DENHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

Safeguarding Policy

Safeguarding Policy

Last Updated: 07/20
Update Required: 07/21

Denham Village Infant School aims to use the principles of Every Child Matters to underpin all aspects of school life. Denham Village Infant School is a Healthy School and this policy reflects this.

AIMS

To actively promote the school's mission statement: High standards in learning and caring.

- To know that learning can only take place if the child feels comfortable and happy.
- To establish, monitor and maintain systems and procedures to ensure that all children are safe and protected.
- To ensure a warm and safe environment in the school so that children feel comfortable to express how they are feeling and to disclose anything difficult or unpleasant that may be happening in their lives as they trust the adults in the school to help them through difficult times.
- To empower every child through developing a healthy self-image, a sense of what is right and wrong and personal safety and care.
- To link roles and job descriptions with specific responsibilities for child welfare, pastoral care and safety.
- To ensure that all staff and governors are trained in child protection every 3 years; the Child Protection officer every 2 years and everyone is aware of their personal responsibility regarding safeguarding children. All new governors are inducted by an experienced governor who covers the child protection issues and who arranges for them to be trained in line with the training experienced by the governors who have received external training.
- To create a culture of 'awareness' around all matters of safety and that it is the responsibility of all to report anything which could be deemed unsafe.

IMPLEMENTATION

- **We take a holistic approach to learning** with each child's safety, well-being and dignity at the core of all that is learnt, taught and done in the school. We focus on the child, his or her needs and healthy development and have a strong system of mentoring children who may be in distress.

- **Vulnerable children are identified** through

- Head teacher who monitors absence. A particular focus is those children with absence below 90% and those close to this figure.
- Children on free school meals tracked with regard to attendance and progress.
- Confidential pastoral records kept where necessary noting details and monitoring what is happening with the child.
- Ensuring staff relationships with children are always good and especially ensuring that they are good with those children who display frequent difficulties.

- Relationships with parents' e.g. poor engagement with the school or threatening or violent behaviour or smelling of alcohol on the site or following up any concerns about possible drugs.
- Following up on the same day any information received from other agencies or people e.g. Police, hospital, social worker; anxious 'neighbour' or a pupil wanting advice.
- Keeping the SEN 'register' up-to-date.
- Contacting the previous school of a new child prior to their records arriving in order to establish if the child is vulnerable.
- Regular discussions with teachers and other adults working in the school who pass on any issues they have noted or if they have noticed changes in a pupil's functioning.
- Analysis of the results of a range of surveys of pupil opinions and feelings.
- The e-safety work with all pupils led by a trained parent governor.

CHILDREN ARE KEPT SAFE BY:
- Having a single record of all checks including volunteers.
- Following safer recruitment procedures and seeing original documentation.
- The site being kept secure at all times and procedures in the event of a stranger on site including an emergency are known to all staff.
- The main gate remains locked during the school day.
- Signing in and out and 'badging' for visitors.
- Only identified, authorised adults will collect children. Any change of arrangements is notified by telephone call to the school office.
- Confidential records on vulnerable children and those being monitored for child protection as a result of a disclosure, receipt of a police report indicating domestic violence or drug or alcohol related incidents, are kept in a locked cabinet accessed by the Head teacher.
- The Head teacher, SLT, and some governors have attended training in Safer Recruitment techniques and all are still in post.
- Photographs are taken using school cameras and downloaded on school computers. Only first names are issued to the press or added to the school website.
- Regular CEOP sessions for parents and for pupils to keep children safe on the internet.

BY RELATING WELL TO AND COMMUNICATING WITH OTHER AGENCIES
- An appropriate person always attending child protection or child in need or professional meetings.
- Maintaining confidential strong links and good communications with other agencies involved in the care of vulnerable pupils e.g. CAMHS, Social Workers, Health Visitor, the School Nurse, the Educational Psychologist, Family Workers.
- Parents' Evenings where Head teacher is always available to speak to parents.
- Termly parent meetings with the Head teacher.

RESOURCES
- Circle Time and Staff Induction.
- Policies in the file and in the main entrance – for reference.
- Visits from the health visitor and community police.
- Posters re: Childline.

- Internet Policy and 'Using the Internet Safely'.
- Anti-Bullying and Race Equality materials.

POLICY AND PROCEDURES ON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

This policy is devised in the context of The Children's Plan 2007. It works with other school policies including: - Recruitment and Retention policy, Child Protection Policy, Health and Safety Policy,   Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy, Attendance Policy, Equalities, Disabilities, PSHCE Policy, Sex and Relationships Education Policy, Education Visits Policy and the Internet Policy. As the safeguarding of children is our prime responsibility, everything we do in the school is set up in order to ensure their safety.

Signature: ……………………………………

Headteacher

Signature: ……………………………………

Chair of Governors

Date: …………………………………

Date: ……………………………………