



Valley Road School

Safeguarding our Children

The Governing Body of Valley Road School takes extremely seriously its responsibilities to keep our children safe and free from harm. Every child's health, safety and welfare are our paramount concern.

We recognise that all adults, including temporary staff, volunteers and governors, have a full and active part to play in protecting our pupils. We have a statutory and professional responsibility to take action if we have reason to believe a child is or might be suffering from any kind of abuse. We work together with other agencies to make sure we have sound systems to identify, assess and support any child who is at risk.

All staff believe that our school should provide a caring, positive safe and stimulating environment that promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child.

The designated teacher for child protection is the Headteacher, Tim Coulson. If Mr Coulson is absent, please speak to Mrs Caroline Lock. The designated Governor is Katie Campbell.

These are the main elements of our practice in school:

- Establishing a safe environment in which children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to
- Raising awareness of safeguarding and child protection issues and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe
- Implementing procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of harm
- Supporting pupils who have been subject to, or are at risk of, significant harm in accordance with his/her agreed child protection plan
- Ensuring we practice safer recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children
- Ensuring all staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated senior person responsible for child protection
- Following DCSF and Local Authority guidelines on recording and reporting concerns



You can find a copy of our full policy on the web site (www.valley-road.oxon.sch.uk) or we can provide you with a hard copy if you give us 24 hours notice. We can also provide a copy in a different format and/or language with 28 days notice.