

Safeguarding (Child Protection) Statement

Any parent or member of staff with any concerns should immediately report them to the Designated Senior Person for Safeguarding.

The Senior Designated Safeguarding Lead for child protection in our school is: Mrs Kate Dawson (Headteacher).

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead for child protection in our school is: Mrs Emma Pease

The Governors in charge of Safeguarding are: Jonathan McGill and Victoria Wakeman.

Cowling Community Primary School is committed to ensuring the welfare and safety of all children in school. All North Yorkshire schools, including Cowling School, follow the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board procedures. The school will, in most circumstances, endeavour to discuss all concerns with parents about their child/ren. However, there may be exceptional circumstances when the school will discuss concerns with Social Care and/or the Police without parental knowledge (in accordance with Child Protection procedures). The school will, of course, always aim to maintain a positive relationship with all parents.

Safeguarding means:

- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

Child protection is part of the safeguarding process. The school's child protection policy is attached below.

School Commitment

Cowling Community Primary School is committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of our pupils. Each pupil's welfare is of paramount importance. We recognise some children may be especially vulnerable to abuse and that children who are abused or neglected may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth and to view the world in a positive way. Whilst at school, their behaviour may be challenging and we recognise that some children who have experienced abuse may harm others. We will always take a considered and sensitive approach in order we can support all of our pupils and recognise that each pupil's welfare is of paramount importance.

We will ensure that:

All pupils, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender identity, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual orientation have the right to be safe and protected from harm;

All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately;

All staff and volunteers at Cowling Community Primary School have a responsibility to report any concerns to the designated leads for safeguarding.

Safer Recruitment and Selection

The school pays full regard to current DFE guidance “Keeping children safe in education” (updated September 2022). We ensure all appropriate measures are applied in relation to everyone who works in the school who is likely to be perceived by the children as a safe and trustworthy adult, including volunteers and staff employed by contractors.

Safeguarding Information for Pupils

All pupils in our school are aware they can talk to staff if they are worried. The school is committed to ensuring pupils are aware of behaviour towards them that is not acceptable and how they can keep themselves safe.

Prevent Strategy

As part of Cowling Community Primary School’s ongoing safeguarding and child protection duties we are fully behind the government’s Prevent Strategy. All staff have received ‘Prevent’ training and understand about and how to deal with any issues they may see inside or outside school.

Our Curriculum

One of our key priorities is teaching children to keep themselves safe. This is done through the PSHE curriculum all year round. All children in our school are aware they can talk to staff if they are worried. The school is committed to ensuring children are aware of behaviour towards them that is not acceptable and how they can keep themselves safe.

Our curriculum includes:

Bikeability

Water Safety

Road Safety

Sex,relationships and health education

Stranger danger

Growing up in North Yorkshire Survey

Crucial Crew

NSPCC workshops

Online Safety-

E-safety is an integral part of children’s education in today’s digital world and is embedded in their learning at school. We also want to help our parents and children improve their own understanding of e-safety issues so they can learn to use the internet and all digital media in a safe and secure way.

The technology children use every day can seem a bit daunting and you might worry about the risks your child can face online – such as bullying, contact from strangers or the possibility of them seeing illegal or inappropriate content.

Talking to your child about how they use the internet will help you start to protect your children online and decrease the risks they face. It's important to remember that the legal age to have an account on most social media – Instagram, Facebook, Youtube, Snapchat – is 13 years old.

We know that parents/carers will also be concerned that children stay safe when using the Internet at home and elsewhere. There are many websites that offer advice to parents on the topic of 'keeping your child safe online' . For example:

<https://www.childnet.com/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

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

We strongly believe that the use of the web and email is hugely worthwhile and an essential tool for children as they grow up in the modern world. However, because there are always concerns about children having access to undesirable materials, we have taken positive steps to deal with this risk in school. Our school internet access provider operates a filtering system that restricts access to inappropriate materials.