



ALFRETON PARK COMMUNITY SPECIAL SCHOOL

LEARNING TOGETHER FOR PERSONAL SUCCESS

KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE.

A Guide for Parents.

Alfreton Park Community Special School is committed to offering our pupils a safe and happy environment in which they can flourish and develop to reach their maximum potential.

This leaflet will help you understand how we keep your children safe. This includes:

- How children can be harmed.
- What we can do to keep your child safe from harm.
- What you must do as parents to keep your child safe and enjoy school.

Child Protection.

At Alfreton Park, we take child protection very seriously. All staff receive regular training and we work with parents to avoid issues. At times, we do need to involve other people.

Everyone has a duty to protect children and vulnerable young adults from harm.

There are four identified types of harm:

Physical – When a child is deliberately hurt or injured.

Sexual – When a child is influenced or forced to take part in sexual activity. This can be physical or none physical e.g. forced into looking at inappropriate images or acts.

Emotional – when a child is made to feel frightened, worthless or unloved. It can include shouting, treats or making fun of someone. It may also include seeing others fighting or using violence.

Neglect – When a child is not taken care of by their parents. This can include poor hygiene, poor diet, inappropriate clothing, not attending appointments or school, or being left at home alone.

Child protection laws protect children under 18 years of age but we also have a duty to care for adults, who are vulnerable and unable to support themselves.

Other forms of harm.

Attendance – Poor attendance can have significant negative effect on a child learning. We monitor pupils attendance daily and will support parents to ensure that their child attends and has their needs met.

Behaviour - Alfreton Park have clear behaviour support strategies in place to help our young people learn to manage and to take responsibility for their own behaviour. Staff are trained in PROACT-SCIPr-uk® and support is based on positive strategies to manage challenging behaviours and prevention of incidents. Please see our Behaviour Principles and policies on the schools website.

Bullying - Bullying is not tolerated and pupils have a clear understanding of who they can go to if they need help. See website for further information.

Health and Safety – Everyone at Alfreton Park has a duty to keep each other safe. We all follow the schools health and safety policy and pupils are encouraged to recognise dangers and learn how to keep themselves safe.

Online Safety – The school recognises the ever-increasing risk from all kinds of online devices including mobile phones, tablets, computers and TV. Whilst

technology has a huge place in the lives of many of us and can have many positive uses we do take online safety seriously and an important part of our pupils learning looks at how pupils can keep themselves safe online.

Complaints – If you have any concerns about how the school is working with your child. Your first point of contact will normally be the class teacher or Sharon Walker (Family Support Worker). Please feel confident to speak to us. The Head teacher is happy to speak with you to resolve any problems. It is better to resolve concerns early and not let it become a bigger issue. If your concerns cannot be resolved through the Headteacher you should raise you issues with the Governing Board and the complaint procedure is available on our website.

WHAT SCHOOL MUST DO

All children should be able to go to school and feel safe so that they can achieve their best.

- All staff and volunteers must have a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and are trained to recognise child protection risks factors and signs, and what procedures must be followed to deal with concerns.
- The school has 5 Designated Safeguarding Leads – Cheryl Smart (Headteacher), Benjy Aarons-Richardson (Deputy Head) Marie Redfern (Assistant Head), Sharon Walker (Family Support Worker) Tracy Cross (Senior TA) and Becky Wells (Acting Assistant Head) who are fully trained in Safeguarding procedures.
- School staff work closely with parents to offer support and intervene early in a preventative role. There are times when we have to involve other professionals and our child protection policy gives further information (available on the schools website).
- We will help our pupils to learn to keep themselves safe. Lessons include road safety, stranger danger, anti-bullying, healthy eating, online safety, sex and relationship education, alcohol and drug awareness and basic health and safety.

WHAT PARENTS MUST DO

Parents are the most important people in keeping their children safe. You should always:

- Feel confident to raise concerns about you child.
- Talk to the school if you need help or support.
- Read the schools policies about safety (available on the schools website).
- Let the school know of any changes to your child's medical needs change.
- Let the school know if there are any changes in home circumstances, such as house moves, new contact numbers, changes in name or parental responsibilities, or changes in emergency contacts.
- Let the school know if your child is going to be absent and the reason why.
- Inform the school (confidentially) if you have any concerns or suspicions about the safety of any other children.
- Ensure that know what your child is accessing online and whom they are communicating with – Please see Online-safety page on school website.

<http://www.alfretonpark.derbyshire.sch.uk/online-safety/>

Appendix Golden Thread of Safeguarding