

Keeping Children Safe

Beech Hill School is committed to creating a happy and safe environment for our children to learn.

This leaflet will help you understand how we keep your children safe by telling you:

- How children can be harmed
- What we must do to keep you child safe from harm
- What you must do as a parent to help your child be safe and enjoy school

Child Protection

This is an important subject in which all staff receive regular training. Our priority is to work with you but there may be times when we have to involve other people.

Everybody has a responsibility to keep all children under the age of 18 safe. Harm is identified in four ways:

Physical—This is when a child is deliberately hurt or injured

Sexual—This is when a child is influenced or forced to take part in a sexual activity. This can be a physical activity or none physical, e.g. being made to look at an inappropriate image.

Emotional—This is when a child is made to feel frightened worthless or unloved. It can be by shouting, using threats or making fun of someone. It can also be when children see their parents, or visitors to the home, fighting or using violence

Neglect—This is when a child is not being taken care of by their parents. It can be poor hygiene, poor diet, not keeping appointments for additional support, not coming to school or being left home alone.

Photographing Children

Every effort will be taken to allow parents/carers to take photographs and videos of their own children **after** any events, activities or performances have ended. Photographs and videos are not permitted during any school activity, event or performance on or off site in order to ensure all safeguarding expectations are met. Other children can only be photographed or videoed if the parent/carer is present at the event and they have given permission.

There are restrictions on the use of images of children (e.g. data protection) and may be health and safety considerations. We adhere to the following guidelines:

- We seek written parental consent for the use of photo-graphs and images for use by the school (hen a child joins the school.
- If visitors come to the school to make videos or take photographs for use outside the school we will seek specific parental consent.
- Staff should be sensitive to the feelings of pupils who may be uncomfortable about being photographed. Children are not named in our publications.

Key Contacts

Designated Senior Person:

Mrs Bowling (Co- Headteacher)

Deputy Designated Senior Persons:

Mrs S Cockcroft (Co-Headteacher)

Mrs Creighton (Assistant Headteacher)

Mr Hoyle (Assistant Headteacher)

Mrs Hunter (Lead Learning Mentor)

Keeping Children Safe In Education

Information for Parents



The following policies are linked to the information

contained in this leaflet:

Safeguarding and Child Protection,

Health and Safety, Attendance

Safer Recruitment

Anti Bullying, E Safety

and Whistle Blowing

What School Must Do

A child should be able to go to school and feel safe so that they can achieve their very best.

Anybody who works or volunteers at Beech Hill will be checked by the Police (vetted) to make sure they are safe to work with children and then trained to identify child abuse and what to do if they are concerned.

The school has several Designated Senior Persons for Safeguarding: **Mrs Bowling, Mrs Cockcroft, Mrs Creighton, Mr Hoyle and Mrs Hunter.** They have had extra training to know what to do when a concern is brought to them.

We will always listen to you and work closely with you if we are concerned about your child but, sometimes, we may not be able to discuss our concern. The school has a safeguarding policy which tells you more about this and when we must speak to the police or Mast team (Multi-agency Screening Team). A copy of this policy is available on our website.

We will help your child to learn about keeping themselves safe. Lessons can include healthy eating, anti-bullying, e-safety, road safety, healthy relationships, drug and alcohol awareness. As part of these lessons your child will be told what to do if they are worried or concerned about their safety.

What Parents Must Do

Parents are the most important people to keep their children safe. You should always

- Feel confident to raise concerns about your child.
- Talk to school if you need help or support.
- Read the school policies about safety issues
- Let the school know if your child has a medical condition
- Let the school know if you have any court orders relating to the safety of your child
- Let the school know if there is a change in your circumstances such as a house move, a new contact number, a change of name, a change of parental responsibility
- Let the school know who will be dropping off or collecting your child and two other emergency contact. You must inform the school of any changes to agreed arrangements.
- Let the school know if your child is going to be absent and the reasons why.

Safeguarding Issues

Attendance—your child's attendance is monitored daily and significant absences are always followed up by the attendance officer. The school has an attendance policy that you should read and understand.

Behaviour—**Beech Hill** has clear behaviour rules for the whole school community that must be followed to keep everyone safe and happy. We understand that children do sometimes fall out and this will be dealt with by an adult who will listen to the children involved and help to resolve the situation.

Bullying—The school takes all cases of bullying very seriously and will work with children and families to try and resolve any problems. The school has an antibullying policy that you should read and understand.

Health and Safety—Everyone at **Beech Hill** has a responsibility to keep adults and children work in a safe environment. The school has a clear health and safety policy which everyone must follow. The school has fully trained first aiders to deal with any accidents in school.

E-safety - The school recognises that technology plays an important role in the education of children and is committed to safeguarding children in the virtual world. To support parents, the school has e-safety information to help keep your children safe both in school and at home.

Complaints—If you have any complaints about how the school is working with you or your child please feel confident to speak to us. The Head teacher will always be happy to speak to you to resolve any difficulties. It is better to speak to us as soon as you have a concern so that it does not become a bigger issue. If you do not feel the matter has been resolved, you can raise your concerns with the governing body.