



Walkwood

Church of England  Middle School



Pupil Safeguarding Guide

2024-2025

What is this?

Our school has a Safeguarding Policy for staff, families and governors. This pupil-friendly version is designed for young people, and this should be read as a guide to the main policy. We have tried to write this in a way that makes sense to you as the Safeguarding Policy is very long..... 😊

What is this for?

To help you decide what could be a problem and where to get help and support. It is important that you know who you can talk to and understand why you might need to talk to someone.

What is a DSL ?

You might have seen or heard the phrase DSL, but what does it mean? DSL stands for Designated Safeguarding Lead. In every school, there is always someone responsible for keeping you safe, and all staff must tell them if they are worried about you. Staff have training and are taught how to keep children safe as it is the most important part of their job.

Our DSL's in school are:

Mr West



Mrs Mckenna



Mrs Lowe



The four main areas of Child Protection concerns are:

1. Physical Abuse – hitting, smacking, shaking, throwing, burning, biting etc.
2. Sexual Abuse – be aware this does not always mean touching a child. It could be someone making you watch things to do with sex or encouraging you to act in an inappropriate way.
3. Neglect – this means things like not providing meals or warmth or clothing. Or perhaps not taking you to the Doctors when you need to go.
4. Emotional Abuse – This means when someone upsets you or makes you feel bad. If someone in your family says horrible things to you and makes you feel sad and worthless.

These are just a few examples for you and if you think you may have a problem that is like one of these then talk to someone to check.





Has someone said something to you, or have you heard something that you do not like or upsets you?

Is someone bullying you?

You must tell someone at school so we can help you.



Has someone hit, punched or smacked you or hurt you in anyway?

Hitting, punching or smacking you - You must tell someone at the school so we can help you.



Has someone touched you on a part of your body like your bottom, chest or anywhere else you do not like?

Touching you It is not okay for someone to touch you and make you feel uncomfortable. People who do things like this often lie and tell you things to frighten you and make sure you don't tell anyone. You must tell someone at school so we can help you and it is not your fault and you will be taken care of and support you.

Examples of people in school you can tell are:

Pastoral Managers - Head of Year - Tutor

Teachers in the classroom - Teaching Assistants - Playground staff

First Aiders

Any adult in school who you can trust!

What happens if I do speak to an adult about a worry?

If you speak to a grown up, sometimes they will need to check things with your DSL and then if they can deal with the issue themselves, they will. Please try and understand that staff and the DSL will only want to help you and make you feel supported and better about the situation. There are times though when they may need to contact some other agencies for support. These may be Children's Social Care (Social Workers) or Police. This is because schools can't do everything on their own and need to work with other professionals who are best placed to help with arranging other things. It might sound a little bit scary, but the Social Workers and Police will be specialist trained professionals who are great at helping children and young people. There are lots of other agencies who support children and their families, and it isn't always that people need to have a Social Worker involved with their family. Sometimes people are Youth Workers or Mentors or Family Support Workers. Do not worry, your DSL will talk to you and explain all of this, and you can always go and ask them questions if you are unsure about anything.

Is there anywhere else that I can go to get help?

[Childline | Childline](#)

0800 1111