

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

Hookstone Chase Primary School is committed to ensuring the welfare and safety of all children in school. All North Yorkshire schools, including Hookstone Chase Primary School, follow the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board procedures. The school will, in most circumstances, endeavour to discuss all concerns with parents about their child/ren. However, there may be exceptional circumstances when the school will discuss concerns with Social Care and/or the Police without parental knowledge (in accordance with Child Protection procedures). The school will, of course, always aim to maintain a positive relationship with all parents. The school child protection policy is available on request from school and can be viewed on the school website. The Designated Senior Person is the Headteacher, Miss V Watson and in her absence, the Deputy Headteacher, Keir Parker.

PREVENT

On 1 July 2015 the Prevent duty (section 26) of The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 came into force. This duty places the responsibility on local authorities and schools to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Hookstone Chase Primary School is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its pupils. As a school we recognise that safeguarding against radicalisation is as important as safeguarding against any other vulnerability. All staff are expected to uphold and promote the fundamental principles of British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. We believe that children should be given the opportunity to explore diversity and understand Britain as a multi-cultural society; everyone should be treated with respect whatever their race, gender, sexuality, religious belief, special need, or disability.

As part of our commitment to safeguarding and child protection we fully support the government's Prevent Strategy.

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Hookstone Chase Primary School has been given the opportunity to take part in a new project that will run jointly between all schools, academies and colleges in York and North Yorkshire Police.

This new project, Operation Encompass, has been designed to provide early reporting to schools of any domestic abuse incidents that occur outside of normal school hours and that might have had an impact on a child attending our premises the following day. This information will be shared at the earliest opportunity between Monday to Friday and when an incident occurs on weekend the school will be notified on the Monday by the police.

A nominated member of school staff, known as a key adult, will receive the information the police. They will be able to use information that has been shared with them, in confidence, to ensure that our school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children or their families. Information will be shared where it is identified that a child or young person was present, witnessed or was involved in a domestic abuse incident.

Operation Encompass has already proved to be very effective in providing appropriate support to children.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our children and we believe this initiative is going to be extremely beneficial and supportive for all those involved.

PARENT & CARER CODE OF CONDUCT

The Governing Body and Headteacher strongly believe that our school should be a welcoming and safe place for our children, staff, parents and visitors alike and that our parents share that belief. We have legal responsibilities for the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and staff, and a duty of care to all users of our school.

All adults who enter our school site at any time set examples of behaviour and conduct which influence children and young people and we believe that they should therefore demonstrate high standards of conduct in order to encourage our pupils to do the same. Parents and carers must show respect to all other parents and carers, children and staff.

We expect all communication between parents and school to be conducted in a polite and respectful manner.

SOCIAL MEDIA STATEMENT

Parents of children are increasingly using social networking sites such as Facebook to talk to their friends. Sometimes parents have used these sites to criticise or make inappropriate comments about schools or even individual teachers.

Making defamatory comments on the internet has exactly the same serious legal consequences as if they are made directly to someone else. Legal action could be taken against the person who has made the online comment. Similarly threats of violence can lead to criminal proceedings under the Malicious Communications Act 1988.

Please refer to the full Code of Conduct published on the School's Website.

If you have any concerns about anything which happens in school please speak to your child's class teacher or the Headteacher who will do their best to resolve things.

If you are still unhappy we have a complaints procedure which will ensure that your concerns are investigated thoroughly and appropriate action taken.

Reviewed: January 2019

Author: Miss V Watson, Headteacher