

WHAT SCHOOL MUST DO:

A child should be able to go to school and feel safe so that they can achieve their very best.

- Everybody who works or volunteers at Netherthorpe will have a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check to make sure they are safe to work with children and trained to identify child abuse and what to do if they are concerned.
- The school has a Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs N Connolley (Deputy Headteacher) and Deputy Safeguarding Leads, Miss Jackson (Early Help Officer), Mrs Gray, Mrs Hutchinson, Mrs Sanderson, Mrs Lonchar and Miss Stimpson (PSM)'s who are fully trained in Safeguarding procedures.
- We will always listen to you and work closely with you if we are concerned about your child but, sometimes, we may not be able to discuss our concern. The school has a Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy which tells you more about this and when we must speak to the Police or Children's Services. You can see this policy on the school website.
- We will help your child learn about keeping themselves safe. Lessons can include healthy eating, stranger danger, anti-bullying, online safety, road safety, healthy relationships, drug and alcohol awareness. As part of these lessons your child will be told what to do if they are worried or concerned about safety.

WHAT PARENTS/CARERS MUST DO:

Parents are the most important people to keep their children safe. You should always:

- Feel confident to raise concerns about your child.
- Talk to school if you need help or support.
- Read the school policies about safety issues (available on school website).
- Let the school know if your child has a medical condition.
- Let the school know if you have any court orders relating to the safety of your child.
- Let the school know if there is a change in your circumstances such as house move, a new contact number, a change of name, a change of parental responsibility.
- Let us know two other emergency contacts.
- Inform the school of any changes to agreed arrangements.
- Let the school know if your child is going to be absent and the reason why.
- Inform the school (confidentially) if you have any concerns or suspicions about the safety of any other children.

NETHERTHORPE SCHOOL

Keeping Children Safe in Education

A Guide for Parents



Headteacher—Mrs H McVicar
01246 472220

Netherthorpe School is committed to:

Creating a happy and safe environment for our children to learn. This leaflet will help you understand how we keep your children safe by telling you:

- How children can be harmed
- What we must do to keep your child safe from harm
- What you must do as a parent to help your child be safe and enjoy school

Child Protection:

This is an important area in which all staff receive regular training. Our priority is to work with you but there may be times when we have to involve other people. Everyone has a responsibility to keep all children under the age of 18 safe. Harm is identified in four ways:

Physical - This is when a child is deliberately hurt or injured;

Sexual - This is when a child is influenced or forced to take part in a sexual activity. This can be a physical activity or none physical, e.g. being made to look at an inappropriate image;

Emotional - this is when a child is made to feel frightened, worthless or unloved. It can be shouting, using threats or making fun of someone. It can also be when children see their parents or visitors to the home, fighting or using violence;

Neglect - This is when a child is not being taken care of by their parents. It can be poor hygiene, poor diet, not keeping appointments for additional support, not attending school or being left home alone.

Attendance - Your child's attendance is monitored daily and significant absences are always followed up by the School Attendance Officer. A healthy child is expected to achieve an average of above 95% attendance and when attendance falls below this amount, progress in their academic achievements can be seriously affected.

Behaviour - Netherthorpe has clear behaviour rules for the whole school community that must be followed to keep everyone safe and happy. To see more information, see the Behaviour Management and Exclusion Policy on the school website.

Bullying - The school takes all cases of bullying very seriously and will work with students and families to try to resolve any problems. We understand that students do sometimes fall out and this will be dealt with by an adult who will listen to the students involved and help resolve the situation. The school has an Anti Bullying Policy that you should read and understand (available on the website)

Health & Safety - Everyone at Netherthorpe has a responsibility to keep each other safe. The school has a clear health and safety policy which everyone must follow. The school has a fully trained Senior First Aider (Miss Gibson) and other first aiders who deal with any accidents in school.

Online-Safety - The school recognises that technology plays an important role in the education of our children and is committed to safeguarding children in the virtual world. You can help to keep them safe online by monitoring their screen time and keeping a check on their online activity.

Complaints - If you have any complaints about how the school is working with you or your child, please feel confident to speak to your child's Head of Year or Pastoral Support Manager. It is better to speak to us as soon as you have a concern so that it does not become a bigger issue. If you feel the matter has not been resolved, you can raise your concerns with the Headteacher. Our Complaints Policy is on the school website.