

ST EDMUND'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

CHILD FRIENDLY SAFEGUARDING POLICY



Together we learn and grow through worship and celebration

Feeling safe and happy at school

At St Edmund's, we want to make sure that you feel looked after, safe and happy when you are in and out of school.

Sometimes we don't know if something bad is happening, so you need to tell us.

This booklet, which is known as a "policy", looks at what we do to make sure you are kept safe, and what you can do when you think someone is hurting you or someone else.

We can help you by:

- Teaching you how to see if people are not keeping you safe.
- Helping you if someone does not keep you safe.
- Teaching you what to do if you feel worried or scared.
- Making sure you know who you can speak to if you are worried.
- Making sure that all adults at the school know what they have to do to keep you safe.

If you don't understand something or have any questions about what you read in the policy, please ask any adult in the school for help.

1. What does safeguarding mean?

“Safeguarding” refers to all the things we do to make sure you are kept safe from any harm.

Safeguarding means that staff will:

- Protect you from harm.
- Make sure that nothing stops you being healthy or developing properly.
- Make sure that you are looked after.
- Make sure that you have the best life chances and can grow up happy and successful.

We will make sure that the school is a friendly, welcoming and supportive place to spend time in, making it somewhere you want to be.

We want to make sure that you know who to ask for help.

2. Staying safe

If you are worried about something, you can talk to any adult in school that you trust. This could be your teacher or any other staff member. If you need to talk, we will listen.

We respect you and want to keep you safe, so we will do our best to help you to feel safe and happy.

We think it is important for you to know where to get help if you are worried or unhappy about something, and we will do our best to spot if there is a problem.

We will always make time to listen and talk if you need us, please remember:

- You are important to us.
- It's never your fault if someone is hurting you.
- There is always someone that can help you and you will not be in trouble.
- If someone is hurting you, they may also be hurting someone else, so it is important that you tell someone to make it stop and know that you will be kept safe.
- Every child should enjoy the right to a happy and safe childhood – do not be scared to tell someone if there is anything worrying you.

3. Who to talk to?

It's important that you tell someone you trust if someone is:

- Bullying you.
- Saying things to you that make you feel upset or uncomfortable.
- Touching a private part of your body.
- Hitting or hurting you.
- Taking your things.
- Sending unkind messages on the internet or to your phone.

It is important you tell someone as soon as someone starts hurting or harming you, or you think that this is happening to someone else. Speaking to someone like your parent, carer or teacher will mean that we can work together to protect you from any further harm in the future.

In every school there is always somebody who has the responsibility to keep you safe and all staff have to tell that person if they are worried about you – this person is called the DSL, which stands for designated safeguarding lead. **The DSL in our school is Mr Nash.** Other members of staff are also on our safeguarding team.

The list below shows the people at our school that are on the safeguarding team:

- Mr Nash, Deputy Headteacher
- Mrs Moreland Headteacher,
- Miss Meldon, SENCO
- Miss Morris, Key Stage 2 Lead/Year 6 teacher
- Mrs Bainbridge, SEN Admin

All Staff are taught how to keep children safe as it is the most important part of their job. The adults are not allowed to keep secrets about children's safety but will only tell the people they need.

There are also places outside of school that you can go to for help. You can call or visit:

- Childline on 0800 11 11 or visit www.childline.org.uk
- NSPCC on 0800 800 5000 or visit www.nspcc.org.uk
- Kidscape on 020 7730 3300 or visit www.kidscape.org.uk

- Youth Access on 020 8772 9900 or visit www.youthaccess.org.uk

4. Bullying

Bullying is a type of abuse that takes place when someone tries to hurt another person on purpose for a prolonged period of time. People can be bullied in many different ways.

Remember if someone is bullying YOU MUST tell an adult in school so that we can help and support you.

We have an Anti-Bullying Policy that will give you more information on what to do if you experience or see bullying and you can talk to our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.

5. Internet Safety

Internet safety is an important part of keeping children safe at our school. We have lots of safety measures in place which we keep an eye on both in and outside of school, to help safeguard children.

Computers and mobile phones help us all to share things and talk to friends or family, but they can also make it easier for people to hurt you or to get close to you. It is important to know how to keep yourself safe on your computer, your phone and on websites.

The school will help if you are sent unkind messages or if someone on the internet has asked you to do anything that has made you feel uncomfortable.

If you are unhappy with any comments or photographs you've seen on your computer or mobile, you can tell a staff member in school.

We have an Online Safety Policy which is there to protect you.

6. Relationships

Any relationship you have should be positive and make you feel safe, happy and comfortable. A negative relationship might make someone feel scared, confused, worried and even unsafe.

It is really important that you know the difference between a positive relationship and a negative relationship.

In any relationship you should never be pressured to do anything that makes you feel uncomfortable.

7. Touch

There are **good** and **bad** touches.

Good touches:

- A hug
- Help with getting dressed
- Holding hands

Bad touches can be scary, hurt or be rude.

Some parts of the body are private and **no-one** should touch them. It is not okay for someone to touch you and make you feel uncomfortable.

If a touch makes you feel **scared**, say **no** or make a sign to tell the person to **stop**. You should also tell an adult in school.

8. Saying no

Most of the time adults know what is best for you, like when it is times for bed or eating your vegetables, but sometimes it is ok to say no to an adult if you feel unsafe.

If an adult or another child asks you to do something you know is wrong, like **stealing** or **hitting someone**, or if you feel **scared** or **unsafe**, you can say no.

It's not your fault! Don't be afraid to tell an adult in school what is happening to you. You will be supported and taken care of.

9. Secrets

A **secret** is something we know but try not to tell anyone else. There are **good** and **bad** secrets.

A **good** secret is a birthday party surprise or knowing that someone is going to win a prize.

Sometimes we have been hurt, are afraid, or don't understand what's happened. If someone says we must keep this a secret that's a **bad** secret.

If you think you have been told to keep a **bad** secret you must tell an adult in school. They will believe you and help you to stay safe.

If you are upset or worried about anything that has happened to you or to someone else then please remember you can be brave and talk to someone who will listen to you and help you

Most importantly you do NOT have to keep your worries a secret!

Let's make St Edmund's a safe and happy place!

**At St Edmund's
we believe we are all part of
God's family and we
should treat everyone
with respect**

*We want everyone
in our school to
feel safe and happy*

**Developed and agreed on behalf of the children at
St Edmund's school by the Anti Bullying
Ambassadors**

