



Carlisle Infant School

SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

Issue 1

Summer 2024



Welcome to the first edition of our termly safeguarding newsletters.

Safeguarding and Child Protection is such an important issue for our children that we have decided to have

a termly newsletter to share key information and advice with parents and carers. We want to work together with the same aim of keeping children safe in school, at home and in the wider community.

At Carlisle Infant School, we feel it is really important to work in partnership with parents and high-quality support agencies to offer a safe environment that allows children to be aware of the risks they may face and how to respond to them safely.

Our school curriculum gives children opportunities to explore many of these issues in a safe situation - Personal, Social and Health Education, Relationships Education, Circle Time, and dedicated curriculum time in subjects such as science. These lessons equip our children with the knowledge, understanding and the right tools to make safe choices. Our safeguarding curriculum covers key concepts throughout the years at Carlisle Infant School and is adapted to include topical issues that arise in our community.

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding is defined as:

- Protecting children from abuse and neglect
- Promoting children's mental and physical health and development
- Ensuring that children grow up in safe environments with good care
- Taking action to ensure the best outcomes.

Safeguarding covers a wide range of different aspects. These include types of abuse and how to spot them, reporting concerns, safer recruitment and promoting the welfare of children.

The role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is critical to safeguarding.

What is a DSL?

A DSL is a senior member of staff who takes the lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection. They ensure policies are followed and all staff know how to raise safeguarding concerns.

The DSL is responsible for referring concerns that meet a threshold to social care. They are also responsible for ensuring accurate and secure child protection records are kept. It is not the responsibility of the designated safeguarding officer to decide whether a child has been abused or not—that is the responsibility of statutory agencies such as Children's Social Work Services or the police.

At Carlisle Infant School, we provide all staff with regular and relevant safeguarding training and have four staff who are trained to form our safeguarding team. Please see below to find out who we are.



Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility

Future issues of our safeguarding newsletter will include spotlights on:

- eSafety
- Mental Health
- Anti-bullying



Ms. Zoe Brittain
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mr. David Wells
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Ms. Monique Goddard
Safeguarding Team



Mrs. Karen Hood
Safeguarding Team

Spotlight on: CONSENT



Why teach my children about consent?

Communication, respect, and honesty are the building blocks of healthy relationships, and consent is about all of those things.

When we teach children about consent, we help them learn how to express what they want and don't want. We give them tools to express their limits and boundaries.

We teach them that they deserve to be treated in a respectful way. Teaching consent also means teaching children that it's just as important to respect others' limits and wishes. Their friends have a right to say "no" and "yes" and have that be respected.



How do we get started with teaching children consent?

Ways to ask children for consent:

Do you want a hug today?

Can I tell your teacher that your grandma died?

Ways to teach children to ask for consent with other children:

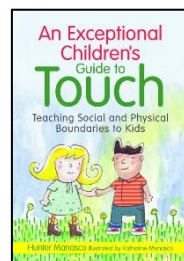
Do you want to play with the red or blue car?

Can I sit next to you on the bus please?

Please can I play with your toys?

The following website contains some useful tips for parents:

<https://sexedrescue.com/teaching-consent-to-kids/>



Recommended Read with your child:

An Exceptional Children's Guide to Touch

Teaching Social and Physical Boundaries to Kids

to Kids by [Hunter Manasco](#)

Safeguarding Curriculum

As part of our safeguarding curriculum, we use the NSPCC tool known as the TALK PANTS Underwear Rule

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

Children are taught to understand their body belongs to them, and they should tell a safe adult they trust if anything makes them feel upset or worried.

Each year we revisit the PANTS rules and during the summer term teachers use the Jigsaw curriculum to introduce children to the unit '[Changing Me](#)'. This unit progressively teaches children to name body parts with the correct biological language and in KS1, children are taught to identify differences between male and female bodies.

Reporting safeguarding concerns

At times when we aren't at school and you have concerns around the safety/wellbeing of a child, contact the **Single Point of Access** on 020 8547 5008 (8am to 5.15pm, Monday to Thursday, and 8am to 5pm on Friday. Out of hours, phone (020 8770 5000.)

Urgent calls

Call 999 if you think a child or young person is in immediate danger.

Talking about feelings

Action for Children have some excellent advice about creating the right environment and circumstances to enable your child to feel confident and comfortable in sharing any concerns with you at home.

<https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk/feelings-behaviour/talking-about-feelings/help-child-share-worries/>



Useful Information/Websites

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe>

<https://parentzone.org.uk/>

Need to share a concern?

Please use our safeguarding email address safeguarding@carlisle.richmond.sch.uk