

Annual Governor Safeguarding Report 2021

The school has a deep commitment to safeguarding, which is on the agenda for staff and FGB meetings. Safeguarding compliance is evident through the school's up-to-date policies which are displayed on the website, through Governor visits which are scheduled on the Governor Monitoring Planner, and this year the school has also had an independent external safeguarding audit. Governor visits are recorded and impact is assessed.

Safeguarding Audit

An external safeguarding audit was conducted in May and the school was found to be in a "strong position regarding safeguarding". Included were some recommendations for Governors:

- to engage more with the children, and
- to be mindful of the Leadership's wellbeing in terms of the burden of safeguarding responsibility.

In respect of these points, Governors should be encouraged to consider pupil voice in Monitoring Visits, and Safeguarding Governor will be asked after and be mindful of DSL wellbeing during termly visits.

She also raised the question of the SG Governor also being staff, which has been discussed with CoG and Head and the point raised at FGB meeting.

SCR

The single central record is well managed and up to date. Governor monitoring visits have been made during the Spring and Summer terms and some minor action points noted and followed up. The Autumn term visit was not made due to the Covid situation.

Covid 19

School re-opened in September but closed again from January to March due to Covid-19. Policies are reviewed and updated as the situation and Government advice changes. Covid safeguarding issues are taken seriously and action is taken as soon as possible to ensure that the wellbeing of children and staff are a priority, e.g. the careful consideration and consultation evident in the drop-off and pick-up arrangements.

Wellbeing

Wellbeing has been an especially high priority this year due to Covid-19 and its effects. The school has Wellbeing Champions allocated for pupils and staff. All children, but especially vulnerable and new children, have been individually monitored by their Wellbeing Champion who has time allocated weekly for wellbeing. She monitors, observes and meets with children according to their need. Mental Health and Wellbeing is embedded in the SDP and the new RSE curriculum.

Curriculum

The new RSE curriculum, Jigsaw, is up and running. It provides a spiral curriculum, so all classes cover the same topic concurrently at an age appropriate level. Work is recorded in books, monitored and overseen by SLW who has reported to GB and an independent external advisor.

Policies

The following Safeguarding policies are displayed on the school website:

- Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy 2021
- Anti-Bullying 20/21
- Addendum to Behaviour Policy COVID 19
- Equality and Diversity 20/21
- First Aid Policy 20/21
- Keeping Children Safe in Education Sept 2020
- Lockdown Policy & Procedure 20/21
- Managing Allegations/ Peer on Peer Abuse 20/21
- Managing Allegations against Staff 20/21
- Mobile Phone Policy 2020/21
- Prevent Duty Policy 20/21
- Photographic Policy 20/21
- Wellbeing & Behaviour Policy 20/21
- Whistleblowing 20/21

The School website is compliant and monitored by the Clerk. Further safeguarding related policies are available on the staff shared drive.

Covid specific policies and updates on the website:

- COVID-19 Safeguarding Addendum March 21
- COVID-19 Video Conferencing
- COVID-19 Video Conferencing Agreement
- COVID-19 Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)
- COVID Remote Learning Plan -Jan 2021

The school website is well-maintained and includes external safeguarding and wellbeing links. A regular on-line safety newsletter is sent to parents.

Training

- Safer recruitment online training - KM and EL.
- Child protection update – March 2021 Staff and KM
- Safeguarding responsibilities of the Governing Body – KM and SH

The school has signed up to The National College which provides online CPD courses, including safeguarding and wellbeing specific courses.

Governor Visits

- Governor visits are set in the Governor Monitoring Planner which is directly related to the School Development Plan.
- Annual Safeguarding Quality Assurance Section 157 Self-assessment completed and positive feedback received.
- Impact of school closures on children with SEND and Online safety particular safeguarding focus given Covid situation.
- Termly SCR and Safeguarding visits.
- Pupil voice heard despite Covid restrictions through pupils wellbeing survey.
- Staff Wellbeing survey.

Conclusion

Safeguarding is a very high priority of the Governing Board, which is made evident through thorough monitoring, training and up to date policies and records. The invitation of an external safeguarding auditor further confirms the strong position of safeguarding in the school.