



"Helping everyone to stay safe at Notre Dame"

Safeguarding bulletin for staff and parents/carers.

April 2021

I am sure all our community is looking forward to a deserved break following another challenging term.

This bulletin covers the 'everyone's invited' issue that is of national prominence at the moment.

It also contains reminders of useful contacts internally and externally if you wish or your child wishes to discuss any issue around child protection and safeguarding.

Kind regards,

Mr Scriven (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Everyone's Invited

The Everyone's Invited website has put the issue of sexual harassment and sexual violence amongst young people very much in the public eye.

We are aware that for some of our young people who have experienced sexual harassment or sexual violence, this public focus may act as a trigger which brings up difficult emotions or experiences. We have included in this safeguarding notice some key contacts in and out of school that students or parents can use if young people need to talk or need support.

It is also timely to highlight what steps we take in school both to respond to any incidents that happen and also to support the education for students about how they should act toward one another.

Where students are concerned about something that has happened to them or to someone else, we would encourage them always to speak to a member of staff that they feel comfortable talking to. This isn't just about the most serious cases of sexual violence, which are rare, but about any sexualised behaviour or harassment. It is not just 'banter' and we want to support students with it.

Our staff all receive regular training and updates on safeguarding, including guidance on what to do if a student shares something with them. Teachers are supported in this by myself our Designated Safeguarding Lead, and a wide team of deputies amongst whom is a wealth of experience and all of whom receive regular advanced training.

When a disclosure of any kind is made, our focus will be on supporting the needs of the victim at the time and in the future. We want to help them to process what has happened with the aim of minimising ongoing harm in their life from that point.

Where it is clear that a criminal act may have taken place, we will always inform the police and work with them, again in discussion with the victim.

In other cases, we will investigate and will work with the people who have acted wrongly with the first aim of avoiding a repeat of their behaviour. Where possible, the aim is always to bring about understanding of the impact of their actions in order to change behaviour in the long term. In all of this, we take advice from and work with other agencies as necessary.

This is about how we respond to things that have happened already, the most extreme of which as noted are rare. However, we are certainly aware that it is regrettably all too common throughout society for sexual harassment to be part of people's lives and we are not blind to the fact that our young people will be both victims and will act inappropriately themselves. Education about appropriate relationships, consent and respect form a prominent part of the RSE curriculum delivered within RE, form time, assemblies and in special events throughout the time at school.

One of the ways we are keen to develop is direct engagement of our students in developing this curriculum, so that the work we do in class is informed directly by their experiences. We must all do what we can not only to respond to things that have already happened, but to continually work to strengthen a culture of respect, care and personal responsibility for the impact that our actions have on others.

Where to get further advice and guidance.

Many of these sites have a parent/carer section as well as a section for young people

Sheffield Safeguarding Children Board

<http://www.safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org/sscb>



<https://www.childline.org.uk>



www.nspcc.org.uk



Where to get further advice and guidance in School

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is:

Name: Mr Scriven

Their office is located above main reception

Their telephone number is 0114 2302536 (Ext. 214)

A Designated Safeguarding Deputy is:

Name: Mr Marsden

Their telephone number is 0114 2302536 (Ext. 226)

A Designated Safeguarding Deputy is:

Name: Mr Doherty

Their telephone number is 0114 230 2536 (Ext 215)

A Designated Safeguarding Deputy is:

Name: Mr Saunders

Their telephone number is 0114 230 2536 (Ext 217)

A Designated Safeguarding Deputy is:

Name: Joanne Hockney

Their telephone number is 0114 2302536 (Ext. 205)

A Designated Safeguarding Deputy is:

Name: Teresa Cooper

Their telephone number is 0114 2302536 (Ext. 256)

A Designated Safeguarding Deputy is:

Name: Kate Vivian

Their telephone number is 0114 2302536 (Ext. 229)

A Designated Safeguarding Deputy is:

Name: Martyn Birch

Their telephone number is 0114 2302536 (Ext. 202)

A Designated Safeguarding Deputy is:

Name: Mrs Brookes

Their telephone number is 0114 230 2536 (Ext 219)

A Designated Safeguarding Deputy is:

Name Mr Owczarek (SENCO)

Their telephone number is 0114 230 2536 (Ext 234)