



Springfield Junior School

Child friendly safeguarding policy

Introduction:

This policy has been created with the input of our school council representatives. It is designed to help children understand how to keep themselves and others safe. It's important for everyone to be aware of their rights and responsibilities to create a safe and happy environment.

1. What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding means protecting children from harm, abuse, or neglect. It means making sure everyone is safe and happy. Every child has the right to feel safe at home, at school, and in the community.

2. How to Keep Yourself Safe

Know Your Safe People: Identify trusted adults you can talk to if you're feeling scared or unsafe, such as parents, teachers, or support staff.

Stay Aware of Your Surroundings: Pay attention to where you are and who is around you. If anything feels strange or uncomfortable, trust your instincts.

Use the Buddy System: When you're out, especially in places you don't know well, try to stay with a friend or group.

Set Boundaries: It's okay to say "no" if someone is making you uncomfortable, even if they are an adult or someone you know.

Ask for Help: If you ever feel in danger or uncomfortable, don't hesitate to ask a trusted adult for help. It's important to speak up.

3. How to Keep Others Safe

Be a Good Friend: Look out for your friends. If you see them being treated poorly or bullied, encourage them to talk to a trusted adult.

Encourage Open Communication: Let your friends know they can talk to you if they are feeling unsafe or scared.

Stand Up Against Bullying: If you see someone being bullied, try to help the person being bullied and tell an adult about it.

Respect Boundaries: Always respect others' feelings and personal space. If someone says they don't want to be touched or talked to in a certain way, listen to them.

Include Everyone: Making sure everyone feels included and valued can help create a safer and more supportive environment.

4. Know the Signs of Abuse

It's important to recognize what abuse can look like, so you can help yourself and others:

Physical Abuse: Unexplained injuries or being fearful of certain adults.

Emotional Abuse: Constantly being criticized or feeling unworthy.

Neglect: Not getting the care you need, like food or a safe place to stay.

Sexual Abuse: Being touched inappropriately or being forced to do things you don't want to do.

If you see or experience any of these, it's crucial to talk to a trusted adult immediately.

5. Reporting Concerns

If you feel unsafe or notice something that doesn't seem right, tell someone you trust. You can:

- Speak to a teacher, parent, or guardian.
- Talk to our family support worker.
- Speak to one of our Thrive practitioners in school.
- Use the online 'worry box' on our school website.

Remember, it's brave to speak out, and you could be helping yourself or someone else.

6. Conclusion

This policy helps everyone understand their role in keeping themselves and others safe. We are all responsible for creating a positive and secure environment. Remember, you are never alone, and there are always people who want to help you.

Stay safe, speak up, and take care of each other.

For further information or support please see below:

(links to ChildLine, mental wellbeing hub etc)