



**'The JOY of the Lord is Your Strength' (Nehemiah 8:10)**

**St. John's CE Primary School**

**The Role of Our Safeguarding Governor**

As the governor responsible for safeguarding children you will play an essential role in ensuring children in this school are kept safe from harm. The safeguarding governor plays an important role in ensuring oversight and scrutiny of safeguarding policy, procedure and practice on behalf of the full governing body. It is recognised that Governors are volunteers and generously give of their time, interest and expertise to the ultimate benefit of children in our schools but it should not be underestimated that your role is that of a 'senior manager' of a school with accountability befitting such a significant responsibility.

Your role as Nominated Governor for Safeguarding is to:

- Act as a 'critical friend' to the school, in order to ensure that the appropriate systems and procedures are in place to cover all aspects of the safeguarding agenda and all statutory governing body responsibilities are met.
- Monitor appropriate policies, including the safeguarding and whistle blowing policies.
- Ensure there is a suitably qualified, trained and supported Designated Senior Person who has responsibility for responding to and overseeing safeguarding issues.
- Ensure there is a suitably qualified, trained and supported Deputy Designated Person who has responsibility for responding to and overseeing safeguarding issues as agreed reasonable to be delegated by the DSP.
- Ensure that the DSP adequately supervises and supports the work, development and wellbeing of the DDP and any other individual to whom they may delegate additional safeguarding responsibilities in order that there exist clear lines of accountability.
- Ensure there is a robust system for recording, storing and reviewing child welfare concerns. Liaise with the head about general child protection and broader safeguarding issues within the school and as such be able to provide reports to the governing body in respect of themes issues within the school/locality to enable adequate oversight, understanding and development of solutions.

- Ensure that school staff training is up to date and attend Basic Awareness Safeguarding training every 3 years and other training as appropriate to the role and relevant to issues within the school/locality
- Ensure other governors attend appropriate safeguarding training.
- Ensure appropriate members of the governing body complete training in respect of allegations against staff.
- Ensure at least one governor on the recruitment and selection panel for staff has successfully completed accredited Safer Recruitment training.
- Ensure interview panels are convened appropriately and safer recruitment practices are followed.
- Have oversight of the single central record and ensure it is up to date and maintained in line with guidance.
- Take account of how safe pupils feel when in school.
- Ensure the voice of pupils is truly heard and appropriately acknowledged. Ensure the school constantly review and consider their curriculum in order that key safeguarding 'messages and lessons' run throughout.
- Ensure school do not operate in isolation and have an awareness of agencies available to support children and families
- Ensure the safeguarding agenda is embedded in the ethos of the school.
- Monitor progress against any outstanding actions on the governing body safeguarding audit tool and other local authority review.
- Provide an annual report to the full governing body to include, amongst other relevant items, detail pertaining to training, themes, issues, number of TAF assessments led by school (including the number escalated to Child in Need/Child Protection, de-escalated), contribution to multi-agency meetings and good practice .