



Buckland Primary School

Believe, Excel, Strive, Together



Safeguarding Children within our Primary School

Good practice guidelines for parents and visitors

This information is designed to help all parents, carers and visitors who visit our primary school, including at the beginning and end of the school day, to understand the expected behaviour around our children in order to ensure their safety. All adults coming onto the school premises, including the playground and inside the building, have a duty of care towards the welfare of the children at our school and that of all adults.

Together we have a collective responsibility!

What is safeguarding? - Every child can potentially be hurt, put at risk from harm or abused regardless of their age, gender, religion or ethnicity.

Safeguarding means that:

- ✓ Children are protected from mistreatment
- ✓ A child's health, or development, is protected
- ✓ Children grow up with safe and effective care
- ✓ Action is taken to ensure the **BEST** outcomes for all children.

Safeguarding is the action we take to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

It is everyone's responsibility! - Equally we are all responsible for ensuring we all safeguard each other as adults.

Child Protection - This is the process of protecting children who may be suffering from, or at risk of, significant harm. This includes physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect or emotional harm.

Child protection promotes the rights and welfare of all children. Our school's Designated Safeguarding Leaders are:

- Lead DSL: Mrs Rebecca Hutton (Headteacher)
- Deputy DSL: Mrs Julie Mahon (Deputy Headteacher)
- Deputy DSL: Mrs Jacqui Tracey (SENCo)
- Deputy DSL: Mrs Emma Hawthorn (Welfare Officer)
- Deputy DSL: Ms Marie Caller (Home School Link Worker)

These members of staff are responsible for speaking to parents if concerns arise, and making referrals to Children's Services with, or without parental permission. For more details please read our Child Protection Policy which can be accessed on the school's website or a hard copy is available from the school office.

Resources for parents to help safeguard their children

The NSPCC website has some fantastic resources to help parents educate their children about keeping themselves safe. Visit their website at www.nspcc.org.uk

School Guidelines - By following these simple guidelines you safeguard pupils at our school and yourself.

Parents in the school grounds

1. Parents must never approach other peoples' children to discuss any type of issue with them. This is unacceptable and the school will take immediate action should this happen. This will involve calling Children's Services as this is our legal duty. We may also call the police. When threatening and unfamiliar adults approach children, they feel:

Frightened Vulnerable Unsafe Scared Intimated

You wouldn't like your child to feel this way. Take the right approach – come into school and let us deal with it!

2. Parents should not approach other parents if they have an issue with either them or their child. This is not the right way to deal with problems and leads to:
 - Unacceptable behaviour on our school grounds e.g. fighting
 - Children feeling frightened
 - Both adults and children feeling unsafe on school grounds.

3. If you see, or hear, something that concerns you regarding the welfare of one of our pupils:
 - Come into school and speak to Mrs Hutton or Mrs Hawthorn
 - Make a note of the concern including the time, date, factual details and names where possible; pass this information on to school. You can remain anonymous if you wish.

Mobile Phones

Please refrain from using mobile phones whilst inside the school building, especially when dropping off or picking up your child/ren. Phones can be used during family assemblies – in line with our policy (see below).

Social Networking

Talking on Facebook

Please refrain from discussing the school, or its staff, on any social networking site such as Facebook, or Twitter. This protects not only the school but yourselves too! Members of staff can, and will, contact the police if there are malicious comments made about them.

Photographs

If you would like to upload any photographs of your children at school events, school productions or class assemblies please remember that only your own child should be in the picture.

Think: how would you feel if your child was visible online without your permission or your knowledge?

Remember: together we have a collective responsibility!



Appendix 1

Inappropriate use of Social Networking Sites

The staff and Governors of Buckland Primary School consider the use of social media websites being used to incite complaints against the school as unacceptable and not in the BEST interests of the children or the whole school community.

Additionally, and even more important, is the issue of cyber bullying and the use by a child or parent to publically humiliate another through inappropriate social networking entries. We would deal with this as a serious incident of bullying. Thankfully such incidents are extremely rare.