



# Stillness Junior School

## Safeguarding News

**Issue 1 – Autumn Term 2020-21**

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the Autumn Safeguarding Newsletter. Here at Stillness Junior School we take safeguarding very seriously and want to work together with parents, carers and families to help to keep all the children here safe. Please do not be offended if we seem to be asking questions – we are doing our job and adhering to our Duty of Care in making sure that our children are happy and safe both in and out of school.

As always, if there are any concerns, or if you are interested in learning more about a particular issue, please speak to one of the Safeguarding Leads or email the school office; [kim@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:kim@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk), and we will feature information in the next newsletter.

Safeguarding Leads:

Mrs Mitzi Nichol  
Headteacher

Ms Amy Polglaze  
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Zoe Renner-Thomas  
Assistant Headteacher

Mrs P Brown  
SENCo

For all medical queries please email the school on  
[medical@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:medical@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk)

*Please visit our school website for further  
safeguarding information*

### **What is Safeguarding: Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, every day**

The aim of this newsletter is to communicate key information to parents concerning Safeguarding and how as a school we aim to keep you informed to actively promote the safeguarding and welfare of all our pupils

#### **What is 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 likely to suffer significant harm. This includes child protection procedures which detail how to respond to concerns about a child. Safeguarding children and child protection applies to all children up to the age of 18

**IF YOU SEE, HEAR OR KNOW ABOUT IT – REPORT IT!**

This could be a child being neglected or any other form of abuse.

#### **Call the NSPCC helpline**

If you are worried about a child, even if you are unsure, contact our professional counsellors 24/7 for help, advice and support.

Call on 0808 800 5000 or email  
[help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

## What is the role of the Safeguarding Lead at Stillness Junior School:

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) has a crucial role in taking lead responsibility for child protection issues in school. DSL's must be senior members of the school's leadership team, and at Stillness Junior School we have 4 DSL's forming a team.

A DSL is always available during school hours for staff to discuss any safeguarding concerns. A DSL is in school every day and always contactable by telephone or email outside school hours.

DSL's are trained to take on this role and that training is updated every two years with additional training in between.

The DSL has many responsibilities including working with staff and agencies involved in safeguarding children, working with parents and families, giving advice to staff, training staff, managing referrals from staff and investigating concerns passing them onto the correct body as necessary, managing the records of safeguarding and Child Protection concerns, keeping own knowledge up to date etc.

### Keeping your child safe means:

- ✓ Making sure that the adults who work here have undergone safety and security checks;
  - ✓ Protecting children from deliberate harm;
    - ✓ Being an anti-bullying school;
    - ✓ Being proactive against racist behaviour;
  - ✓ Protecting our children from harassment and discrimination;
- ✓ A positive approach to behaviour management including the use of physical intervention safely, when necessary;
  - ✓ Meeting the needs of children with medical conditions;
    - ✓ Providing first aid;
  - ✓ Protecting children from drug and substance abuse;
    - ✓ Children enjoying safe educational visits;
    - ✓ Caring for children's personal needs;
  - ✓ Keeping children safe when using the internet;
  - ✓ Making sure our school is secure and safe;
    - ✓ Being a "listening school"

## Keeping your child safe: useful Acronyms and Vocabulary about Safeguarding

**DSL:** Designated DSL Safeguarding Lead

**SPOC:** Single Point of SPOC Contact (PREVENT) – responsible for preventing children being impacted by extremism

**PREVENT:** Part of the PREVENT Governments Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn into extremism

**LADO:** Local Authority LADO Designated Officer – who deals with position of trust safeguarding issues

**DBS:** Disclosure and Barring DBS Service used to make safe recruitment decisions

**CP:** Child Protection

**LSCB:** Local Safeguarding LSCB Children Board

**CEOP:** Child Exploitation CEOP and Online Protection Centre (tackling child sex abuse and providing advice)

**Early Help:** "Providing Early Help support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life from the foundation years to the teenage years". Essentially intervening to prevent abuse/neglect before it occurs.

**TAC:** Team Around the TAF: Family (part of Early Help)

**CASS:** Children's Advice & CASS Support Service