

### **Working Together**

## to keep our children safe





Welcome to our first safeguarding newsletter which is aimed at sharing valuable information. Some of what we deal with is not designed to be shared with your children but to raise your awareness; please find an appropriate time to read our newsletters. The information may be aimed at keeping older children safe, as many of you are parents to older siblings, we felt this would also be of use. We'll deal with key themes such as online safety, anti-bullying, mental health and welfare to name a few.

We hope you find the information useful and would welcome any feedback you have. We don't advocate any of the views on websites that we might link to; we've just found them informative, interesting, useful or insightful in researching the topics we wish to cover. Our safeguarding team receive regular updates and alerts from the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children's Board <a href="http://derbyshirescbs.proceduresonline.com">http://derbyshirescbs.proceduresonline.com</a>

# Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs Galley, Headteacher Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs Hateley, Learning Mentor Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs Leyland, Deputy Headteacher Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs Leyland, Deputy Headteacher Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs Webster, Assistant Headteacher & SENCo Safeguarding Governor – Mr Ames, Member of Governing Board and PEAK MAT Trustee

Deputy Safeguarding Governor – Mrs Baker Member of Governing Board

Learning Mentor -

Mrs Leeder

## What is Safeguarding and what issues do the safeguarding team deal with?

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Safeguarding means: protecting children from abuse and maltreatment, preventing harm to children's health or development, ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care and taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

Under the Ofsted framework, effective safeguarding is a key indicator of a 'good' school and all of our staff, Governors and volunteers (no matter how little time they spend in school) receive safeguarding information to ensure everyone is confident in dealing with important issues. Staff are trained in safeguarding and receive regular updates from our safeguarding leads.

Safeguarding is 'Everybody's Business, Every Day'

#### This newsletter focuses on Domestic Abuse and Violence

# Behind Closed Doors The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children

#### What is domestic abuse?

Domestic abuse is any type of controlling, bullying, threatening or violent behaviour between people in a relationship. It can seriously harm children and young people and witnessing domestic abuse is child abuse.

#### It's important to remember domestic abuse:

- can happen inside and outside the home
- can happen over the phone, on the internet and on social networking sites
- can happen in any relationship and can continue even after the relationship has ended
- both men and women can be abused or abusers.



#### Types of domestic abuse

Domestic abuse can be emotional, physical, sexual, financial or psychological, such as:

- kicking, hitting, punching or cutting
- rape (including in a relationship)
- controlling someone's finances by withholding money or stopping someone earning
- controlling behaviour, like telling someone where they can go and what they can wear
- not letting someone leave the house
- reading emails, text messages or letters
- threatening to kill someone or harm them
- threatening to hurt or kill another family member or pet
- forced marriage
- honour-based violence

# Some of the biggest victims of domestic violence are the smallest

#### Effects of domestic abuse

Living in a home where domestic abuse happens can have a serious impact on a child or young person's mental and physical wellbeing, as well as their behaviour. And this can last into adulthood.

What's important is to make sure the abuse stops and that children have a safe and stable environment to grow up in.

Children who live with and are aware of violence in the home face many challenges and risks that can last throughout their lives.

#### Children who witness domestic abuse and violence have:

- An increased risk of becoming victims of abuse themselves.
- Are at significant risk of ever-increasing harm to their physical, emotional and social development
- Likely to continue the cycle of violence into their adult life.

Violence has no place in a child's life.



#### How many children might this be affecting?

NSPCC statistics show that as many as 1 in 5 children in the UK are witness to or exposed to this horrible crime during childhood and we, as a school, have seen a drastic rise over the last few years.

#### **SDAT (Stopping Domestic Abuse Together)**

Our school is part of the SDAT (Stopping Domestic Abuse Together) initiative, led by Derbyshire Police, in conjunction with Social Care, Health Services and other agencies. SDAT is a system to quickly notify us of any incidents of domestic abuse where the police have attended a household where children live. This enables us to understand changes in a child's behaviour, attitude or general presentation, and to support children as needed. Police notifications are sent through to our safeguarding team who then follow up with either Social Care or families.

#### Can we help?

If you are impacted by anything within our newsletter and need to talk, please get in touch, members of the safeguarding team or the learning mentor team can help. Contact the school office and ask to speak to someone or email safeguarding@chellastoni.derby.sch.uk

#### For parents

If you're an adult experiencing domestic abuse, there are organisations that can help.

Derby Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Advocate Team 07812300927

Derbyshire helpline 08000198668

Relate

0300 003 0396

You can talk to Relate about your relationship, including issues around domestic abuse.

National Domestic Violence Helpline 0808 2000 247

A 24 hour free helpline run in partnership between Women's Aid and Refuge.

Men's Advice Line 0808 801 0327

Advice and support for men experiencing domestic violence and abuse.

National LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Helpline 0800 999 5428

Emotional and practical support for LGBT+ people experiencing domestic abuse.

https://uksaysnomore.org/effects-of-domestic-abuse-on-children/

https://www.womensaid.org.uk/information-support/what-is-domestic-abuse/impact-on-children-and-young-people/https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/domestic-abuse/

