Westgate - Spring 2024 Safeguarding Newsletter

Our safeguarding newsletter intends on sharing information with you regarding the school's safeguarding procedures and protocols as well as providing you with current safeguarding updates.

We hope you will find the following information useful.

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Safeguarding means:

- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

What is Child Protection?

Child protection is part of the safeguarding process. It focuses on protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. This includes child protection procedures which detail how to respond to concerns about a child.

Our Procedures

The school is committed to safeguarding and child protection and has in place policies that are designed to protect pupils and staff. Copies of these policies are available on the school website or from the school office.

Staff, Governors and Volunteers at the school

Before someone new comes to work or volunteer at our school, we have in place rigorous safer recruitment processes. These include background checks such as enhanced DBS checks and references. All staff and school governors receive regular training in safeguarding and child protection. Volunteers are also encouraged to attend.

What is the role of a Designated Safeguarding Lead?

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) has a crucial role in taking lead responsibility for child protection issues in school. Currently, we have three DSLs, and one member of this team is always available during school hours for staff and parents to discuss any safeguarding concerns. DSLs are trained to take on this role and that training is updated every two years.

Who are the DSLs at Westgate?

Mrs C. Jones
Pastoral Support/FLO
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss C. Bethell
Acting Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs S. Maidment
SENCO
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child please speak to one of our DSLs as soon as possible.

Wellbeing at Westgate

We are proud that Westgate is a Wellbeing Pioneer School; we have been awarded the National Whole School Wellbeing Gold Award. At Westgate, we prioritise our pupil's wellbeing with high importance. We understand that wellbeing is fundamental to the overall health of an individual, enabling them to successfully overcome difficulties and achieve.

Wellbeing Pioneer School 2024

Visit our school website to find out more about how we promote mental health and wellbeing at our school.

Westgate Primary School - Ways to Wellbeing at Westgate

Improving Children's Mental Health Place 2Be

Attendance Matters

As a parent or carer of a child aged between 5 and 16 years, you are legally responsible for ensuring your child accesses a full-time education that meets their needs.

If children do not attend school regularly, they may not be able to keep up with school work. It's not only the academic work that suffers; missing out on the social side of school life can affect your child's ability to make and keep friends - a vital part of growing up.

Studies have shown that children who achieve at least 96% school attendance or above have the best outcome from their education. Please see the following guidance for more information: https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence

Outstanding 98-100%	Good 95-97% +	Action Needed 91-94%	Urgent Action Needed 85-90%	Serious Action Needed Below 85%

Attendance during one school year	Equals this number of days absent during one school year
98%	4 days
96%	7 days
90%	19 days
85%	29 days

Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 6th February

We took part in Safer Internet Day to raise awareness of internet safety and a better and safer internet for all. Teach your children to stay SMART online by following these simple rules.

USEFUL WEBSITES

NSPCC
www.nspcc.org.uk

ChildLine
www.childline.org.uk
Telephone: 0800 1111

Think You Know
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/

National Bullying Helpline:
www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk
Helpline: 0300 323 0169

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre: www.ceop.police.uk
Telephone: 0870 000 3344

Everyone has a responsibility to keep children and young people safe.