

St Philip's Catholic Primary School

Safeguarding Children Statement

Autumn 2023

Review Autumn 2024



At St Philip's Catholic School we are committed to the safeguarding of all our pupils, staff and visitors. Safeguarding is a priority with arrangements in place to ensure learners feel, and are safe on school premises and during off site activities.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment;
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development;
- Ensuring that children have the provision of safe and effective care; and
- To enable children to have optimum life chances.

Our children's safety and wellbeing are paramount and safeguarding initiatives are developed to impact positively upon this.

We ensure safeguarding legislation and guidance are adhered to and taken into account when developing and revisiting policies, procedures and associated arrangements.

St Philip's provides a safe physical environment for its pupils and staff, ensuring that the premises are of a good standard. Health & Safety arrangements are in place to ensure adherence to current legislation and guidance.

Applicants will be subject to recruitment and selection procedures designed to emphasise our commitment to the safeguarding of pupils and staff. The procedures include questioning at interview stage, verification of appropriate qualification, acquiring references and appropriate checks by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). At least one member of the interview panel will be trained in Safer Recruitment.

All staff and volunteers (including parent helpers) are required to complete a Mandatory Disqualification Check. All staff (and volunteers who will have unsupervised access to children) are required to undertake an enhanced DBS Disclosure.

The DSL and the school secretary are responsible for updating and managing the Single Central Record List; an electronic copy of this is password protected on the Office Drive.

The DSL is the Designated Person for Child Protection. The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead will deputise for this role in the absence of the DSL.

The school has policies and procedures in place to deal effectively with child protection and safeguarding issues together with recording and monitoring processes.

These include:

- Supporting Children with Medical Conditions/ First Aid
- Health and Safety
- Anti-Bullying
- Playground
- Child Protection
- Equal Opportunities
- SEN
- EPR
- Educational Visits
- Use of Photographs and Images of Children
- School Attendance
- Behaviour
- Safer Recruitment
- 'Whistle Blowing
- Equalities
- Sex Education and Relationships
- Use of Force and Restraint.
- Safe use of the Internet.

It is a condition of employment that all staff are trained to a level appropriate to their Safeguarding responsibilities. Staff are expected to attend internal and external training and awareness sessions covering safeguarding issues.

The Governors and Senior Management team will continue to keep abreast of developments in this area and implement arrangements to continually improve the safety and awareness of its pupils, Staff and volunteers.

Debbie Rowland is the named Governor for Safeguarding.