

# Parents' Guide to Safeguarding



## What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding involves promoting children's long term wellbeing and health. It includes protecting children from harm and keeping them safe from abuse or neglect. All who come into contact with children in their everyday work, including those who do not have a specific role in relation to child protection, have a duty to safeguarding children and promote their welfare.

*Together we have a collective responsibility.*

## Safeguarding means that:

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

## Why is Safeguarding Important?

At Farncombe C of E Infant School we understand that promoting the welfare of all children in our community means ensuring we create every possible opportunity for children to grow, flourish and reach their potential while being protected from harmful influences and actions.

If you are concerned about one of the pupils in school you must report this concern to one of the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs):

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Andrea Simonsson

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Kate Thomas

You may speak to Andrea or Kate in the playground, ask for a meeting, ring the school office (01483 424933) or send an email to [info@farncombe.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@farncombe.surrey.sch.uk)

If your concern is about the headteacher, please report it to Helen Gregory, Chair of Governors, through the school office.

*'Let all you do be done in love' is our guiding vision for our speech, deeds and thoughts.*

*This enables us to create a nurturing and inspiring environment in which everyone can have life in all its fullness.*

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## How do we ensure that we safeguard all pupils?

It is our mission to promote the welfare of, and effectively safeguard, the children in our care by:

- ✓ Valuing our pupils as individuals
- ✓ Listening to our pupils and their views and allowing them the space to express themselves
- ✓ Involving pupils and parents in school life consulting with them in decisions about things which affect them
- ✓ Working with parents, as needed, to support good attendance and care at home
- ✓ Ensuring adherence to school policies on confidentiality and protection of personal information
- ✓ Making sure all governors, staff, volunteers and visitors and anyone else who is involved in the day to day life of Farncombe School are aware of and committed to the safeguarding policy and child protection procedures
- ✓ Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- ✓ Adopting a Code of Conduct for all staff, governors, volunteers and visitors which includes e-safety and the use of mobile phones.

## What will happen if we feel there is a safeguarding issue?

As a school we are required to share information about concerns and pupil welfare issues with external agencies on a need to know basis. Should a child make a disclosure we will contact the appropriate agencies. If we feel that a child may be put at further risk if adults are informed we will do this without reference to others. Where allegations concern members of staff these will be dealt with in accordance with our child protection procedures. A copy of the school's policy is available from the school office or on the school's website. Low level concerns are logged in-house using 'My Concern'. All staff have the ability to log these.

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## Resources for parents to help safeguard their children

The NSPCC website has some informative and age appropriate resources to help parents educate their children about keeping themselves safe. Visit their website at [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk) You may also like to visit the safeguarding pages on the school website for e-safety information about keeping your child safe online.

## 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. When unfamiliar adults approach children, they can feel frightened, vulnerable or intimidated. 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 and children feeling frightened.
3. If you see something worrying regarding the welfare of one of our pupils please come into school and speak to a member of the school staff. 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.
4. Please refrain from using mobile phones when picking up your child. Greet them with a smile, a snack and a chat!

## Social Media

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. The use of social media to complain about school is unacceptable and not in the best interests of the school and the local community. Feedback directly to school is always welcome and frequently requested.

*Thank you to all Farncombe parents for helping to promote our strong safeguarding culture.*

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