



Safeguarding and Child Protection at St Oswald's C. E. Primary School

Safeguarding & Child Protection is the most important issue for our children at St Oswald's. At St Oswald's we feel it is crucial to work with our parents and the agencies that support our schools and young people, so that we can offer a safe environment allowing children to be aware of the risks they may face and how to respond to them safely.

Some parents may find some of the content in this newsletter to be inappropriate or deem it not necessary for their child. Or even for children of a Primary school age. However, these issues do exist and it is important that we are aware of them and have the right tools at hand to be able to support in a sensitive and age appropriate way.

What is the role of DSL at St Oswald's C.E. Primary? The designated safeguarding Lead (DSL) has a vital role in taking lead responsibility for child protection issues in school. DSL's must be senior members of the school's leadership team and currently at St Oswald's we have a DSL and a deputy DSL. The DSL is always available during school hours for staff to discuss any safeguarding concerns. DSL's are trained to take on this role and the training is updated every two years with additional CPD and conferences taken to enhance knowledge. The DSL has many responsibilities. They give advice, manage referrals, provide training and investigate concerns.

A Safeguarding Curriculum

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024 (KCSiE) reminds us that safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes in to contact with children and their families has a role to play. This means that they should always consider what is in the best interest of the child.

At St Oswald's we believe that it is important to have opportunities for our children to learn how to stay safe both in and outside of school- this learning comes from parents and staff. Safeguarding awareness and

Useful Vocabulary &

Acronyms

DSL; Designated safeguarding Lead

PREVENT; Part of the Governments Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn into extremism

LADO; Local Authority Designated Officer who deals with position of trust safeguarding issues

CEOP; Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre

National Online Safety; Online training and support for families about all things online

KCSiE; Keeping Children Safe in Education- this is available on the schools website within their safeguarding pages.

Who's who at St Oswald's

Mrs Wood is the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Mrs Mansfield is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)

Mrs Mansfield; SENDCO

Mrs Wood; Online safety Lead

Safeguarding Governors; Vee Monro, Thomas Kidsley

If you are concerned about anything then please contact Mrs Wood the DSL or use the 'My Voice' Platform to share your concerns.



If you believe that a child or an adult is at immediate risk of harm and in need of protection then you should call the Police - 999 straight away.

Useful Vocabulary &

Acronyms

CAMH's; Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

My Concern; Safeguarding record System (Safeguarding and child protection software for schools used at St Oswald's)

EHA; Early Help Assessment

SEND; Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

We have a wealth of information on our Safeguarding Pages on our school website which includes sign posting, important documents and contact details.

<https://www.stoswaldsschool.co.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding&pid=10>

If you believe that any child is in danger ring Call Derbyshire on 01629 533190 or Starting Point on 01629 535353 choosing the option for urgent child protection calls at any time.

You can also contact.



understanding of issues including but not limited to; drugs and alcohol education, inequality, mental health, bullying, online safety, discrimination, gender violence, radicalisation.

During this term we will be discussing in school as part of our whole school education programme;

- How to stay safe on the playground.
- Friendships and relationships and how we manage friendships and relationships. We teach our children (And we model) what healthy relationships look like - this is part of life long learning that will shape how your child views future interactions with people.
- Online safety- we are teaching children how to 'Be SMART on-line',
- World Mental Health Day
- Behaviour practices within school- following the Behaviour Policy which follows the Golden Rules and the school values.
- Religious education reinforces the messages of respect, tolerance of different beliefs with opportunities to learn about different faiths and beliefs.
- In our Collective Worship there has been a focus on British Values and how we live these out in our daily lives.
- We talk openly about anatomy and similarities and differences (in an age appropriate way)
- We teach your child that they can say 'NO' if the behaviour of another person crosses a boundary or makes them feel uncomfortable.
- We also talk to our children about trusted adults and we teach children to tell someone they trust if they are worried, or upset.

Each month I share on the newsletters information to support you as parents in the online world and I hope that you find this useful.

This newsletter is the first of termly newsletters where I will share Safeguarding information and news with you to help you and your child navigate the world in which we live.

Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 11th February 2025

Safer Internet Day is coming up fast. Although it shouldn't be the only time in the year when we look at online safety, it provides a national focus and an opportunity for parents to discuss with their children any challenges linking to staying safe online.

The theme for this year's Safer Internet Day is 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. Question to consider include:

- How is changing technology like generative AI going to impact the approach of scammers?
- What role can the government and internet industry take to tackle this threat?
- What changes would young people like to see to help protect themselves moving forward?

If Santa delivered new technology for your children at Christmas, you may need some support in adding parental controls. Internet Matters can support you give your child a safe space to explore their curiosity online. Their step-by-step parental controls guides will help you to set up the right controls and privacy settings on the networks, gadgets, apps, and sites they use to give them a safer online experience.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

The Nights are Drawing in!



It is getting darker earlier now the clocks have changed and we need to all be mindful of walking around at night and think about the clothes and colours we are wearing.

Visibility is key here- children need to be seen not just by motorists but other pedestrians. Explain to children why they should not run across the road, show them how to identify safe places to cross and reinforce the importance of road safety.

The first Aid for life organisation shares some really useful tips.

[Keeping Children Safe in the Dark | Road Safety Tips for All Ages](#)



Stay safe in winter - the dangers of frozen waters

In winter, children and pets are particularly at risk when tempted to play on the ice formed on open water, and adults can find themselves at risk in attempting to save them. Taking a nice walk in cold weather with your family, friends or dogs in tow can be really refreshing, just make sure you know some simple tips on how to stay safe in winter. Areas with frozen lakes, ponds, canals and reservoirs can be

beautiful places to visit during the winter months but all too often many people risk their lives by venturing onto frozen water. Here are some useful tips to help you know what to do in an emergency.

Operation Encompass



As you are all aware being surrounded by positive relationships and being aware of what a positive relationship is crucial for our wellbeing and the whole of society in general.

Abuse can take many forms- Relationship abuse, Neglect, Verbal abuse, economic coercion, substance abuse, etc. As a school we are part of a scheme to raise awareness and to improve the outcomes for families and children. This is done through teaching about healthy and safe relationships, understanding what substance misuse is (alcohol and drugs) in an age appropriate way and understanding what is important when looking after finances.

Our school is now a part of Operation Encompass which is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and police forces.

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced domestic abuse.

As a school we have ensured that our Designated Safeguarding Lead has been trained in the Operation Encompass procedures allowing us to then use the information that has been shared, in confidence, to support the child/ren in our care.

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 identifies children who experience domestic abuse as victims of domestic abuse in their own right. On 24 May 2024 Royal Assent was granted to The Victims and Prisoners Act. The Act placed Operation Encompass into Law.

This places a statutory obligation on police forces to share Operation Encompass notifications with schools/educational settings.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and through Operation Encompass we will be able to provide the best possible support to our children.

Attendance

Attendance Ladder



Why is good attendance important?

Good attendance and punctuality are vital for success at school, and to establish positive life habits that are necessary for future success. Through regular attendance, pupils can:

- Build friendships and develop social groups.
- Develop life skills.
- Engage in essential learning and other school social events.
- Achieve to their full potential.
- Minimise the risk of engaging in anti-social behaviour and becoming victims or perpetrators of crime.

All parents should promote good attendance and work in partnership with their child's school to provide a cohesive approach.

<p>Can my child ever be absent? ✓</p> <p>When a pupil is absent from school, this will be classified as either 'authorised' or 'unauthorised'. The governing board and headteacher decide which absences are granted as authorised. Authorised absences are only permitted for valid reasons such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illness. • Medical or dental appointments. • Religious observances. • Family bereavement. Wherever possible, parents should always try to arrange medical and dental appointments during school holidays or after school hours. 	<p>What are unauthorised absences? ✗</p> <p>Unauthorised absences are those which the school does not consider essential or reasonable. Unauthorised absences can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forgetting school term dates. • Oversleeping. • Absences which have not been explained. • Arriving at school after the register has closed. • Leaving school for no reason during the day. • Truancy before or during the school day. • Keeping pupils off school unnecessarily or without explanation. • Day trips or family outings. • Problems with uniform/clothing. • Birthdays and holidays.
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We discourage parents from booking holidays during term time, regardless of the reason. We appreciate the impact this has during financially difficult times. We also acknowledge parental annual working patterns and the positive impact of spending time together as a family. Every request for term time absence is considered on a case-by-case request. It is our statutory duty, and parents' legal responsibility to ensure regular attendance at school and we must ask that school attendance is a priority. St Oswald's Term dates can be found at [St Oswald's C of E Primary - Newsletters](#) Holidays, weddings and parental appointments will not be authorised. Please work with us to ensure that your child has every opportunity to take advantage of education available at St Oswald's.

We have a wealth of information about Attendance on our school website and Attendance is a consistent feature at our Governing Board Meetings- with a dedicated Attendance Governor. [St Oswald's C of E Primary - Attendance](#)

