

We all have the right to...



be heard



be healthy

be treated  
fairly

learn



a childhood



Learner Friendly Safeguarding Policy

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## What is a learner-friendly safeguarding policy?

Wallscourt Farm has a safeguarding policy for staff, families and our Academy Council. This child-friendly policy has been created using the thoughts and ideas of our Future Leader Representatives.

## What is safeguarding?



Safeguarding means keeping everyone safe. It is important that we know how to stay safe at all times. Every adult in school wants to make sure that you feel safe and happy whether at school or outside of school. Sometimes adults don't know if something bad is happening, so you need to tell them.



## How do the adults at Wallscourt Farm Academy help to keep me safe?

- All of the adults provide us with a safe environment to learn. It is also our responsibility to respect our resources and keep areas tidy.
- Everyone has the right to feel **safe**; the right to **learn** and the right to be **heard**.
- Everyone is welcome here. We respect each other's race, religion, gender identity, age, disabilities, sexuality and gender.
- We have lots of adults to keep us safe and to help us understand risks or dangers.
- The adults in school know how to keep us safe: at home as well as school.
- We have gatherings and lessons about: Being a Citizen, e-safety, road safety, consent, staying safe and what to do if there is a fire alarm or lockdown alarm.
- We can talk to adults in school if we are worried or unhappy about something. We can leave a note in our class worry box and there are posters around school reminding us who we can talk to.
- Adults in school will have conversations with us about our choices. This helps us to understand how we can keep ourselves and others safe.



## What do we mean by positive relationships and what does this look like?

Any relationship, such as friendships, should be positive and happy. If people in a relationship aren't respecting someone's rights and responsibilities, this might make them feel scared, confused, worried and even unsafe. It's really important to know what a positive relationship looks like.

Positive relationships:

- Everyone's rights and responsibilities are respected.
- You feel comfortable.
- You can be honest.
- You can say how you feel, what you are thinking and you listen to each other.
- You support each other and treat each other nicely.
- You feel safe.
- You trust them.
- You are equal – you don't boss each other around or tell each other what to do.
- You feel looked after.

## What might it look like if someone isn't respecting your right to be safe?



- The person might say unkind words, make you feel bad or spread rumours about you.
- The person might push you, hit you or spoil or take your things.
- The person might not respect your right to be heard when you say no, ask them to stop or when you say you don't want to do something.
- The person might be unkind to you online or via social media. They might be unkind to you online or send you photos or videos you don't want to see.
- The person might tell you what to do, what to wear or who you can see and spend time with.
- The person might not respect your body boundaries.
- The person might not ask for your consent before touching you.
- The person might pressurise you or manipulate you into doing things you don't want to do.



## What do we mean by body boundaries?

It is important to know about our own and other people's body boundaries. This helps us to know how we should treat other people and how we should expect to be treated by others.

We have the right to our own personal space, and we have ownership over our own body and what happens to it. It is also important that we respect another person's body boundaries and ask for their consent when entering their personal space.

Everyone in the world has a body boundary. Your body boundary is the invisible space around your body. This space may be invisible but that doesn't mean it isn't there. No one should come inside your body boundary without you saying it's okay.



## What is consent?



Consent is when one person agrees to or gives permission to another person to do something. You only know if you have someone's consent if you've asked for it. If a person doesn't say yes, then they haven't given their consent.

Ask for consent, then listen to the answer. If a person bribes someone or threatens someone to say yes, then that's not consent. Sometimes adults will try to tell children what to do with their body, but you still get to decide.

## What is bullying?



Bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.

Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological. It can happen face-to-face or online.

Bullying can be:

- ❖ **Physical** – pushing, poking, kicking, hitting, biting, pinching etc.
- ❖ **Verbal** – name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, threats, teasing, belittling.
- ❖ **Emotional** – isolating others, tormenting, hiding books, threatening gestures, ridicule, humiliation, intimidating, excluding, manipulation and coercion.
- ❖ **Online / cyber** – posting on social media, sharing photos, sending nasty text messages, social exclusion.



Saying it's 'banter' or 'just a joke' is not ok!

It's not banter if:

- You would be upset if someone said it to you
- It's hurtful
- You're not friends
- Someone's asked you to stop
- The target isn't laughing
- It focuses on someone's insecurities



The **Target** is the person at whom the bullying is aimed at.

The **Ringleader** initiates and leads the bullying.

The **Reinforcer** supports the bullying, might laugh or encourage what's going on but doesn't 'do' it.

The **Assistant** is actively involved in 'doing' the bullying but does not lead it.

The **Defender** stands up for someone being bullied. Knows that bullying is wrong and feels confident enough to defend. They might talk to an adult in school.

The **Outsider** ignores or doesn't see the bullying and doesn't want to get involved.



## How might we notice something is wrong?

Our friends might not always tell us if something is worrying them or if someone isn't respecting their right to be safe. However, there are changes we might notice which could be a sign that someone isn't respecting their right to be safe.

### Some signs might be:

- Looking worried or upset.
- Appearing distracted or unable to concentrate.
- Becoming quieter or shy.
- Getting headaches or stomach aches.
- Feeling nervous.
- Not going to or wanting to go to school.
- They may not be able to sleep, be sleeping too much or getting nightmares.
- Being unkind to others.
- Their learning is not as good as it used to be.
- Having injuries like bruises.
- Changing how they look.

## What can I do if I see or hear a situation where someone isn't respecting another person's right to be safe?



If you see or hear a situation where someone isn't respecting another person's right to be safe, it is important that you help them. You could:

- ✓ Speak out and tell the person it's wrong.
- ✓ Support the person it's happening to.
- ✓ Tell a trusted adult and ask them for help.
- ✓ Call Childline (0800 1111) who will listen to you and give you advice.

You should never feel scared to tell someone about someone being hurt or made to feel upset. Sometimes you might not see someone being hurt, but you might be worried about them. It's really important you tell someone even if you are worried, but haven't seen any unsafe choices.



## Who can I talk to if I have a worry?

You can talk to any adult in school, but we have a team of adults who form our Safeguarding team. They think in more detail about all the steps we take to keep everyone safe.



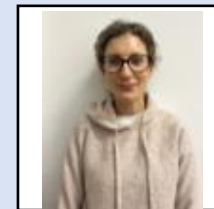
**Mrs Rea**  
Designated Safeguarding Lead



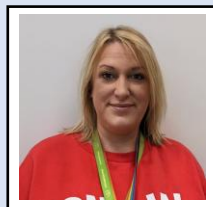
**Miss Black**  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



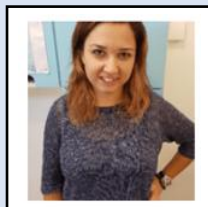
**Mr Boocock**  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs McLaughlin**  
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



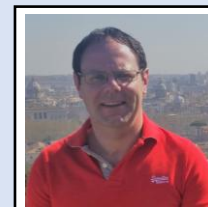
**Mrs Berry**



**Miss Celia**



**Miss McClelland**



**Michael Small**  
Academy Council  
Safeguarding Link

If you don't think you can speak to an adult in school, you could leave a note in your class worry box. You can also phone ChildLine (0800 1111) who will listen to you and give you help and advice.