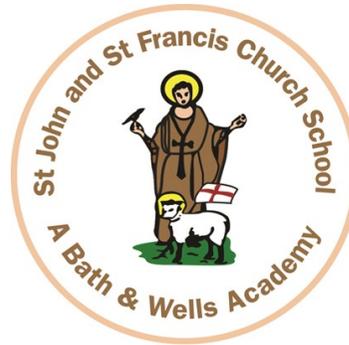


Safeguarding Policy

We value every child at St John and St Francis and recognise that the early years of their lives are going to have a profound and lasting impression on the adult that they grow up to be. As professionals working with your children, we have a duty of care to promote their welfare by protecting them from abuse or neglect, preventing the impairment of their health or development, ensuring that they grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective, nurturing care and undertaking that role so as to enable them to have optimum life chances in order to enter adulthood successfully.

A full copy of our Safeguarding Policy is available on our website:
www.stjohnstfrancisbwmat.org

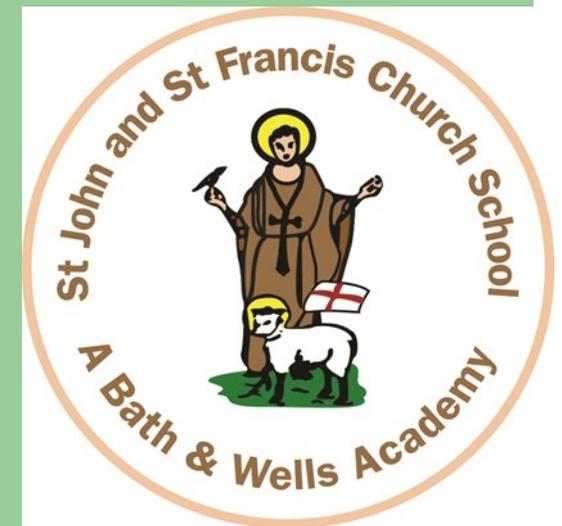


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St John and St
Francis Church
School

**Safeguarding
Policy- information**



Safeguarding Policy

Teachers and other adults play a key role at St John and St Francis in ensuring the safeguarding of your child. They are in a position to detect concerns early and help to provide help for them, ultimately helping to prevent concerns from escalating. They form a pivotal part of the wider safeguarding team and, when necessary, will work closely with social care, police, health services and other services to promote your child's welfare and help to protect them from potential harm.

The policy applies to all staff who work at the school, whether they are working full time or on a voluntary basis.

There are 6 key factors that they will strive to ensure:

- *Establishing a safe environment in which children can learn and develop*
- *Ensuring we practice safer recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children and create a culture of vigilance*
- *Raising awareness of and responding appropriately to safeguarding and Child Protection issues*
- *Equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe*
- *Having clear procedures for identifying additional needs and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse and allegations against teachers and other members of staff*
- *Supporting pupils who have been abused in accordance with a Child Protection Plan*

How can we ensure that the children we work with are as safe as they can be?

The national curriculum helps teachers to plan for opportunities to teach children about keeping themselves safe. This will include activities on topics such as e-safety, radicalisation and physical and mental abuse. Children will be encouraged to talk to a member of staff if they have any concerns so that someone can help to keep them safe if they think this is an issue. Developing the children's sense of confidence, resilience and self awareness is a huge part of them being able to keep themselves safe.

All members of staff will know who the safeguarding officer is as this is clearly displayed around the school for staff and pupils to see. If they have any concerns about a pupil, these will be reported to the safeguarding lead and they will decide what the next course of action should be.

What will happen if the school have a concern?

- The school will talk to the family concerned. It is important the concerns are shared so a plan can be put into place to support the family and the child in question. (If it is thought this might endanger the child further, this step may be missed—further advice would be sought in this case.)
- All safeguarding matters will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.
- All staff would share and pass on any information that they gain to the relevant person.
- Where appropriate, other professional bodies will be informed.

While children will be encouraged to talk about any concerns that they have, teachers will never promise to not share what has been said if they think that they are in danger.

This policy has been written in accordance with the Children's act 1989, government advice and a number of national publications including:

- "Working Together to Safeguard Children" March 2015
- Keeping children safe in education July 2015
- "North Somerset Safeguarding Children Board Threshold Criteria for CIN and CP Referrals" December 2012
- "Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who Work with Children and Young People".
- Prevent Duty Guidance
- Mandatory reporting of Female Genital Mutilation
- Disclosure and Barring Service Guidance
- North Somerset Safeguarding Children Board
- South West Child Protection Procedures

The policy is also reviewed on an annual basis by the Multi Academy board of directors to ensure that it is always up to date with current legislation.

