

## NEWSLETTER Issue 1 May 2021

### Safeguarding and Child Protection at Hookstone Chase

#### Why have a newsletter?

Safeguarding and Child Protection is such an important issue for our children and young people that we have decided to have a half termly newsletter that shares key information and advice with parents and carers so that we can all work together with the same aim of keeping children safe in school, at home and in the wider community.



Safeguarding relates to many areas of life here at Hookstone Chase including children's physical health and safety, mental health issues, attendance, managing medical conditions, internet safety, substance misuse, bullying, the dangers of radicalisation, child sexual exploitation, domestic violence, sex and relationships education, British values and road safety among other issues.

At Hookstone Chase we feel it is really important to work with our parents and with the high quality agencies that support schools and young people so that we can offer a safe environment that allows children to be aware of the risks they may face and how to respond to them safely.

We hope that our school curriculum gives children opportunities to explore many of these issues in a safe situation through PSHCE, SRE, dedicated topic time and as key learning points arise in subjects such as science so that we can equip our children with knowledge, understanding and the right tools to make safe and informed choices.

#### Who are the Designated Safeguarding Leads at Hookstone Chase?

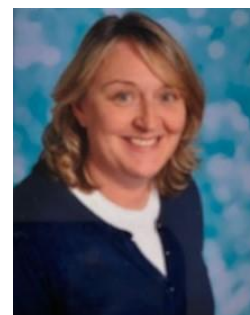
The Designated Safeguarding Leads at Hookstone Chase are...



**Miss Watson**  
Head Teacher  
(DSL)



**Mr Hayes**  
Deputy Head Teacher  
(DDSL)



**Ms Peacock**  
Pastoral Leader  
(DDSL)



### **What is the Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead?**

The DSL has a crucial role in taking the lead responsibility for Child Protection at Hookstone Chase. A DSL is always available during school hours for staff to discuss any concerns. In addition, a DSL will always be contactable by telephone or email outside school hours for emergencies for agencies only.

DSL are trained to take on this role and their training is updated every two years, with additional training and conferences in between to ensure knowledge and practice is always current.

The DSL has many responsibilities including working with staff and agencies involved in safeguarding children, working with parents and families, giving advice and support to staff, training staff and managing referrals from staff. DSL may also investigate concerns and pass them on to the correct body as necessary, as well as maintaining up to date, accurate child protection and safeguarding records.

The DSL has a legal duty to follow the law as outlined in the schools Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. At times the DSL and the DDSL have to undertake difficult and challenging conversations with parents/carers and would be negligent in their role if they did not follow up on any potential safeguarding concerns identified.



### **Useful Acronyms and Vocabulary about Safeguarding:**

**DSL** – Designated Safeguarding Lead

**DDSL** – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

**CP** – Child Protection

**LAC** – Looked After Child (in the care of the Local Authority)

**CIN** – Child in Need

**Early Help** – “Providing support as soon as the problem emerges at any point in a child’s life. Essentially intervening to prevent abuse/neglect/failure to thrive before it occurs.

**TAC** – Team Around the Child (part of Early Help)

**TAF** – Team Around the Family

**PREVENT** – Part of the Government’s Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn into extremism.

**D.V** – Domestic Violence

**CEOP** – Child Exploitation and online Protection Centre (tracking child sex abuse and giving advice)

**CSE** – Child Criminal Exploitation

**County Lines** – In the UK, county lines drug trafficking is the practice of trafficking drugs into rural areas and smaller towns away from major cities. Traffickers often recruit vulnerable children as dealers.

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

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

## Did you know?...

## Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?

Age Group	Apps
Under 13	Roblox, PopJam, FaceTime
13+	Twitter, Facebook and Messenger, Viber, WeChat, Monkey, Yubo, Dubsmash, Instagram, TikTok, Skype, Google Hangouts, Reddit, Snapchat, Pinterest
16+	WhatsApp, Telegram Messenger, Tumblr
17+	Line, Sarahah, Tellonym

Sourced from NSPCC website October

Sourced from NSPCC website October 2019

## Who's accountable?

**School** is responsible for the curriculum and teaching about online safety.

**Parents** are responsible for managing safe and appropriate use.

**Failure to do so may result in concerns being pasted to external agencies.**

## Cyberbullying/E Safety

Cyber bullying is any form of bullying which takes place online or through smartphones and tablets- **adults and children** can be victims of this form of bullying so we have to be vigilant. The impact of this bullying can be wide reaching from feeling frightened and intimidated, being the victim of fake gossip or rumours, having photos or videos posted about you, being on the receiving end of language that causes offense and an argument (flaming), threatening behaviour etc. In addition, people with malicious intent can use the internet for grooming of young and vulnerable people, fraud, stalking, exclusion and blackmail etc.

The internet and social media can be fun and can bring many educational and personal benefits but adult and child alike we must protect ourselves from misuse.

A source of information for parents can be found at <https://bullying.co.uk>



Do you know what your child is doing online? Are you routinely checking what internet sites they are accessing?

Do you use parent's filters to prevent your child accessing harmful or inappropriate content?

It is important to monitor and teach your child some key internet safety rules **(and to role model them as adults as well!!)**



### USEFUL INFORMATION AND CONTACT NUMBERS

As always if you have any concerns about the safety and /or welfare of a child or young person telephone the Customer Service Centre (select option for Social Care) on (01609) 780780

Outside normal office hours call the Emergency Duty Team on (01609) 780780.

Alternatively contact the NSPCC on 0808 800 500  
Monday to Friday 8am to 10pm

Weekends 9am to 6pm. Concerns can be reported to the NSPCC online 24 hours a day 365 days a year.

If a child is in immediate danger call the Police on 999 straight away.

**Don't** post any personal information online like your address, email address or mobile number.

**Do** think carefully before posting pictures or videos of yourself. Once you've put a picture of yourself online most people can see it-is it a photo you would want everyone to see?

**Do** keep privacy settings as high as possible.

**Don't** give out your passwords (except to your parents if they want to check your accounts to keep you safe).

**Don't** befriend people you don't know, even on gaming sites e.g. Xbox live.

**Don't** meet up with people you've met online. Speak to a parent or a carer about people suggesting you do.

**Do** remember that not everyone online is who they say they are-adults sometimes pretend to make friends with children to make friends with you online.

**Do** think carefully about what you say before you post online.

**Do** respect other people's views, even if you don't agree with them this doesn't mean you can be rude, sometimes it's better not to get into an argument.

**Do** use parental safety software/apps to block inappropriate internet use and monitor your children's online activity.

**Do** ensure that the online games your child wants to play are age appropriate.

If you see something online that makes you feel uncomfortable, unsafe or worried: leave the website and tell a trusted adult immediately. Keep your webcam covered up when not in use.

