



What does Safeguarding mean?

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is a really important part of SMS Coaching's work and we have certain legal duties that we must fulfil; it is the responsibility of our directors to make sure that we have the right things in place. When we are inspected, Ofsted checks to make sure that this is the case and that we are meeting our safeguarding responsibilities.

When we talk about safeguarding we mean helping children to keep safe, including online. This means protecting them from child abuse and neglect but safeguarding is about much more than that. Schools are particularly important because staff see children every day. This means that they are in a good position to pick-up on problems and concerns and that school can provide or get some early help which might stop things from getting worse.

What WE do to Safeguard Children

Some examples of the ways that we safeguard children in school include:

- Teaching them to understand the risks around them and what to do when they feel unsafe. We do this as part of the curriculum but also use assemblies and speakers / organisations from outside school e.g. the NSPCC
- Listening carefully to what children tell us and regularly ask them what they think
- Consulting and working in partnership with parents, carers and, where necessary, external agencies and professionals
- Recruiting and checking staff and volunteers who work for us safely, in-line with national guidance and best practice;
- Keeping our sites as secure as possible, so that we know where children are and who comes into them;
- Promoting good attendance and positive behaviour. This helps us to prevent and protect children from different types of bullying, among other things;
- Helping children to understand and keep safe from risks and dangers which they may encounter online or via the use of phones and other technologies;
- Promoting healthy eating;
- Promoting children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural wellbeing and development, including British Values, so that they understand and are protected from all forms of radicalisation and extremism;
- Dealing properly with sensitive and confidential information. This includes keeping records safely and securely, seeking appropriate consent and sharing information only with people who need to know;
- Ensuring that contractors and other people who come into our sites or use our facilities are checked and trained in safeguarding and child protection;
- Making sure that all staff and volunteers know how to conduct themselves and that they are well trained and up-to-date on safeguarding issues so that they all know what to look for and exactly what to do if they are worried;
- Having staff trained to lead on particular issues in school so that they are in a position to advise and support other staff, parents and pupils e.g. IT Lead / Co-ordinator, SENCO, designated teacher/coach for Looked After Children, PSHCE co-ordinator, Inclusion Manager etc.
- Having senior staff who act as Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) in school. They receive more in-depth training and take the lead on safeguarding and child protection. The DSLs work closely with other professionals as part of their safeguarding role.

Things that YOU can do to help us Safeguard Children

We ask all parents and carers to do all that they can to help us to keep children safe. Some especially important things that you can do include:

- Delivering, reinforcing and supporting keeping safe messages such as the importance of good time-keeping, regular school attendance and high standards of behaviour;
- Respecting school policies on things like parking on and around our sites;
- Sticking to Acceptable Use Policies on the use of mobile phones, cameras / videos / images, including online and off site events etc;
- Modelling responsible use of social media and helping to reinforce key messages to your children about keeping safe when using technology and the internet;
- Treating one another, all staff and pupils with dignity and respect at all times;
- Sharing good ideas and / or practice as well as bringing any issues, problems or concerns to our attention as soon as possible and in good faith. This includes concerns about an adult's conduct or about the behaviour of or concerns about a child's welfare.

Confidentiality and Information Sharing

Information about children's welfare may be shared with others outside the school to help keep them safe from harm. We always aim to discuss this with parents or carers before we do so but this may not always be possible. The law does allow us to share information without asking first under circumstances where we are acting to protect children from harm.

Designated Safe Guard Leads:

Jonathan Davies - 07825412106 – jonny@smscoaching.co.uk

Anne Davies – 07749918551 – sms.office@gmail.com

Tony Rafferty – admin@smscoaching.co.uk

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Proprietor – Jonathan Davies