Safeguarding at Bishop Wood

The Local Context

It is important to know what the local (school and Tring area) safeguarding landscape and context is. We feel that the following areas are key issues locally:

- *Domestic Violence (DV)* – there was a spike in this locally during the period of school closure
- *County Lines* – We know this is a key issue for Tring School and are aware that it may impact our children and other family members
- *Cost of Living Crisis and associated housing issues*
- *Online Safety* – Increased pupil access to platforms such as YouTube and TikTok is raising a concern. Chris Ing, as Computing Lead, is leading on a response to this.
- *Potential far right/islamophobic radicalisation*.

Training and Key People

- Every member of staff is trained to Level 1.
- We use Herts/HfL for this training and it is refreshed every three years.
- The following staff members are trained to Level 2 and are the school Designated Safeguarding leads (DSLs)
    - Gary Stanley - DSL
    - Jon Hall - Deputy DSL
    - Debs Bourke - Deputy DSL
    - Jane Guest – Deputy DSL
    - Mel Matthews – Deputy DSL
- The safeguarding governor is Huw Bellis
- The Prevent Lead is Gary Stanley

Policy Information

- There are several key policies relating to safeguarding. Most are all available on the school website. The key policies are:
    - Child Protection Policy – which includes key updates from Keeping Children Safe in School
    - Safeguarding Policy
    - Behaviour Policy
    - Anti-bullying Policy
    - Online Safety Policy
    - Staff Code of Conduct
- Policies highlighted in red are reviewed annually and signed by all staff

Categories of Abuse

A reminder that there are 4 main categories of abuse. These are:

- Physical Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Neglect
- Sexual Abuse

You must also have a good understanding of:

- Peer on Peer abuse (sexting, upskirting, bullying etc)
- County Lines (exploitation of children for criminal purposes e.g. drug mules)
- Female Genital Mutilation
- PREVENT (preventing children from being drawn into radicalism)

Sharing Concerns

These are the key ways in which concerns can and should be shared:

- If you have a genuine safeguarding concern, it should be logged on CPOMS (every member of staff has access to this). The online record MUST satisfy the following bullet point:
  - A clear and comprehensive summary of the concern
  DSLs must then ensure that they add:
  - Details of how the concern was followed up and resolved
  - A note of any actions taken, decisions reached and the outcome
- If you are unsure whether a concern should be logged or not, you can discuss it with a DSL who will be able to support you.
- If you are unsure of what to do and are not able to locate a DSL (which is very unlikely) or you believe a child is in danger or at risk you should seek advice by calling the safeguarding team at Herts CC on 0300 123 4043.
- Low level safeguarding concerns and/or training updates can be shared in staff briefing on a Friday morning

Dealing with Bullying Accusations

The school has a behaviour policy and a separate anti-bullying policy. If a suspected case of bullying arises, the 'Identifying Bullying' form (found on the shared drive and available via the school office) should be used to assess the situation and inform next steps.

Jane, Gary and Elaine are the school behaviour leads and support staff around this aspect.

Governor Monitoring

The safeguarding governor carries out half termly monitoring activities. These vary across the year but a single central record check is carried out at least termly. A typical overview may look like this:

Autumn 1 (all largely completed during FGB)

- Policy Updates
- Annual Safeguarding report
- Induction/Onboarding

Autumn 2

- SCR Check
- Attendance/Absence
- Safeguarding casework in HT report to FGB

Spring 1

- Health and Safety Audit (Edmund)
- Local Context Discussion

Spring 2

- Pupil Voice
- Alternative Provision Checks (we currently have 1 pupil attending provision at The Haven 50% of the week)
- SCR Check

Summer 1

- Parent Voice – Safeguarding Focused Coffee Morning
- Gates, doors, fences – physical safety of the school site
- Offsite Visit Risk Assessments

Summer 2

- SCR Check
- Staff Voice