

# Safeguarding Information for Parents & Carers



**Peterhouse School**

Our priority at Peterhouse is keeping your child safe, happy, and supported. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and we work closely with families to protect and promote children's wellbeing.

## **Our Safeguarding Commitment**

- All staff are trained in safeguarding and child protection
- We have a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and deputy DSL in place
- Safeguarding applies at all times: in school, online, and during activities

## **Supporting Children with Autism**

We recognise that children with autism may:

- Find it hard to communicate worries or distress
- Be more trusting of others
- Struggle to recognise unsafe situations
- Show distress through changes in behaviour

**Our safeguarding approach reflects these needs.**

## **We recognise behaviour as communication**

- Distressed behaviour is understood as communication
- School support is proactive and individualised
- Physical intervention is used only as a last resort, in line with our policy

## **Keeping Children Safe in School**

- Clear routines and supervision
- Anti-bullying approach, including autism-related bullying
- Safe collection and attendance procedures are in place to support children with regular attendance
- Individual risk assessments, behavioural support and individual healthcare plans where needed
- Pastoral care system (personal tutors, child and parent counsellors)
- Pupil mental health and wellbeing support available
- Procedures for illness, medication, and emergencies

## **Online Safety**

- Children are taught safe use of technology in autism-appropriate ways
- School internet use is filtered and monitored
- Parents are encouraged to monitor devices and online activity at home
- Schools Online Safety Family advisor is Ruth Smith

## **Working in Partnership with Parents**

Please tell us about:

- Changes at home that may affect your child
  - Medical or emotional needs
  - Any worries about safety or wellbeing
- No concern is too small.

## **If There Is a Safeguarding Concern about your child**

- Concerns are always taken seriously and recorded
- School will share concerns with you, unless this compromises the child safety
- The school may need to seek advice and involve outside agencies
- Decisions are always made in the best interests of the child

## **Raising a Concern**

If you have a concern, please contact:

Claire Sayles: Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Peter Rimmer: Deputy DSL

School Office: Lorna Norcross Office Manager )01704 506682

**All concerns are treated confidentially.**

## **Safeguarding Policies**

Our School Safeguarding and Child Protection policy are available:

- On the school website
- From the school office upon request

**Thank you for working with us to keep your child safe**