



# St. Stephen's Catholic Primary School



## Our Child-Friendly Safeguarding Policy

Here, at St. Stephen's we believe that it is the right of ALL children to feel safe and secure. When we feel safe, we usually feel good about ourselves. When we feel safe, we can relax, learn and enjoy life.

## **Safeguarding at St. Stephen's: Feeling safe and happy at school**

At St. Stephen's Primary School, we want to make sure that you feel looked after, safe and happy when you are in school, as well as when you are out of school, too.

This booklet, which is known as a "policy", looks at what we do to make sure you are kept safe, and what you can do when you think someone is hurting you or someone else. Sometimes we don't know if something bad is happening, so you need to tell us and we will help you.

We can help you by:

- teaching you what safeguarding is;
- teaching you what to do if you feel worried or scared;
- making sure you know who you can speak to if you are worried.

If you don't understand something or have any questions about what you read in the policy, please ask your teacher for help.

### **What does 'Safeguarding' mean?**

'Safeguarding' refers to all the things we do to make sure you are kept safe from any harm. Safeguarding means that all adults in school will do their best to:

- protect you from harm;
- make sure nothing stops you being healthy or developing properly;
- make sure you are safely looked after;
- make sure you have the best life chances and can grow up happy and successful.

**All** adults in school agree to ensure that you feel happy, safe and secure we must do the following things:

- make the school a friendly, welcoming and supportive place to spend time in – somewhere you want to be;
- be there for you to talk to if you need to and know who to ask for help;
- give you safe messages in your lessons to help you learn how to look after yourself both online and in the real world;
- have all the right rules in place to help look after you.



**All adults in school will follow these rules all of the time.**

### **Staying Safe**

- If you are worried about something, you can talk to any adult in school that you trust. This could be your teacher or any staff member. If you need to talk, we will listen.
- We respect you and want to keep you safe, so we will do our best to help you to feel safe and happy. We will also teach you how to spot risks and what you can do keep yourself safe.
- We think it is important for you to know where to get help if you are worried or unhappy about something, and we will do our best to spot if there is a problem.

We will always make time to listen and talk if you need us, please remember:

- You are important to us.
- It's never your fault if someone is hurting you.
- There is always someone that can help you and you will not be in trouble.
- If someone is hurting you, they may also be hurting someone else, so it is important that you tell someone to make it stop and know that you will be kept safe.
- Every child should enjoy the right to a happy and safe childhood – do not be scared to tell someone if there is anything worrying you.

## What is 'Abuse'?

When someone hurts you it can be called **abuse**. This is when someone does something to you that is harmful, unpleasant or painful like:

- deliberately hits, hurts or injures you;
- deliberately humiliates you;
- deliberately hurts your feelings, makes you feel sad or sad;
- threatens you;
- abandons you or does not take proper care of you;
- touches you in a way that you do not like;
- makes you feel ashamed, embarrassed or guilty;
- some people may give you presents or ask you to keep secrets.



## Who to talk to?

- It is very important that you tell someone you trust if someone behaving in a way that is making you feel uncomfortable, is hurting you or is frightening you.
- It is important that you tell someone as soon as someone starts hurting or harming you or you think that this is happening to someone else.
- Speaking to someone like your parent, carer or teacher will mean that we can make sure the behaviour (abuse) stops and doesn't happen again.

## Designated Safeguarding Team

- At St. Stephen's, it is every adult's responsibility to safeguard and keep you safe.
- We are all responsible for keeping you safe, but there is a special team of people, **Designated Safeguarding Team**, who are in charge of making sure that any unwanted behaviour (abuse) stops, or if you have any worries or concerns, they can help you make things better.

Designated Safeguarding  
Lead



Mr Fallon  
Headteacher

Designated Safeguarding  
Lead



Mrs Long  
Deputy Headteacher

Designated Safeguarding  
Deputy



Mrs Denton  
SENCO



## The St. Stephen's Pledge

Every day we will help you in the following ways:

- We will do our best to spot if there is a problem.
- We will work with other people (including the people at home and people who work in other places) to help protect you and solve any problems you may have.
- We will listen to you if you want to talk to us and need our help.
- We will always take you seriously.
- We will support and encourage you and will respect your wishes and views.



**Remember:** Every child has the right to be happy and have a healthy and safe childhood. **Our trusted adults in school are always ready and willing to listen.**



## Tips for keeping yourself safe

### Bullying

If you think a pupil or a grown up is bullying you or someone you know, you must tell your mum or dad or the person who looks after you, a teacher or someone you can trust as soon as you can.

### Saying funny things to you

If a pupil or a grown up says something to you, or you hear something that you do not like or that upsets you, you must tell your mum or dad, a teacher or someone you can trust.



### Touching you

Your body belongs to you and not to anyone else. This means all of your body. If someone touches you on a part of your body like your bottom, chest or anywhere else you do not like, it is not ok. You must tell your mum or dad, a teacher or someone you can trust as soon as you can.

### Hitting, punching or smacking you

If a pupil or a grown up hits, punches or smacks you or hurts you in any way, you must tell your mum or dad, a teacher or someone you can trust as soon as you can.

### Secrets

Secrets such as surprise parties are fun, but some secrets are not good and should never be kept. Bullying should not be kept a secret and no-one should ask you to keep a kiss, hug or touch a secret. You must tell your mum or dad, a teacher or someone you can trust as soon as you can. Do not keep a secret.



### Presents

Presents are a good thing to get, but you should not take a present from anyone without checking with your parents first. Most of the time it will be ok, but sometimes people try and trick children into doing something by giving them presents (like sweets, money or phones) This is sometimes called a bribe. If it does not seem right, tell someone as soon as you can.



## On the computer or your phone



Computers and mobile phones help us all to share things and talk to our friends or family, but they can also make it easier for bullies and other people that want to hurt you to get close to you. It is



important to know how to keep yourself safe on your computer, your phone and on websites. St. Stephen's Primary School has an e-safety policy which is there to protect you. If you are unhappy with any comments or photographs you've seen on your computer or mobile then you can also contact [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) as well as adults in school.

## Useful Numbers and Websites

Childline 0800 11 11

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/our-services/childline>

NSPCC – 0808 800 5000

If you don't feel you can speak to someone you can complete a form and place it in one of the 'Worry' boxes in your classroom.

Name:

I would like to talk to .....

about .....

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