Keeping Children Safe

Thomas Harding Junior School is committed to creating a happy and safe environment for our children to learn.

This leaflet will help you understand how we keep your children safe by telling you:

- How children can be harmed
- What we must do to keep you child safe from harm
- What you must do as a parent to help your child besafe and enjoy school

Child Protection

Keeping children safe is an absolutely integral part of our role and we take it incredibly seriously and all of our staff receive regular training. Our priority is to work with you but there may be times when we have to involve other people.

Everybody has a responsibility to keep all children under theage of 18 safe. Harm is identified in four ways:

Physical—This is when a child is deliberately hurt or injured

Sexual—This is when a child is influenced or forced to takepart in a sexual activity. This can be a physical activity or none physical, e.g. being made to look at an inappropriateimage.

Emotional—This is when a child is made to feel frightened worthless or unloved. It can be by shouting, using threats ormaking fun of someone. It can also be when children see their parents, or visitors to the home, fighting or using violence

Neglect—This is when a child is not being taken care of by their parents. It can be poor hygiene, poor diet, not keepingappointments for additional support, not coming to school orbeing left home alone.

Useful Contacts



Miss Sheppard
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Ruddell
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss Arnott
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mr Coburn
Safeguarding Governor

Thomas Harding Junior School

Keeping Children Safe In Education

Information for Parents

What School Must Do

A child should be able to go to school and feel safe so thatthey can achieve their very best.

- Anybody who works or volunteers at **Thomas Harding Junior School will** be checked by the Police (vetted) to make sure they are safe to work with children and then trained to identify child abuse and what to do if they are concerned.
- The school has a Designated Senior Person forSafeguarding, **Miss Sheppard,** and two Deputy Designated leads for Safeguarding **Mrs Ruddell and Miss Arnott.**
- We will always listen to you and work closely with you if we are concerned about your child but, sometimes, we may not be ableto discuss our concern. The school has a safeguarding policy which tells you more aboutthis and when we must speak to the police or children's services. This is available on our website, or you can request a paper copy from the office.
- We will help your child to learn about keeping themselves safe. Lessons can include healthy eating, anti-bullying, e-safety, road safety, healthy relationships, drug and alcohol awareness. As part of these lessons your child will be told what to do if they are worried or concerned about their safety.

What Parents Must Do

Parents are the most important people when it comes to keeping their children safe.

- You should always feel confident enough to raise concerns about your child.
- Talk to school if you need help or support.
- Read the school policies about safety issues
- Let the school know if your child has a medical condition
- Let the school know if you have any court orders relating to the safety of your child
- Let the school know if there is a change in your circumstances such as a house move, a new contact number, a change of name, a change of parental responsibility
- Let us know who will be dropping off or collecting your child and two other emergency contact. You must inform the school of any changes to agreed arrangements.
- Let the school know if your child is going to be absent and the reasons why.

We want to work closely with you to keep your child safe, happy and healthy.

Safeguarding Issues

Attendance—your child's attendance is monitored dailyand significant absences are always followed up by the attendance officer. The school has an attendance policy that you should read and understand.

Behaviour—**Thomas Harding** has clear behaviour rules for the whole school community that must be followed to keep everyone safe and happy. We understand that children dosometimes fall out and this will be dealt with by an adult who will listen the children involved and help the resolve the situation.

Bullying—The school takes all cases of bullying very seriously and will work with children and families to try and resolve any problems. The school has an anti-bullying policy that you should read and understand.

Health and Safety—Everyone at **Thomas Harding** has a responsibility to keep adults and children work in a safe environment. The school has a clear health and safety policy which everyone must follow. The school have fully trained first aiders to deal with any accidents in school.

E-safety - The school recognises that technology plays and important role in the education of our children and we are committed to safeguarding children in the virtual world.To support parents, the school has e-safety information to help keep your children safe both in school and at home.

Complaints—If you have any complaints about how the school is working with you or your child please feel confident to speak to us. The headteacher will always be happy to speak to you to resolve any difficulties. It is better to speak to us as soon as you have a concern so that it does not become a bigger issue.