



Settle and Malhamdale Federation



Safeguarding Statement of Intent

We are committed to ensuring the welfare and safety of all children in school. It is absolutely paramount that we provide a safe and secure environment for children, staff and visitors and promote a climate where children feel confident sharing concerns about their own safety or the well-being of others. It is important that our school is **transparent** and **open** and that we remain vigilant when it comes to managing the welfare and interests of our pupils.

- We are here to look after children and keep them safe from harm. It is a responsibility that each member of staff and each person working in the school should take extremely seriously.
- It is vitally important that staff follow agreed school policy and are proactive reporting breaches to the safeguarding lead and / or headteacher.
- No one working at the school is exempt from scrutiny or accountability.
- Staff have a duty of care to look after the children and to do so with integrity and fairness.
- It is the number one duty every professional working in school must follow and breaches in child protection guidelines and policy will be taken seriously.
- When it comes to following guidelines and regulations mistakes can occasionally occur however repeated breaches will not be tolerated and on reporting to the designated lead/Headteacher they WILL be investigated. Breaches in school policy can lead to disciplinary action and the involvement of North Yorkshire's Safeguarding Team and/or the Police.
- The system relies on openness, trust, transparency and everyone playing their part. It is about putting child welfare first, even if it means to do so places the staff member in an uncomfortable position. We are here to look after children.
- Documents and policies are meaningless if the content is not followed or the culture means that the rules are not followed or ignored.

Safeguarding Intent of our Federation Partnership

- To support all pupils who may have been or are at risk of abuse
- To establish and maintain an ethos where pupils feel safe and secure
- To ensure staff and governors are appropriately trained and fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all pupils
- Child Protection concerns are dealt with sensitively following policies and procedures in place

Safeguarding Implementation

- Safeguarding in our school involves all staff, governors, parents and pupils.
- Staff and governors are committed to undergoing annual safeguarding training and are aware of the correct policies and procedures to follow when concerns arise.
- Pupils are taught safeguarding context through PSHE lessons and also through assemblies and workshops delivered by outside agencies.

- Our Curriculum for Life Strategy is designed to promote self-sufficiency and empowerment in young people. Children are encouraged to learn the skills to equip them to stay safe and know how to respond to personal concerns.
- We aim to maintain positive relationships with parents and carers wherever possible and we will, in most circumstances, discuss concerns with parents about their child/ren.
- Staff must be particularly mindful of those pupils who may be or are at risk of abuse of any form.
- Safeguarding sheets must be completed if there is any doubt as to the well-being of a child
- School audits of school practice including parent and pupil surveys will be used by the headteacher and safeguarding lead to monitor feedback and to look out for safeguarding concerns.

Responsibilities

- The specific responsibilities of staff and governors are outlined in full in our policy but one must remember that EVERYONE has a part to play in keeping children safe.
- The Headteacher, together with the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead monitors safeguarding concerns across the school.
- Staff and governors have a professional and moral duty to maintain a safe ethos within school and have a duty to be aware of the correct procedures to follow in case of concerns arising.
- Staff are aware that our policies for safeguarding are on the websites of the school should they be required for reference. Often policies are emailed directly to staff to check and oversee but key safeguarding policies will be maintained on display via the website for staff and parent/public view.

Any staff member, parent, governor or child who believes there is a safeguarding issue MUST inform the Designated Lead Mr Wright (Settle base) 01729 822019 or Deputy Designated Lead Mrs Allen (Kirkby Malham base) 01729 830214

Richard Wright

Executive Headteacher/Designated Lead

Updated September 2020

Next Review: September 2021