



# Leasowes Primary School

## Together we Learn, Together we Grow.

## Together we STAY SAFE

### Feeling Safe and Happy at School

At **Leasowes**, we want to make sure that you feel looked after, safe and happy when you are in and out of school.

Sometimes we don't know if something bad is happening, so you need to tell us. This document, which is known as a "**policy**", looks at what we do to make sure you are kept safe, and what you can do when you think someone is hurting you or someone else.

We can help you by:

- **Teaching you what safeguarding is.**
- **Teaching you what to do if you feel worried or scared.**
- **Making sure you know who you can speak to if you are worried.**

If you don't understand something or have any questions about what you read in the policy, please ask your teacher for help.



# 1

## What does Safeguarding Mean?

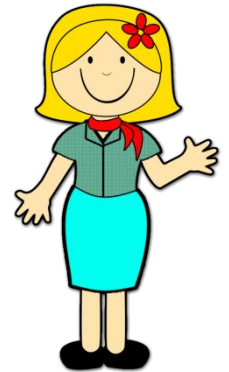
“Safeguarding” refers to all the things we do to make sure you are kept safe from any harm. All staff in the school are specially trained in safeguarding.

**Safeguarding** means that staff will:

- Protect you from harm.
- Make sure that nothing stops you being healthy or developing properly.
- Make sure that you are looked after.
- Make sure that you have the best life chances and can grow up happy and successful.

We will make sure that the school is a **friendly, welcoming and supportive** place to spend time in, making it somewhere you want to be.

We want to make sure that you know who to ask for help, and will plan lessons to help you know how to look after yourself online and outside of school.



# 2

## Staying safe

If you are worried about something, you can talk to any adult in school that you trust. This could be your teacher or any other staff member. If you need to talk, we will listen.

We respect you and want to keep you safe, so we will do our best to help you to feel safe and happy. We will also teach you how to spot risks and what you can do keep yourself safe.

We think it is important for you to know where to get help if you are worried or unhappy about something, and we will do our best to spot if there is a problem.

We will always make time to listen and talk if you need us, please remember:

- **You are important to us.**
- **It's never your fault if someone is hurting you.**
- **There is always someone that can help you and you will not be in trouble.**
- **If someone is hurting you, they may also be hurting someone else, so it is important that you tell someone to make it stop and know that you will be kept safe.**

Every child should enjoy the right to a happy and safe childhood – do not be scared to tell someone if there is anything worrying you.



## Who to talk to

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It's important that you tell someone you trust if someone is:

- Bullying you.
- Saying things to you that make you feel upset or uncomfortable.
- Touching a private part of your body.
- Hitting or hurting you.
- Taking your things.
- Sending unkind messages on the internet or to your phone.

It is important you **tell someone** as soon as someone starts hurting or harming you, or you think that this is happening to someone else.

Speaking to someone like your parent, carer or teacher will mean that we can make sure the **abuse stops** and doesn't happen again.

In every school there is always somebody who has the responsibility to keep you safe and all staff have to tell that person if they are worried about you – this person is called the DSL, which stands for **Designated Safeguarding Lead**. Other members of staff have also been taught how to do the DSL's job.

Staff are taught how to keep children safe as it is the most important part of their job.

The list below shows the people at our school that can do the job of the DSL:

- **Mrs Bettany**
- **Mr Coombs**
- **Mrs Till**
- **Miss Chesworth**

There are also places outside of school that you can go to for help.

You can call or visit:

- Childline on 0800 11 11 or visit [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)
- NSPCC on 0800 800 5000 or visit [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)
- Kidscape on 020 7730 3300 or visit [www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk)
- Youth Access on 020 8772 9900 or visit [www.youthaccess.org.uk](http://www.youthaccess.org.uk)



## Bullying

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Bullying is a type of abuse that takes place when someone tries to hurt another person on purpose. If someone was mean to you in any way but only once or twice, this is not bullying. If you tell someone about this, it can be sorted quickly. Bullying is when something happens more than once over a period of time or there is a pattern to the behaviour. **Bullying is not acceptable and must be dealt with immediately.** People can be bullied in many different ways:

- **Emotional bullying** includes hurting someone's feelings, by leaving them out or bossing them about. People can sometimes use emotional bullying to take advantage of you to get their own way by making threats or making you feel like you have to do something for them.
- **Physical bullying** can include hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling or purposely hurting someone.
- **Verbal bullying** can include insulting someone because of how they look or because of their personality, and can often go beyond that. People can also use verbal bullying to be **racist, sexist** or **homophobic**.
- **Racist bullying** is bullying someone because of their race, skin colour, the country they are from or the religion they believe in.
- **Homophobic bullying** means bullying someone because of their sexuality; calling someone gay or lesbian to hurt their feelings would be homophobic.
- **Sexist bullying** is bullying someone because of their gender; bullying someone because they are a boy or a girl would be sexist.
- **Cyberbullying** includes any kind of bullying which takes place online; cyberbullies send insulting messages over the internet and sometimes share secret information online to hurt someone's feelings.



Bullying is not always done by one person and can often involve a group of people 'ganging up' on someone – if you ever see someone being bullied, **never** join in and **always** tell a teacher. Some children doing the bullying may think that it is all a joke, or a bit of 'banter'. Remember, it is only a joke if **everyone finds it funny**. If you feel that others just think it is a joke, tell them to **stop**. Tell them that you don't like it. Alternatively, if you find this hard to do, tell someone who can help to stop this.

The bully could be one of your peers, an older or younger child or an adult. It's important that you tell someone if you think you are being bullied.

### Internet safety

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Internet safety is an important part of keeping children safe at our school. We have lots of safety measures in place which we keep an eye on both in and outside of school, to help safeguard children.

Computers and mobile phones help us all to share things and talk to friends or family, but they can also make it easier for bullies and other people to hurt you or to get close to you. It is important to know how to keep yourself

safe on your computer, your phone and on websites.

The school will help if you are sent unkind messages or if someone on the internet has asked you to do anything that has made you feel uncomfortable.

If you are unhappy with any comments or photographs you've seen on your computer or mobile, you can tell a staff member in school.

We have an **Online Safety Policy** which is there to protect you. There is also lots of information that can help you on the school website.



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### Relationships

Any relationship you have should be positive and make you feel safe, happy and comfortable. If you follow the **school values** and **charter** properly, you will find it easy to have positive relationships. A negative relationship might make someone feel scared, confused, worried and even unsafe.

It is really important that you know the difference between a positive relationship and a negative relationship.

#### Positive relationships:

- You are **comfortable** around that person.
- You can be **honest** with that person.
- You can say how you **feel** and what you are **thinking**, and you **listen** to each other.
- You **support** each other and treat each other **well**.
- You feel **safe**.
- You **trust** that person.
- You do **helpful things for each other**.
- You are **never pressured** to do anything that makes you feel uncomfortable.
- You feel **looked after**.



### Negative relationships:

- The person might push you, hit you or break your things.
- The person might tell you what to do, what to wear or who you can see.
- You might feel scared – they might say they will hurt you if you don't do something.
- The person might make threats or do harmful things if you do something they did not want you to do.
- The person calls you names, makes you feel bad in front of other people and makes you feel bad about yourself.
- The person gets angry easily and you don't know what will make them angry – it might make you feel nervous.
- The person might pressure you to do things you don't want to do or are not ready for.
- The person might not take no for an answer when you say you don't want to do something.



### School buildings and the playground

All school staff will make sure the building is safe for you to learn in and spend time in.

We will make sure that you know who everyone is in school by asking visitors to sign in when they arrive at school. You will always know who a visitor to the school is because they will have a lanyard or badge to wear. If it is a **red lanyard, they are ok to go around school by themselves**. If the lanyard is **yellow, they should be supervised at all times**. All staff have a **blue lanyard**.

If you see someone acting suspiciously or trying to gain access to school grounds you should report this to an adult immediately.

People that we do not know will **never** be allowed to spend time with you on your own and they will not be allowed to walk around the school without a member of staff.



**Let's make sure Leasowes is a happy, safe place!**

