



CLIFFE V.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL

MAIN STREET, CLIFFE, SELBY, NORTH YORKSHIRE, YO8 6NN

ADMIN @ CLIFFE.N-YORKS.SCH.UK

01757 638426

03/10/2022

Re: Safeguarding

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you know, our core priority is the safety and welfare of our pupils. Creating a happy, safe and secure learning environment is a key part in ensuring that all of our pupils have a school setting where they can reach their potential and enjoy their learning. We were especially pleased to see this recognised by OFSTED in our recent report;

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Keeping pupils safe is of paramount importance for the school. Staff are knowledgeable and well trained. Update training reminds staff how to identify a pupil at risk of harm. Record-keeping is meticulous and detailed. Staff have a good understanding of potential local risks, such as radicalisation or sexual exploitation. The designated safeguarding lead is adept in securing help from external partners through swift referrals. All staff are committed to developing pupils' all-round well-being. Pupils have a good knowledge of how to keep themselves safe through lessons on e-safety and stranger danger. (OFSTED 2021)

As we start a new school year we would like to share with you some of the key messages that we impart to our pupils to enable this environment to be created and maintained.

Here at Cliffe School the Designated Safeguarding Lead is Adam Blackwood, while in his absence or as an alternative contact the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is Roxanne Rose. Should you have any concerns or questions regarding safeguarding these should be your initial points of contact. Should you not feel these appropriate points of contact for your concern our Designated Governor for Safeguarding is Carole Middleton, always contactable via the school office. In addition to this all pupils know who to talk to in their class should they have a worry or concern and this is reinforced by class teachers on a regular basis.

Cliffe's policies are in place to ensure that there is a consistent approach to practices throughout the school and that they are understood and adhered to by staff, governors and volunteers. Adults have a tremendous impact on young children and the stability of school is an essential part of providing our pupils with the consistency they need to be successful. With this in mind adults at Cliffe will:

- Work within the agreed policies of the school
- Promote a happy, caring and safe school
- Encourage children to think for themselves, ask questions and find answers
- Create an environment of trust
- Challenge and support children in their learning
- Recognise and value our strengths and use these to support each other
- Be polite and hard-working

There are numerous policies in place to safeguard our children and these are available on the school website.

We work hard to ensure that 'bullying' does not take place and should if occur it is dealt with quickly and effectively. The children are taught from Reception upwards what constitute 'bullying' and how this differs from other 'fall-outs' or isolated incidence of unkind behavior. They are also taught how this type of behavior can occur both in 'real life' and in the online sphere. As a school we participate in the national 'Bullying Week' initiative and continue to address this throughout the year. We have a strong thread of learning throughout our 'Learning for Life' curriculum and address all aspects of bullying including:



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- Racial
- Physical
- Social
- Verbal
- Cyberbullying
- Homophobic / Transphobic (as age appropriate)

We feel that this is important work to help our children understand the inclusive environment and the expectations that we have at Cliffe before they begin their journey from here to the wider world.

In addition to this, we continue to work hard to raise the awareness of diversity in our community, creating a setting where our pupils feel secure to be themselves in a supportive and accepting environment. We work hard to embed the 'British Values' of awareness and respect and regularly invite visitors into school to share with our pupils the ideas, beliefs and practices of cultural groups with whom they may not otherwise encounter. We are also mindful within the resources, visits and content covered to ensure positive representations are shown of those from 'protected categories' and pupils are made aware of the positive contributions made by all members of society.

We continue to update families on any new or emerging online concerns that seem to be prevalent within our school community. With emails recently being sent to families to raise awareness of concerns such as online gaming 'chat functions' and video streaming apps. We share the appropriate aspects of all this with our pupils to support their growth and development in becoming considerate and well-rounded individuals. We ask that you as parents support us in reinforcing these key issues to help our pupils understand the importance of these messages.

Our staff are also regularly updated on national safeguarding concerns such as Child Sexual Exploitation, Female Genital Mutilation and Anti-Radicalisation, all of which have been focuses within our staff training. Ensuring staff are well equipped to identify and manage concerns over these areas of safeguarding is fundamental in keeping your children safe.

We know that all children thrive and are able to reach their full potential when school and families work closely together. All of us here at Cliffe are totally committed to this and we look forward to our continuing close partnership with you in the future. As part of this partnership we would greatly value your input into what aspects of safeguarding you would like further support/advice/information on. If you have any suggested areas that you would be interested in learning more about please let us know this via email to admin@cliffe.n-yorks.sch.uk so that we can ensure any planning is aimed at working together with you to support our continued work in this area.

As ever, should you have any questions, concerns or comment please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr A Blackwood
Headteacher
Cliffe VC Primary School