



### WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD

If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies straightaway.

**If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police on 999**

### Meet the Designated Safeguarding Team:

The Safeguarding Team oversee and coordinate all aspects of the school's work to ensure that children are kept safe. They regularly attend training to ensure their skills and knowledge are up-to-date.

#### Designated Safeguarding Lead:

**Mrs V Prowle**

#### Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads:

Mr C Pickard  
Miss N Chinnery  
Mrs L Bright

#### School Safeguarding Governors:

Mr S Leary  
Mr H Uddin

All can be contacted via the office or by telephone on:  
**01582 728262**

For a copy of our school's Child Protection Policy, please visit the Safeguarding page on our [school website](#):

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

Welcome to our very first safeguarding newsletter! At Putteridge Primary School, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility and our top priority. Everyone who comes in to contact with the children and families who comprise our community has a role to play.

Everything that we do has the children at its centre. Their wellbeing, their safety, their achievement, their happiness underpins every decision we make. Often when safeguarding is mentioned, the immediate thought is about child protection – when a child is suffering harm, or is in danger of suffering harm. However, safeguarding is much more complex than this and encompasses a very wide range of areas. At Putteridge we ensure that all of our staff are well trained in all aspects of safeguarding and this training is regularly updated and frequently revisited throughout the year. We also ensure that our curriculum provides the children with age-appropriate opportunities to learn how to keep themselves healthy and safe.

With this in mind we will be sending out a half-termly newsletter informing you of any recent safeguarding updates as well as providing you with key information around a range of safeguarding issues. This issue will introduce you to the school's Designated Safeguarding Team, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2022 and the importance of online safety.

*Mrs V Prowle (Designated Safeguarding Lead)*



**Keeping Children Safe in Education** is a statutory Department for Education document that all schools are required to follow when carrying out their duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. It covers many aspects of safeguarding, including different forms of abuse, early help processes, safe-recruitment, how concerns must be reported and the role of the Designated Safeguarding Leads. Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

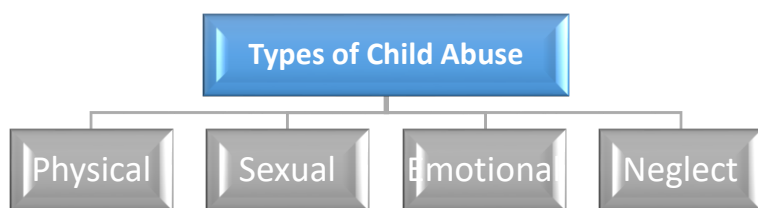
- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

Click here for the full document:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2>

**Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility**





Report any concerns if you suspect a child is being abused or is in danger of being abused, please contact a Designated Safeguarding Lead, or any member of staff. You can also contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on:

☎: 01582 547653

Out of Hours service: 0300 300 8123

✉: [MASH@luton.gov.uk](mailto:MASH@luton.gov.uk)

Or make an online referral via the website:

[https://directory.luton.gov.uk/kb5/luton/directory/service.page?id=aJZE\\_OSgZfQ](https://directory.luton.gov.uk/kb5/luton/directory/service.page?id=aJZE_OSgZfQ)

### What is a Designated Safeguarding Lead?

Each school must have an appropriate senior member of staff to take lead responsibility for child protection. Key aspects of the 'Designated Safeguarding Lead' role include:

- Ensuring that **all** staff are aware of the processes for raising safeguarding concerns
- Ensuring all staff understand the signs of child abuse and neglect
- Referring any concerns to Social Care
- Monitoring children who are the subject of Child Protection and CiN (Child in Need) Plans
- Maintaining accurate and secure child protection records
- Raising awareness of the school's safeguarding policies and procedures, and ensuring these are implemented and reviewed regularly.

### Safeguarding Governor Role

The Safeguarding Governors' responsibilities include:

- Ensuring the school is following safer recruitment procedures when recruiting any new staff members
- Reviewing all activity and policy relating to the physical and emotional well-being of all children
- Seeking improvement to ensure the school follows best practice in creating a productive and safe environment for all

### The Safeguarding Curriculum

We believe that one of the best ways to safeguard children is to equip them with the knowledge and skills to be able to keep themselves safe. Safeguarding themes are interwoven throughout our curriculum and the opportunities we offer in school. Some examples include:

- Our 'Values' assemblies which are delivered to all children from EYFS to Y6
- Online Safety days with age-appropriate workshops
- Online safety discussions within computing and other relevant lessons
- Involvement in Anti-Bullying Week and Mental Health Awareness Week
- RSE lessons
- PSHCE lessons
- Our OPAL playtime project

Our Values for this half term are:

September: **Friendship**

October: **Co-operation**

### Useful Safeguarding Acronyms and Vocabulary

**DSL:** Designated Safeguarding Lead

**MASH:** Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

**CP:** Child Protection

**CiN:** Child in Need

**CEOP:** Child Exploitation and On-Line Protection Centre

**KCSIE:** Keeping Children Safe in Education

**PREVENT:** Part of the Government's Counter-Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn in to extremism

**CAMHS:** Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

**SEND:** Special Educational Needs & Disabilities



## Half term Focus – Child-on-Child Abuse



### What is this type of abuse?

Child-on-child abuse occurs when a child or young person is exploited, bullied and/or harmed by others of the same or similar age. The impact of this behaviour on children can be very distressing and have an impact on academic achievement and emotional health and wellbeing.

Child-on-child abuse is most likely to include, but is not limited to:

- Bullying (including cyber-bullying, prejudice-based and discriminatory bullying)
- Physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair-pulling or otherwise causing physical harm (this may include an online element which facilitates, threatens and/or encourages physical abuse)
- Emotional abuse – on or offline
- Abuse in intimate relationships between peers
- Sexual violence and sexual harassment - this can occur between two children of any age and sex or a group of children sexually assaulting or sexually harassing a single child or group of children.
- Causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent
- Upskirting, which typically involves taking a picture underneath someone's clothing without their permission to obtain sexual gratification or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm
- Consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos (also known as sexting or youth produced sexual imagery)
- Initiation/hazing type violence and rituals which could include activities involving harassment, abuse or humiliation used as a way of initiating a person into a group and may also include an online element.

### Prevention

At Putteridge, children are taught through our PSHE curriculum about how to speak out if they know something is not right. We have robust systems in place for pupils to confidently report abuse with children regularly reminded that staff, particularly our pastoral team of **Mrs Rowanoak** and **Mrs Bennett**, are here for them to talk to and 'Worry Boxes' are available for children to express their concerns if they prefer not to speak to an adult.

All staff know what to do if they come across, or are worried about, child-on-child abuse. They are aware of their duty to report this to the DSL or one of the safeguarding team to ensure that children are safe.

Training is provided for all governors, staff and volunteers on the nature, prevalence and effect of child-on-child abuse, and how to prevent, identify and respond to it. This includes but is not limited to:

- The importance of taking seriously all forms of child-on-child abuse (no matter how low level they may appear) and ensuring that no form of child-on-child abuse is ever dismissed as banter, horseplay or teasing.
- Regular updates and reminders about the School's approach to such issues, including its zero-tolerance policy towards all forms of child-on-child abuse.
- Ensuring that all child-on-child abuse issues are fed back to the School's safeguarding lead so that they can spot and address any concerning trends and identify pupils who maybe in need of additional support.
- Challenging the attitudes that underlie such abuse (both inside and outside the classroom).
- Working together to address equality issues, to promote positive values, and to encourage a culture of tolerance and respect amongst all members of the School community.
- Creating conditions in which our pupils can aspire to and realise safe and healthy relationships.
- Creating a culture in which our pupils feel able to share their concerns openly, in a non-judgmental environment, and have them listened to.
- Responding to cases of child-on-child abuse promptly and appropriately.

If you, as a parent, have any concerns or are worried about a child, please speak to a member of the safeguarding team.

