

What is Safeguarding?

Children should be free from harm and danger; It is everyone's responsibility to ensure that they are. Safeguarding is about keeping children safe by:

- Protecting them from harm
- Supporting their health and development
- Making sure they grow up in a safe environment

Safeguarding is about knowing when a child is at risk or needs help to deal with problems so that they can be kept safe from:

- Accidental injury or death
- Bullying and harassment
- Being safe online (E-Safety)
- Crime and anti-social behaviour
- Neglect, abuse or violence in the home

Why do you need to know?

The Children Act 1989 requires everyone working with children to inform Children's Services about any child thought to be in need of support or at risk of harm. The Keeping Children Safe in Education Act 2018 requires all schools to have arrangements to safeguard children.

The school has procedures in place to do this and a policy that all staff, volunteers and regular visitors must work to. You can request a copy of this policy from the school office.

There are at least two members of staff whose job it is to be responsible for all aspects of safeguarding in our school.

We also have a Named Governor for Safeguarding.

If the issue concerns the Headteacher you can contact the Chair of Governors.

What will happen if we have concerns for your child?

If the school has a concern that your child is, or may be, suffering harm within or outside the school we will act according to our statutory duty under the Education and the Children Acts to protect your child from any harm or danger.

All schools have a duty to refer cases if they have a safeguarding concern.

What does this mean?

What concerns may we have for your child?

- If someone at our school sees an unusual or unexplained injury or mark
- If your child has said something worrying to us
- If it has been reported to another agency that something has been said or witnessed by your child
- If their behaviour is particularly out of the ordinary
- Or, if there are any other reasons we feel your child may be suffering harm outside of school, we have a legal duty to make a referral.

We will discuss the referral with you and also let you know it has been made, unless to do so would put your child at more risk by informing you. It is always better for your child if we can work together.

What do you need to know?

An assessment of your child's needs will be made either by a social worker or another professional already involved with your family.

This may involve a social worker contacting you to undertake an assessment, called a 'Statutory Assessment' and will provide you with a copy. This will involve a home visit when the social worker will speak to you and your child. They may also speak to other professionals involved with your family. If the social worker's assessment is that your child has needs that require additional help and support, they will discuss this with you.

How will you feel?

We understand that you may feel angry, upset or worried because we have made a referral.

The decision to make a referral is never taken lightly. However, every member of staff or volunteer that works at every school has a legal duty to act in the best interests of children at all times. This means acting quickly to reduce any risks where a child's safety is of concern.

What can you expect from us?

A safe environment in which your child can learn that complies with safeguarding legislation and guidance

- We will take good care of your child whilst they are with us and listen and act on any concerns they share with us
- We will keep accurate up to date records

- If your child transfers to another school we will share important information with their new school that will help to support your child's move
- We will contact you if your child is absent and you have not told us why to ensure they and you are safe and well
- We will respond promptly to any problem or concern you tell us about
- Our staff will offer support and assistance when needed

If you do not think the school has properly responded to an allegation about harm to a child by a member of staff you can complain to the Governing Body (details listed in this leaflet) or refer to Social Care.

If you have a concern for a child's safety or wellbeing, please contact Social Work Services on 020 7974 0494 and inform a social worker about your concerns. Further information and support services can be found at: <https://cscp.org.uk/>

LADO — Child Protection Conferences, Looked After Children Reviews — Sophie Kershaw
Sophie.Kershaw@camden.gov.uk
 020 7974 3828

Looked After Children — Sally Joseph
Sally.Joseph@camden.gov.uk
 020 7974 6798

Children in Need — Michelle O'Regan
Michelle.O'Regan@camden.gov.uk
 020 7974 1905

Children and Young People Disability Service — Crina Popa
Crina.Popa@camden.gov.uk
 020 7974 4867

Virtual School — Natalie White
Natalie.White@camden.gov.uk
 020 7974 2359

Key Safeguarding Contacts:

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Alex Yates Head Teacher head@royalfree.camden.sch.uk 07470 370379
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Jemma Michelson Senior Teacher jemma.michelson@royalfree.camden.sch.uk 07393 626063
Deputy DSL's	James Friel Teacher james.friel@royalfree.camden.sch.uk
	Lilli Lodge LSA Lilli.lodge@royalfree.camden.sch.uk
Named Governor for Safeguarding	Diana Goldin diana.goldin1@nhs.net
Chair of Governors	Dr Nicky Rogal nrogal@hotmail.com



Keeping Children Safe in Education

Information for Parents and Carers