. When threatening and unfamiliar adults approach children, they feel: **frightened, vulnerable, unsafe, scared, intimidated.**

You wouldn't like your child to feel this way. Take the right approach – come into school and let us deal with it.

2. Parents should not approach other parents if they have an issue with either them or their child. This is not the right way to deal with problems and leads to:

- **unacceptable behaviour on our school grounds**
- **children feeling frightened**
- **both adults and children feeling unsafe on school grounds**

If you see, or hear, something that concerns you regarding the welfare of one of our students:

- **come into school and speak to one of the designated staff**
- **make a note of the concern including the time, date,**
- **factual details and names where possible; pass this information to school. You can remain anonymous if you wish.**

Remember together we have a shared responsibility