

Rushmere Hall Primary School Safeguarding Statement (DRAFT)

“Safeguarding is everybody’s responsibility”

Rushmere Hall Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We recognise that all adults, including staff, temporary staff, volunteers and governors, have a full and active part to play in protecting our pupils from harm, and that the child or young person’s welfare is our paramount concern.

We believe that our school should provide a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment that promotes the social, emotional, physical and moral development of the individual child or young person. Our curriculum is used to promote safeguarding by teaching pupils how to stay safe, how to protect themselves from harm and how to take responsibility for their own safety and other people’s.

We have a Safeguarding Policy and procedures in place which we would encourage everyone to read. It is available on our website and, on request, from our school office. All staff (including supply staff, volunteers and governors) must ensure that they are aware of these procedures. Parents and carers are welcome to read the policy on request. All adults working regularly in school are required to complete a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) Enhanced Police Check.

Sometimes we may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies when there are concerns about a child or young person’s welfare. If concerns are raised within the school, or a child or parent reports a situation involving possible abuse, we are required to refer such matters to the appropriate Children’s Service, in line with Government and Suffolk County Council policy. Where possible, we will ensure that any concerns about our pupils are discussed with their parents/carers first unless we have reason to believe that such a move would be contrary to the child or young person’s welfare.

We have a team of Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) whose contact details are displayed on posters around school. Our DSL’s are Ms. Rachel Hobbin (Family Liaison Officer), Mrs Helen Birbeck (SENCO) and Mr Paul Stock (Headteacher). They can be contacted on (01473) 726027.

We believe that Safeguarding involves every member of the community. If you are concerned about a child or young person’s welfare, please record your concern and any observations or conversation heard, and report to one of the DSL’s as soon as possible the same day. Please do NOT conduct your own investigation.

If your concerns relate to the actions or behaviour of a member of staff, a school governor or a volunteer (which could suggest that s/he is unsuitable to work with children or young people) then you should report this directly to the Headteacher (or the Chair of Governors if the concern relates to the Headteacher)– who will consider what action to take.