



Dedworth Middle School

Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

March 2021



Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Contents

1.	Key Documents	Page 2
2.	Terms Used	Page 2
3.	Introduction	Page 3
4.	Keeping Pupils Safe	Page 3
5.	Promoting Pupils' Welfare	Page 3
6.	Preventing Abuse	Page 4
7.	Protecting Pupils	Page 4
8.	Processes and Procedures	Page 5



1. Key Documents

This Policy has been drawn up with reference to the following documentation:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education; Statutory guidance for schools and colleges (DfE 2020 update)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2019)
- The Education Act (2002 s175/s157)
- Education Regulations (2014)
- Dealing with Allegations of Abuse (DfE 2012)
- Prevent Strategy (HM Gov 2011 and 2015 'Counter-Terrorism and Security Act')
- Equality Act (HM Gov 2010)
- What to do if you're worried a child is being abused (DfE 2006)
- Searching, screening and confiscation: Advice for headteachers, school staff and governing bodies (DfE 2014)
- Governance Handbook
- The Children Act (2004)
- Serious Crime Act (2015)
- Statutory guidance on FGM
- The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (1974)
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act (2006)
- Processes from the Local Safeguarding Children's Board

2. Terms Used

Throughout this document, the following terms apply:

- 'The school' refers to Dedworth Middle School
- 'Pupil' refers to any registered pupil attending the school. The school recognises that safeguarding responsibilities also extend to pupils who are visiting the site, who may not be registered pupils.
- 'Staff' refers to all staff and volunteers.
- 'Child protection team' refers to the staff who have specific responsibilities for safeguarding.
- 'Safeguarding' refers to protecting children from maltreatment, preventing impairment of children's physical and mental health and development, ensuring children have the provision of safe and effective care, and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.



3. Introduction

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families and carers has a role to play in safeguarding children.

The school will safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils in its care by:

- complying with national and local safeguarding laws and statutory guidance;
- implementing, monitoring and adjusting as necessary processes and systems to enable the requirements of this policy;
- producing and maintaining records as required;
- encouraging a culture of openness, honesty, and transparency;
- regularly instructing all staff to take a proactive role in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils, whether on or off-site, at school or at home, during the school day or outside it;
- regularly ensuring that all staff are aware of the safeguarding procedures to be followed;
- publishing in a timely manner any information required by law;
- ensuring that the school's governors are aware of progress and issues in implementing this policy.

4. Keeping Pupils Safe

The school will keep pupils safe by:

- considering at all times what is in their best interests;
- providing a safe environment for them to learn and be successful;
- identifying pupils who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm;
- taking action to make sure that pupils are kept safe, both at home and at school;
- preventing unsuitable people from working in the school.

5. Promoting Pupils' Welfare

The school will put promoting pupils' welfare at the heart of its culture and ethos by:

- maintaining a culture in school in which pupils feel safe and secure, their viewpoints are valued, they are encouraged to talk, and they are listened to;
- providing a pastoral structure of support and guidance for pupils which matches their individual needs;



- nominating and training a sufficient number of appropriate adults who pupils can approach if they are in difficulties;
- identifying and monitoring pupils who are at risk of abuse;
- ensuring that the appropriate outside agencies are involved;
- frequently ensuring that pupils are aware that they have a range of contacts and strategies for their own protection and understand the importance of protecting others;
- working with parents to build an understanding of the school's responsibility to ensure the welfare of all pupils.

6. Preventing Abuse

All children have a right not to be abused and to be protected from harm regardless of their race, religion, ethnicity, gender or sexuality. The school will contribute to preventing abuse by:

- publishing and promoting standards of expected behaviour for staff and pupils;
- using a curriculum in which pupils' well-being is embedded;
- regularly instructing staff about the causes of abuse and what to do when abuse is suspected;
- regularly enabling staff to identify pupils' mental health problems which may indicate abuse, neglect or exploitation;
- encouraging pupil and parental participation in practice;
- addressing concerns at the earliest possible stage.

7. Protecting Pupils

The school will protect its pupils by:

- including appropriate work within the curriculum;
- implementing child protection policies and procedures;
- working in partnership with pupils, parents and external agencies in identifying concerns, sharing information and taking prompt action;
- referring to relevant government guidance when directing concerns about pupils in specific circumstances (e.g. pupils at risk from being drawn into extremism);
- supporting the recruitment process to prevent unsuitable people being employed by the school.



8. Processes and Procedures

This policy is implemented by processes and procedures described in the separate document *Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures* and its associated appendices.

Signed: L Toulorge
Chair of Governors

Date: 25/3/21

Policy Approved by Governors	<u>25/3/21</u>
New Review Date	<u>24/3/22</u>