

# SAFEGUARDING at



## Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

Safeguarding means:

- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes

Child protection is part of the safeguarding process. It focuses on protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. This includes child protection procedures which detail how to respond to concerns about a child.

At Lower Heath, we take safeguarding very seriously; the safety of our pupils is the most important thing.



## SUPPORT

- Meet our team
- Available support
- How to access support

## Meet Our Team

### Lower Heath CE Primary Safeguarding Team



**Ms Helen Reynolds**  
Designated Safeguarding Lead  
(DSL)  
Headteacher and SENDCo



**Mr Jonathan Holt-Williams**  
Deputy DSL  
Year 5/6 teacher



**Mrs Helen Hipkins**  
Deputy DSL  
EYSF teacher

- Designating Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Helen Reynolds.
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL): Helen Hipkins, Jonathan Holt-Williams
- Safeguarding Link Governor: Sue Ricketts
- Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the safety of any children or families within the Lower Heath community, please visit the 'About Us – Safeguarding' section on our website:  
<https://lowerheath.co.uk/>

## Available support

- Staff trained in attachment, trauma, nurture, SENDCo.
- A range of external agencies as support
- We regularly share safeguarding information on our social media platforms to keep parents aware of where they can access support and training available.
- The school will actively source advice and support where needed.

## How to access support?

### Parents:

- If you have a concern, please come into school and speak to a member of the DSL team or telephone the school to arrange a meeting on 01743 462984.
- If a child is at immediate risk, please call the police on 999.
- If you have a concern about a child, please contact FPOC on 0345 6789 044.

### Pupils:

- Pupils can speak to any member of staff about a concern. Some children might have a key worker who is assigned to check in regularly with them.
- Pupils know who the safeguarding team are and reminded regularly that if they have a concern or worry, they can speak to anyone.
- Worry boxes: Every class has a worry box which teachers check daily. Children can write concerns and worries and post them. Teachers can then support the child with their concern/worry.
- Zones of Regulation: we use ZoR to identify and describe how we are feeling.

**Staff:**

- Staff should follow the MAT safeguarding policy. If you see or hear something of concern, you must report it.
- Staff should record the concern on CPOMS and if a child is off imminent risk should inform a DSL straight away.
- All staff working with pupils at Lower Heath CofE Primary School have an Enhanced DBS and are logged on the Single Central Record.
- DSL will then respond to the concerns.
- Supervision - staff have opportunities to discuss incidents with DSLs.



- Safeguarding pupils is the responsibility of all school staff. Staff will maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' and always act in the best interests of the pupil when they are concerned about the child's welfare. If staff have any concerns about a pupil's welfare, they will act on them immediately. Staff will follow the reporting procedure set out in our safeguarding policies and procedures
- All staff and governors have annual updates relating to the up-to-date Keeping Children Safe in Education document
- DSLs receive full up-dates to their training every two years
- Weekly reminders relating to safeguarding issues pertinent to Lower Heath are shared in the weekly bulletin
- All new staff have Safeguarding training as part of their induction process
- Our Pastoral Lead has expertise in supporting families through the Early Help process

## Lower Heath Safeguarding Culture

Safeguarding is heart of everything we do. Our Lower Heath Values of Love, respect, faith, fellowship and thankfulness actively teach the need to safeguard ourselves and those around us. Our staff are approachable and friendly providing a safe space for our children, families and the wider community.

Safeguarding is a key aspect of the MAT's Learning for Life Framework and WAVE guidance. This has several different levels. The Safeguarding assurance audits our safeguarding systems and structures ensuring we are offering the best care and keeping everyone safe. The Vulnerable Students review take place half termly and these offer support, guidance and challenge in child centred discussions. We complete Local Authority Safeguarding Audits regularly and adapt our practice and procedures accordingly. The school has regular Inclusion meetings and Pupil Progress meetings which internally use the Learning for Life and Wave guidance to discuss next steps.

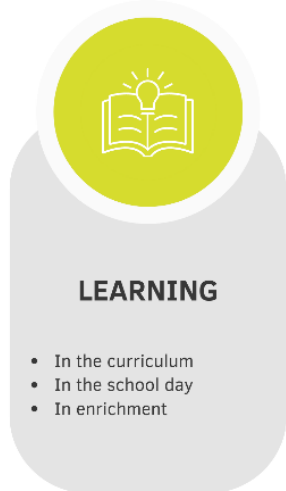
Supervision is developing at Lower Heath; everyone has a safe space to talk, if needed. The school buy in to SAS insurance which offers a well-being package which all staff have access to.

The school has been accredited with the Safer School since 2016. The school works tirelessly to ensure that pupils and families feel that the school is a safe space. In our most recent Safer Schools Survey (April 2023), 90% of pupils said that they felt safe at school. 93% of families felt that school was a safe site. DSLs regularly attend locality meetings where professionals meet to discuss localised safeguarding concerns and share relevant information.

## Recruitment, Induction and training

- When recruiting new staff, the recruitment process is underpinned by the Safer Recruitment requirements and training.
- All staff have accredited training (Safeguarding, Prevent, Online Safety, GDPR).
- We regularly attend current training to develop expertise of staff.

- Safeguarding is a key aspect of our induction package for new staff, volunteers and visitors.
- All staff completed an annual assessment based on the updates from KCSIE.
- A range of scenarios are provided regularly on the weekly briefing for staff addressing recent issues.
- Updates from the local authority are shared.



- Our school values of Love, Respect, Faith, Fellowship and Thankfulness instil in all children the need to look after each other
- These messages are regular subjects for daily worship discussions
- Staff use consistent vocabulary, reinforcing the values and treating everyone with respect
- The PSHE curriculum has safety as the golden thread running through it
- Should an issue arise such as bullying or rough play, additional activities are set-up such as whole school worship to reinforce key messages
- EDIB is a golden thread running through our curriculum which reinforces fundamental British Values
- Lower Heath will be embarking on United Against Bullying in 2023 2024
- All children know who they can talk to, should they have any concerns
- All classes have 'worry boxes' or 'worry monsters' which children can access freely if they don't feel able to talk to someone. These are checked regularly and followed up with adult intervention
- Pupil voice is gained to establish current thinking relating to safeguarding e.g do children feel safe; if they don't feel safe, what should they do

## How does our curriculum support safeguarding?

Our PSHE and RSE curriculum, teaches children about how to keep themselves safe at an age-appropriate level. Our Computing curriculum regularly teaches online safety. The first lesson of every half term is dedicated to an aspect of online safety, so it is interwoven throughout the curriculum using an interleaving approach. Throughout other subjects in the curriculum, we also explicitly make cross-curricular links to Safeguarding, for example, in science learning about which foods are edible and what to do if we do not know what it is.

Our Assembly calendar is carefully designed to interweave our Lower Heath Values, the British Values and Safeguarding topics. These topics include regular reminders regarding who to talk to in school and coloured lanyards. It also includes safety topics such as water, railway and sun safety.

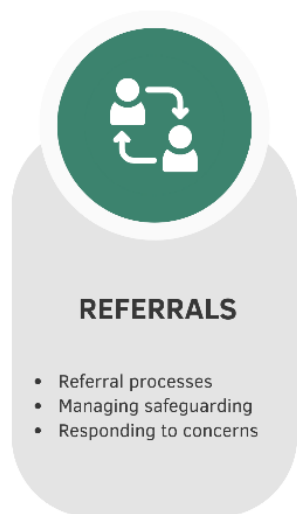
## How does the school day support safeguarding?

Rhythm of the day is designed to support with safeguarding. Presence on the gate by members of the senior leadership team facilitates open dialogue with families.

Attendance is key to our safeguarding. We have a detailed absence procedure to ensure that a clear, robust system and structure is in place that identify patterns and anomalies to mitigate potential risk factors. Posters and visual reminders are located around school to remind pupils and staff about the layers of support and advice available. There is also a clear flow chart of the procedures for staff to follow.

## How does our enrichment support safeguarding?

Lower Heath enriches the curriculum in various ways to develop and teach children about how to keep themselves and others safe. Throughout the year, we have planned trips to external events and visitors who come to school. For example, Reception, KS1 and UKS2 Year 6 Bikeability opportunity. All of these experiences teach and build on pupils' prior knowledge and learning to support their pathway to adulthood.



- To see the flowchart of how referrals are made, please visit the 'About Us – Safeguarding' section on our website: <https://lowerheath.co.uk/>
- CPOMS is used to record any incident that may be considered a safeguarding concern
- All staff have received training on how and when to use CPOMS
- Weekly reports are used to analyse any patterns in behaviours
- Behaviour Policy appendices ensure a consistent approach is taken by all staff
- HT signed up to newsletters for NSPCC and Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership

DSLs discuss the details of the reported concerns and may gather further information including talking with families. If the DSLs decide that the concerns meet the threshold they will report it following the procedures outlined in Keeping Children Safe in Education to the First Point of Contact (FPOC). DSL's can gain support and guidance from the Trust DSL.

As a school, we also make other referrals outside of FPOC to other agencies such as:

- School Nurse
- BeeU
- Mental Health Team
- Speech and Language



**What are Lower Heath community concerns?**

Within school, our preventative curriculum is being designed to address national concerns of increased anti-social online behaviour.

This is done in conjunction with families to empower our children and young people to stay safe. Furthermore, these experiences are designed to provide equity for our children so they have the opportunities to learn like children from economically affluent backgrounds.

**What are our Lower Heath priorities?**

Ensuring our curriculum supports our pupils to be good citizens ready for their next stage.

**What is our community plan?**

Working with communities for a better tomorrow