



What is safeguarding?

You may have heard 'safeguarding' before and wondered what it means.

Safeguarding is 'the action taken to promote the welfare of children and young people, with the aim of protecting them from harm'. This 'harm' can occur in many different ways and contexts. Safeguarding children is defined as:

- providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment, whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing the impairment of children's mental and physical health or development
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

You have a clear role in safeguarding at home. There are times when others have a responsibility for safeguarding your children, for example at school.

How does Alder Moor Farm practice safeguarding?

At school we take safeguarding very seriously. To prevent abusive situations and to protect and support pupils, we will do key things, such as:

- Identifying concerns, provide help and promote welfare for all
- Providing a safe environment so all children can learn
- Identifying children who may benefit from Early Help which means providing support as soon as a problem occurs.
- Following processes in the school's Child Protection policy and the Department for Education documents
- Speaking with the Designated Safeguarding Lead who will speak with other agencies
- Practising safer recruitment by thoroughly checking the identification and history of staff who work at the school

What can you do?

There needs to be a partnership between you and school, with an understanding that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. This should not be passed to someone else or think 'someone else will deal with this.'

The following are ways in which you can form this partnership and support your child:

- Be well aware of the harms that can happen online and limit or supervise online activity. Your child can be a victim or perpetrator of online harm. You should be aware of the apps and visited websites on any devices, including Snapchat, Whatsapp and other social media. Use parental locks and passwords.
- Ensure your child feels valued, both at home and at school. Allow time to discuss their feelings regularly. Prepare for awkward topics and be honest if you don't have the answers.
- Familiarise yourself with the school policies, so that you understand the school's expectations.
- Get to know the names and roles of agencies that support children of school age, should you ever need them.
- Know your child well and understand their likes and dislikes. Be alert to any changes in behaviour (becoming withdrawn or argumentative). Make your child aware that you are there for them.

While safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, each school must have a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who will oversee all things to do with safety of the children.

The school's DSL is Mr Allie.



Mr Allie

Assistant Headteacher – DSL

There are a number of people who have been trained to the same level who can also support. They are the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL).



Mrs Wright

Headteacher – DDSL



Mrs Deeley

Deputy Headteacher – DDSL



Miss Sutton

Family Support Pastoral Manager – DDSL



Mr O'Keefe

Family Support Worker – DDSL



Miss Tipton

SENCo – DDSL