

# SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER



AUTUMN TERM 2025

## DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS

The designated safeguarding leads (DSLs) for our school are:

Mrs Simrit Otway

Mrs Heather Hulme

Mrs Dominique Meier

*Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility!*

*Please speak to a member of our safeguarding team if you are worried about a child. Our safeguarding team liaise with children's social care and other external agencies to support families.*

*Our safeguarding team are here to listen, help and support your family.*

*They can be contacted via the school office or by telephone: 01256 389278*

For a copy of our school's Child Protection and Safeguarding 2025 policies, please visit the 'policies' page on our [school website](#).

### Are all your child's contact details up to date?

If you change your home phone/email/mobile number, please let the school know, so that we have the most up-to-date contact details.

## Preston Candover CE Primary School

*Love, Hope and Justice*

*Inspire learning for life*

*Encourage each other and build each other up - 1 Thessalonians 5:11*

## Safeguarding at Preston Candover CE Primary School

Welcome to the Autumn Term edition of our school Safeguarding Newsletter. As a school, we remain committed to supporting families, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our pupils. We work hard to ensure we meet all statutory requirements and create a culture where children can develop and thrive within a happy, safe environment.

As this is the first safeguarding newsletter of the year, we aim to share how we safeguard your pupils in our school as well as provide you with relevant, up-to-date information, resources and links so that we can work together to keep our children safe over the next year. We hope you will find this edition very informative.

## How we continue to safeguard children in our school

- All staff are subjected to stringent checks before employment and the school follows safer recruitment procedures
- All staff have annual safeguarding training with refreshers throughout the year. Safeguarding is discussed weekly in staff meetings. All staff know how to refer a child for support if they have concerns
- All staff use CPOMs – a software programme devised to monitor child protection, safeguarding and pastoral welfare
- DSLs meet regularly and liaise with outside agencies as appropriate
- We ensure that all children have a voice and are listened to by staff and have access to their school council and peer mentors
- We attend transition events for pre-schools and secondary schools
- We have a positive approach to behaviour and relationships and protect children from bullying, harassment, discrimination and racist behaviour.
- We have regular 'Prevent' training
- Many of our staff have full paediatric first aid training
- We provide the children with immediate first aid as required and meet with parents, plan and monitor, meeting the needs of children with medical conditions
- We ensure the school is a safe place and that all visitors adhere to our safeguarding policies, including acceptable use of mobile phones
- We risk assess and run safe educational visits
- All staff wear identification lanyards
- We actively plan for opportunities to teach our children about safeguarding across the curriculum- see our Safeguarding Across the Curriculum document on our school website.

*Help us to promote an ethos of "feeling safe" amongst all our children and a robust safeguarding culture in our school and community.*

## How parents/carers can help safeguard our children in school:

- During school hours, entrance to the school site can only be obtained by buzzing the school office. It is incredibly important that we know who is on the school site at all times. Please help us to keep our site secure by closing the gate securely behind you and do not allow anyone to follow you into the site if they have not buzzed the school office first to be granted access. Thank you for your support in this.
- When coming into school at any time of day, please report directly to the office and sign in if necessary. Never go to a classroom or wander the school grounds, please report to the office.
- If there is a change of adult meeting your child after school, please write it in the red home/school communication book or contact the office before 2 o'clock so that the information can be shared with class staff. We need confirmation from the child's parent/carer before any child can be released to someone different. This includes changes in adults picking children up from school and after school clubs.
- We have children in school with severe reactions to food allergies. Please help us to safeguard these children by checking lunch boxes and snacks brought in do not contain nuts or peanuts. We are a NUT FREE school.

## Safeguarding Updates

It is that time of the year where summer and the light evenings are soon becoming a distant memory.

### Dark Evening Safety Tips



Keeping children safe in the dark is particularly important during the winter months. The following simple steps can be taken to help avoid additional risks of accidents that the dark evenings can bring.

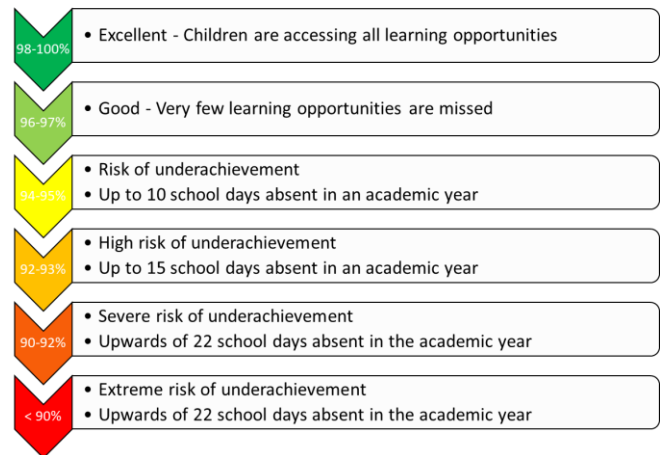
#### VISIBILITY IS KEY

- Children need to be seen, not just by other motorists and cyclists but by other pedestrians. It is vital to teach your children good road safety basics from an early age.
- Think about what your child is wearing. Some school uniforms are dark. They are safe if they are visible - you can easily add high-visibility strips on their clothing, school bags or bike helmets.

## Attendance Policy

At our school, we believe that regular school attendance is essential if children are to achieve their full potential. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind and can put them at risk of wider harm. Research commissioned by the Department for Education shows missing school for even a day can mean a child is less likely to achieve good grades, which can have a damaging effect on their life chances.

This is an interesting model that shows the impact of attendance on learning opportunities:



You can support your child to have excellent attendance by taking these steps:

- Ensure your child arrives on time for school every day and is ready to learn. Arriving after registration is recorded as an unauthorised absence. **Pupils must be in school by 8.45am.**
- If your child appears to be only slightly unwell, send them in to school. We have staff who will contact you if their condition deteriorates.
- Book any routine medical appointments outside of school hours. If this is unavoidable, please book for as late in the afternoon as possible and inform the school of appointments in advance.
- Supply a copy of the appointment card or hospital letter if your child has an emergency appointment during school hours.

Our attendance policy has recently been reviewed and is available on the school website.

If we notice that your child's attendance dropping, a meeting may be requested with you to discuss and/or penalty notices issued.

## The School Nursing Service

The School Nursing Service works with children and young people to ensure that their health needs within school, home and community settings are met in line with the Healthy Child Programme (5-19 years). As a school, we can make a referral to the School Nursing Service, who may be able to offer advice and signposting on the following:

- Physical and Emotional Health and well being
- Healthy weights and lifestyles
- Support during transition through school
- Relationships, sexual health, and substance misuse
- Parenting advice: accident prevention, sleep, behaviour and signposting for continence support
- Children and young people with complex or additional health needs
- Support for children and young people not in school, in accessing the Healthy Child Programme.

There are also some very useful sources of support available for families using the following links/ contact numbers:

<https://www.hampshirehealthyfamilies.org.uk/>

ChatHealth texting services:

Advice for parent/carers of children 0-5 years – Text ChatHealth on 07520615720

Advice for parent/carers of children 5-19 years – Text ChatHealth on 07507332417

There is also a recorded webinar with two of the 0-19 team experts on how to support good sleep in school-aged children which can be accessed using this link: [Workshops, Courses and Groups : Hampshire Healthy Families](#)

## Emotions and Wellbeing Parent Workshop

Thank you to the parents who joined us this term for the parent workshop on emotions and wellbeing, ran by Dr Camilla Jerrard from the Hampshire Education Psychology Team. The workshop covered topics such as building resilience and emotional regulation. We hope that you found it very informative. We have attached a copy of her powerpoint to this newsletter so if you were unable to join us, please do take a look. There are lots of strategies that you may find useful.

## Online Safety: Artificial Intelligence

The Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) has recently published a news story raising concerns about the creation of AI-generated child sexual abuse images through AI chatbots. Quite worryingly, the IWF has found 17 incidents of AI-generated child sexual abuse material on an AI chatbot website since June 2025. The news story includes comments from the NSPCC's CEO as well as calls for implementation of the UK government's promised AI safety regulation.

**Read the news story:** [‘Disturbing’ AI-generated child sexual abuse images found on hidden chatbot website that simulates indecent fantasies](#)

In response to growing safety concerns about children's use of AI, we have attached a useful parent guide about Generative AI Safety which we hope you will find useful.

## You are not alone- Free online parent drop-in

Please find attached a poster shared by Erik Wagter, co-founder of Autism Family Support Service, who is offering parents of autistic children free online parent drop in sessions at the beginning of every month. Please read poster for more information.

## PSHE and RSHE



Our Personal, Social, Health and Economic curriculum can be found on our school website. Please take a look at the PSHE Long Term Plan and Class Topic Cycle Overviews for more information about what your child will be learning over the next term.

As a reminder, we adopt the PSHE Association scheme of work and use their resources to teach our pupils the core themes of health and wellbeing, relationships and living in the wider world. We also use the 'No Outsiders' programme to support the teaching of diversity and inclusion.

Relationships Education is a statutory part of the PSHE curriculum your child will be taught in school. New RSHE guidance was recently published and like many other schools, we are now in the process of reviewing our RSHE policy in light of this new guidance. In the meantime, you can find a copy of our current RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education) Policy on our school website: [Preston Candover CE Primary School - PSHE](#)

## Useful websites for further information about Safeguarding, Keeping Safe Online and Mental Health:



**The Shout website**, which is a 24/7, confidential and free texting service to talk to someone if you are feeling low, anxious or struggling to cope.

Support for parents on children's use of social media at night, also from the Shout website.

<https://giveusashout.org/latest/support-for-parents-childrens-use-of-social-media-at-night/>



If you are worried about online abuse, you can make a report to one of CEOP's child protection advisors here:

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>



Advice can be found on over forty topics including:

***Understanding sibling rivalry***

***My child is lying, what does it mean, what should I do?***

***My child has trouble going to sleep***

***My child says, 'I hate you!'***

***Cultural identity: who am I?***

The Parenting Smart website can be found here:

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>



A Digital Mental Wellbeing website that has various support for young people, parents and carers, employers and employees and faith and belief communities.

You will find help on topics such as sleep, anxiety low mood and stress. There are podcasts, apps, workbooks, and guides together with self-assessments that you can take. Click link below for more information.

[Parents and carers | Good Thinking](#)



**National Online Safety** – safety guides on ALL aspects of internet use

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/>



**Internet Matters** – wide range of online safety advice for parents to keep their children safe on-line.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>



The online safety guide in the link below highlights the pros and cons of using parent apps to monitor a child's online activity and limit

potential encounters with inappropriate harmful content.

[Parental Control Apps – Online Safety Review - Ineqe Safeguarding Group](#)