

A, B, C & D



Achieve, Believe,
Care & Dream

Safeguarding Statement

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The safety and welfare of children is everyone's responsibility. As such, **anyone** may make a referral to social care. Please speak to a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) if they are available before making the referral. If you are concerned that a child is in immediate danger, call the police on 999. If you believe or suspect a child has suffered significant harm and/or is likely to suffer significant harm contact MASH on 01452 426565 (Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm) or the Emergency Duty Team on 01452 614194.

Who can I talk to at school?

Designated Safeguarding Lead	Headteacher – Nicky Morris
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (Pre-School)	Pre-School Manager – Linda Bennett
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (After School Club)	ASC lead – Marie Skelton
Deputy Safeguarding Lead	SENCO – Hazel Everett
Deputy Safeguarding Lead	Deputy Head – Rebecca Bilton

During school closure please follow the school's usual child protection arrangements. If any of the safeguarding leads are not in school, they can be contacted at home on their email address (staff can contact on mobile numbers):

head@benhall.gloucs.sch.uk

rebeccabilton@benhall.gloucs.sch.uk

senco@benhall.gloucs.sch.uk

For professional advice: Children's Practitioner Advice Line 01452 426565 (Option 3)
Cheltenham Community Social Worker 01452 328246

Introduction

The most important duty of the School is to ensure the safety of the children in its care. To this end, the Governing Body has developed a suite of policies which support the safety and well-being of all. The purpose of this statement is to collect, in one place, all of the arrangements for ensuring the safeguarding of the children at the Benhall. In doing so, there is a risk of duplicating information produced and held in other places. To avoid this risk, while this document is intended to be comprehensive in dealing with all matters relating to safeguarding, it should merely signpost relevant policies and procedures if they already exist elsewhere.

Definition of Safeguarding

The School mirrors Ofsted in its recognition of the definition of the term 'Safeguarding' used in the Children Act 2004. In summary this is:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's health or development
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- undertaking that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.

Aims of the School's Safeguarding Arrangements

Benhall Infant and Pre-School School shares the principles of Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership (GSCP) and is committed to the following:

"All children deserve the opportunity to achieve their full potential To achieve this, children need to feel loved and valued, and be supported by a network of reliable and

affectionate relationships. If they are denied the opportunity and support they need to achieve these outcomes, children are at increased risk not only of an impoverished childhood, but of disadvantage and social exclusion in adulthood. Abuse and neglect pose particular problems.”

Scope of the School’s Safeguarding Arrangements

The School’s safeguarding arrangements encompasses all aspects of life at school, in particular addressing those issues, which are covered by the policies and procedures outlined below. These policies are supplemented and enhanced by reference to those provided by Gloucestershire County Council’s HR team and the latest versions of Keeping Children Safe in Education and Working Together to Safeguard Children.

Policies
• Child Protection
• Health and Safety
• Attendance
• Teaching and Learning
• Inclusion
• Curriculum
• Relationships and Sex Education (RHSE)
• Anti-Bullying
• Behaviour (including exclusions)
• Equality (includes gender, race, disability etc.)
• Positive Handling
• Administering Medicines
• Off Site Visits and Risk Assessments
• Intimate Care
• Mobile Technology; Internet Safety, Acceptable Use
• Safer Recruitment
• Whistle Blowing and Staff Code of Conduct
• Accessibility
• Visitors in School
• Confidentiality

Safeguarding Governor’s Terms of Reference

Clare Whitcomb is the Safeguarding Governor and is responsible to the Full Governing Body for ensuring that:

- the School has an up to date and effective policy for child protection which is available to parents via the website and on request
- robust and effective recruitment procedures are followed that take into account latest legislation • there is monitoring of the effective implementation of the procedures and policies outlined above and that individual responsibilities are discharged correctly
- all policies and procedures relating to safeguarding matters are reviewed by the Full Governing Body at least annually

- information is provided to relevant bodies such as Gloucester Safeguarding Children's Partnership and Ofsted about how the School has discharged its safeguarding responsibilities
- a named governor for safeguarding is always in office
- appropriate arrangements are in place to safeguard children who take part in, or are affected by, the provision of extended services and other school activities that take part outside normal school hours
- when safeguarding complaints, concerns and deficiencies have been brought to the Governing Body that effective steps are taken, without delay, to address them
- the ethos of the School promotes positive practice in relation to safeguarding.

The Headteacher is responsible to the Full Governing Body for ensuring that:

- the DSL or DDSL is always available or, if not for any reason, the DSL at St Marks Junior School is available to discuss safeguarding concerns
- (s)he maintains a clear overview of the School's safeguarding policies and procedures
- the policies and procedures adopted by the Governing Body with regard to safeguarding are implemented and followed and, where appropriate, records are kept to show that they are
- the designated member of staff for child protection is provided with appropriate support, in particular provision of sufficient time and resources to discharge their responsibilities, including taking part in inter-agency assessments and meetings
- appropriate training is in place for governors, staff and other relevant adults
- in the event of a person leaving the School, whether a member of staff or otherwise, when there are grounds for believing that they may be unsuitable to work with children or may have committed misconduct, that the Independent Safeguarding Authority are made aware of the circumstances
- risk assessments are carried out and recorded in relation to all School activities including the admission or re-admission of pupils with behaviour that could place themselves or others at risk, and following up and recording each case to ensure that the risk assessments are effective
- effective steps are taken, in accordance with the appropriate policies and procedures, in the event that the Headteacher receives any safeguarding complaints or concerns • all staff, pupils, volunteers or other persons feel able to raise concerns about unsafe or poor safeguarding practice
- a report is presented to the FGB regarding safeguarding at least once annually and safeguarding is a standard item on governor meeting agendas

Safeguarding Policies

At Benhall Infant and Pre-School, the policies are produced and monitored by either a governors' committee or the Headteacher, and approved by the Full Governing Body. Within the list above, many policies are reviewed annually as required by statute. Others are also reviewed annually to ensure that they adequately represent the School's safeguarding arrangements and current safeguarding best practice.

Monitoring Safeguarding

At least once each year, the Safeguarding Governor shall carry out, or arrange for another person to carry out, a monitoring review of all of the School's safeguarding arrangements, alongside other

more frequent safeguarding compliance checks. The purpose of the monitoring review is to assure that the School and relevant persons are complying with and conforming to the requirements, the School's policies, and external agencies, and following best practice, with regard to safeguarding. The monitoring review shall take the form of interview with the Headteacher and a review of the GCSP Safeguarding Assurance Declaration. The purpose of raising findings reports is to facilitate change to overcome any non-compliance, or improvement in practice.