



## ST JOSEPH'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL, RAMSBOTTOM

### Safeguarding Policy

#### **Mission Statement**

Our school is proud to be part of the Roman Catholic Church in the parish of St Joseph's. Our mission is to serve God, uphold the worth and dignity of every person and enable them to develop their talents. Everything we do is rooted in the values of the Gospel, as we seek to deepen faith, strengthen hope and grow in love in a respectful, safe and happy environment.

#### **Overview**

This school will do all that is possible and reasonable to safeguard the children attending it. We will put into place clear policies and strategies to ensure the safeguarding and welfare of pupils especially those relating to child protection, behaviour, bullying, safe recruitment of staff, health and safety, harassment and discrimination. We will meet all our statutory duties to the highest standard. In life there is always an element of risk, and whilst accepting that, we will do all that is reasonable and possible to keep children safe. The governing body and all those who work here will put the safeguarding of pupils as their highest priority to ensure that all children are free to learn without worry or fear of harm.

#### **Objectives**

1. To keep learners safe and healthy and to ensure that we comply with the DfE guidelines 'Keeping children safe in education 2022' and other statutory duties or relevant guidelines.
2. To care for and protect learners from harm and to identify concerns at the earliest possible stage and to take swift, decisive and immediate action where necessary.
3. To establish clear management strategies in relation to child protection and keeping all children safe and recognising that children with SEN and disabilities are more likely to be abused or neglected than others
4. To have all statutory policies and additional policies in place to ensure that safeguarding needs are met efficiently and effectively.
5. To ensure that all adults in school and school governors are appropriately recruited and vetted in line with DfE guidelines.
6. To ensure that all governors and those working with children are properly trained for safeguarding children.
7. To make all children aware of the procedures that they must use to report any concerns or complaints concerning their health and safety.
8. To work in effective partnership with relevant agencies including the Virtual Headteacher to promote the health and safety of learners.
9. To prevent bullying of any kind including any which is related to the protected characteristics set out in the Equality Act 2010.

#### **Strategies**

1. We will have in place all relevant designated staff including a designated safeguarding leader (DSL) and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) and a safeguarding governor who will be safeguarding link, to meet our responsibilities for child protection and for keeping children safe.
2. Training for all staff must be provided least annually and the DSL training will be refreshed every two years and updated at least annually.
3. A strategy for early help will provide intervention and support as soon as a problem emerges and in the first instance, staff should discuss early help requirements with the designated safeguarding lead.
4. All staff should be mindful of the difference between **a 'concern'** about a child and where a child is in **'immediate danger or at risk of harm'**. A concern should be discussed promptly with the DSL but where there is 'immediate danger or risk of harm' **immediate action** must be taken to make the child safe and the DSL or headteacher or member of the SLT must be involved **immediately**.
5. We will use and apply the Recruitment Policy for the appointment and recruitment of all adults working with pupils in this school.
6. We will provide supervision, guidance and opportunities for regular, up-to-date training for all adults in this school.

7. We will give all children easy access to an appropriate adult who will listen to any concerns or complaints that they might have about their health and safety.
8. We will take reasonable action to make the school site safe and secure by checking and monitoring visitors and anyone else using the premises or grounds.
9. We will liaise and work closely with the LA, social services, virtual headteacher, police, Area Child Protection Agency and any other relevant support agency at all times and especially when a child's health or safety are at risk.
10. We will keep records and information relevant to safeguarding concerns clearly and accurately and share it with relevant agencies.
11. We will teach pupils how to keep themselves safe and show them how to deal sensibly with risk when using equipment, in outdoor activities, on visits and in sport and physical activities.
12. We will ensure that pupils are aware that peer-on-peer abuse is unacceptable and we will do all that we can to prevent this from happening.
13. Pupils from some different cultural backgrounds may be at greater risk of 'Honour-based Violence' or FGM and staff must be vigilant and take immediate action if they have cause to believe children are at risk. (ref. the FGM Policy)
14. We will teach home safety, road safety, railway safety, safety when with adults and safe use of the internet.
15. Any cyber bullying of staff or pupils, in or out of school, must be reported and then investigated rigorously, in conjunction with any relevant authority including the police if appropriate (ref. the Anti-Bullying Policy).
16. As part of St Joseph's RC Primary commitment to keeping children safe we have signed up to implement the principles and aims of the Bury Encompass Model.

#### Outcomes

In this school children will learn how to keep themselves safe and healthy. The education and support that we provide will give children the self-confidence they need to ensure that they can look after themselves and keep themselves safe and healthy. It will be a safe place where risks are kept to a minimum but it will not become a prison nor will we attempt to keep children wrapped in cotton wool. We will give children space and room to grow and develop with a balanced perspective of the importance of their health and safety without making them fearful and concerned. We will monitor evaluate and review all policies on a regular basis to ensure that they are up to date and that they meet all statutory requirements for safeguarding. In case of need the NSPCC whistle-blowing helpline number is 0800 028 0285.

#### Other Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the Health & Safety Policy, Privacy Notice, Anti-Bullying Policy, Behaviour Policy, Equality Policy, SEND Policy, FGM Policy and the Prevent Policy.

#### Review

This policy will be reviewed annually.

September 2022