



**DAUBENEV MIDDLE SCHOOL**

# **Safeguarding Policy**

Daubeney Middle School fully recognises its responsibilities for safeguarding.

Our policy applies to all staff, Governors and volunteers working in the school.

This policy has been put in place in accordance with DCSF and Borough Council guidance and locally agreed inter-agency procedures, and it will be made available to parents on request, and on our website and visual learning platform.

There are five main elements to our policy:

- Ensuring we practice safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children, including Criminal Record Bureau and List 99 checks
- Raising awareness of safeguarding issues and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe
- Developing and then implementing procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse
- Supporting pupils who have been abused in accordance with his/her agreed safeguarding plan
- Establishing a safe environment in which children can learn and develop.

Daubeney Middle School recognises that because of the day-to-day contact with children, school staff are well placed to observe the outward signs of abuse. The school will therefore:

- Establish and maintain an environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to
- Ensure children know that there are adults in the school whom they can approach if they are worried
- Include opportunities in the PSHE curriculum for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse.

Daubeney Middle School will follow the procedures set out by the Bedfordshire Local Safeguarding Children Board and take account of guidance issued by the Department for Children, Schools and Families to:

- Ensure we have a designated senior member of the school's Leadership Team to take lead responsibility for dealing with safeguarding issues, providing advice and support to other staff, liaising with the Borough Council and working with other agencies. This designated teacher will receive appropriate training and support for this role
- Ensure we have a nominated Governor responsible for safeguarding.
- Ensure that the Governing Body will remedy any deficiencies or weaknesses in regard to safeguarding arrangements that are brought to its attention without delay
- Ensure every member of staff, volunteer and Governor knows the name of the designated teacher responsible for safeguarding and their role

- Ensure all staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated teacher responsible for safeguarding
- Ensure that the Headteacher and all other staff who work with children undertake appropriate training to equip them to carry out their responsibilities for safeguarding effectively, that it is kept up to date by refresher training at 2 yearly intervals, and the any temporary staff and volunteers who work with children are made aware of the school's arrangements for safeguarding and their responsibilities
- Ensure that parents have an understanding of the responsibility placed on the school and staff for safeguarding by setting out its obligations in the school prospectus
- Notify social care if there is an unexplained absence of a pupil who has a child protection plan
- Develop effective links with relevant agencies and co-operate as required with their enquiries regarding safeguarding matters including attendance at case conferences
- Keep written records of concerns about children, even where there is no need to refer the matter immediately
- Ensure all records are kept securely, separate from the main pupil file, and in locked locations
- Develop and then follow procedures where an allegation is made against a member of staff or volunteer
- Ensure safe recruitment practices are always followed.

Daubeney Middle School recognises that children who are abused or witness violence may find it difficult to develop a sense of self worth. They may feel helplessness, humiliation and some sense of blame. The school may be the only stable, secure and predictable element in the lives of children at risk. When at school their behaviour may be challenging and defiant or they may be withdrawn. The school will endeavour to support the pupil through:

- The content of the curriculum
- The school ethos, which promotes a positive, supportive and secure environment and gives pupils a sense of being valued
- The school behaviour policy, which is aimed at supporting vulnerable pupils in the school. The school will ensure that the pupil knows that some behaviour is unacceptable but they are valued and not to be blamed for any abuse which has occurred
- Liaison with other agencies that support the pupil such as social care, Child and Adult Mental Health Service, education welfare service and educational psychology service.

Ensuring that, where a pupil who has a child protection plan, leaves Daubeney, their information is transferred to the new school immediately and that the child's social worker is informed.

This policy statement, along with the Safeguarding Guidelines and the document covering the role of the designated teacher, will be reviewed by the Governing Body annually.

Linked policies:

School Behaviour  
Role of Designated Teacher for Safeguarding  
Guidelines for Staff where child abuse is suspected  
Complaints Procedure  
Anti Bullying  
Physical Intervention

Reviewed and agreed by Governors on 18-3-2010