



Child Protection Policy – Parent/Carer Friendly Summary

What is the Child Protection Policy?

At Gorsewood Primary School, we have a responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of the children in our school. We have a Child Protection Policy, which outlines the school's responsibilities and duties in terms of safeguarding. This is in place to ensure children are protected from harm, both at school and outside of school.

The full policy can be accessed at http://gorsewood.halton.sch.uk/serve_file/390857

What is a Designated Safeguarding Lead?

The Designated Safeguarding Lead takes the lead on all safeguarding matters within the school. In Gorsewood, this is Mrs J Gregg, Headteacher.

There are also two Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads within the school, who support with safeguarding concerns. These are Miss E Jackson and Mrs C Warner, Assistant Headteachers.

We listen to our pupils and take seriously what they tell us. All our staff members receive safeguarding awareness and children are aware of the adults they can talk to if they have any concerns.

Our nominated Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Carole Howard.

To make an allegation or to raise a complaint, please contact the Chair of Governors: Mr Mark Dennett.

How do we keep children safe?

We create a safe learning environment and ensure children know who they can talk to if they are upset or worried about anything. We also provide opportunities for children to develop their understanding of risks and keeping themselves safe, through education on internet safety awareness, positive relationships, bullying etc.

We are committed to keeping our pupils safe. Any concerns are reported to a Designated Safeguarding Lead who will then take any action needed to ensure the wellbeing and safety of children.

Our first priority is your child's welfare and we will usually discuss with you any concerns we have about your child. However, there might be rare occasions when we have to provide information to or consult other agencies such as Children's Services Social Care before we contact you.

What puts children at risk?

There are four main forms of abuse. These can be summarised as:

Physical abuse – Causing physical harm to a child, such as hitting, shaking, throwing, inducing illness etc.

Emotional abuse – Maltreatment of a child affecting their emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless, unloved or inadequate. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child.

Sexual abuse – Forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities. This may involve physical contact or non-contact activities such as involving children in looking at sexual images or grooming a child (including via the internet).

Neglect – Inability to meet a child's basic needs, impairing a child's health or development. This may involve a parent/carer failing to provide adequate food and clothing or an inability to protect a child from physical and emotional harm.

How is information used?

Confidential records are kept of any safeguarding concerns and information is shared on a need to know basis. We are notified by the police if they attend any incidents involving domestic abuse in a household where the child attends our school.

We follow procedures laid down by Halton Safeguarding Team which means on occasions that we have to consult other agencies. We aim to discuss concerns with parent/carers first, before any referrals are made, unless we believe that such a move may be contrary to a child's welfare.

Useful Contact Numbers

Halton Integrated Contact and Referral Team (iCART)

Monday to Thursday 9:00am to 5:00pm, Friday 9:00am to 4.30pm – 0151 907 8305
Emergency Duty Service (Out of Hours) – 0345 050 0148

Cheshire Police 24 hour – 101

Always dial 999 in an emergency