

# Autumn Safeguarding Newsletter - 2024-2025

## WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD

If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Designated Safeguarding Team straight away.

The following members of staff are part of the Safeguarding Team at St James CE:

- Mrs Briers (DSL)
- Mrs Young (DDSL)
- Miss Moore (DDSL)
- Mrs Conant (DDSL)

They can be contacted via the school office, or by telephone on 01744 678545

Safeguarding Governor: Mr William Wiswell

\*For a copy of our school's Child Protection and Safeguarding 2023 Policy, please visit the 'Safeguarding' page on our school website.

https://www.stjamesceprimary.co.uk/page/safeguarding-and-early-help/129471

You can also contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01744 676767 Dear Parents,

We are delighted to present the first edition of our Parent Safeguarding Newsletter for the 2024 academic year. These newsletters are to assist you in developing a deeper understanding of safeguarding issues that may impact your child, yourself, or members of our local community.

#### What is safeguarding and child protection?

Safeguarding is the action you take 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 and development
- providing support to meet children's needs when problems emerge
- ensuring children grow up with safe and effective care, within their family where possible
- 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 suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes child protection procedures detailing how to respond to concerns about a child.



#### **Protecting Children from Domestic Abuse**

Domestic abuse is any type of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between people who are, or who have been in a relationship, regardless of gender or sexuality. It can also happen between adults who are related to one another.

Domestic abuse can include:

- **coercive control** such as being told where to go and what to wear or being isolated from friends and family
- physical abuse such as being punched, kicked, cut, or being hit with an object
- **emotional abuse** such as being constantly undermined, sworn at, intimidated, ridiculed, harassed, or threatened with harm or death
- sexual abuse and rape including within a relationship or being made to have sex with other people
- **stalking and harassment** such as being repeatedly followed or spied on, being regularly given unwanted gifts or receiving unwanted communication
- **economic and financial abuse** such as having access to money controlled or withheld or being prevented from earning money
- **technology-facilitated abuse** such as having messages and emails monitored or deleted, constantly being sent messages or calls, or being tracked via device location

The freephone, 24-hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline



### The impact on the child

Domestic abuse always has an impact on children. Being exposed to domestic abuse in childhood is child abuse. Children and young people may experience domestic abuse both directly and indirectly.

Children and young people may experience:

- not getting the care and support they need from their parents or carers as a result of the abuse
- hearing the abuse from another room
- seeing someone they care about being injured and/or distressed
- finding damage to their home environment like broken furniture
- being hurt from being caught up in or trying to stop the abuse
- being denied access to parts of their home, such as rooms being locked
- being forced out of or losing their home





Operation Encompass is a police and education early information safeguarding partnership enabling schools to offer immediate support to children experiencing domestic abuse.

Operation Encompass ensures that there is a simple telephone call or notification to a school's trained Designated Safeguarding Lead /Officer (known as key Adult) prior to the start of the next school day after an incident of police attended domestic abuse where there are children related to either of the adult parties involved.

Information is shared with a school's Key Adult (Designated Safeguarding Lead or Officer) prior to the start of the next school day after officers have attended a domestic abuse incident. This sharing of information enables appropriate support to be given, dependent upon the needs and wishes of the child.