



## Safeguarding Policy- Student Version

### What is safeguarding?

Ashcroft School has a safeguarding policy for staff, families and governors. This version is designed for Ashcroft students and should be read as a guide to the main policy (it is VERY long). This will help you decide what could be a “problem” and where to get help and support.

It is very important you know who you can talk to and also to understand why you might need to talk to someone.

### What do you need to understand about Safeguarding?

- All adults will listen to what you have to say with an open mind.
- You can talk about yourself, or if you worried about someone in your family, or a friend, you can trust us to listen.
- Adults will not ask to reveal more details but will check that they have understood what you have said. If they are worried about your safety, they might invite another professional to talk to you.
- Adults will never stop you from freely talking or sharing about significant events.
- Adults will make accurate and specific notes of discussions to make sure that all concerns are recorded, and what they write is correct.
- Adults will not promise to keep secrets. They will explain that they have a responsibility to report what has been said to someone else if they are worried about your safety.
- All adults will immediately tell the Safeguarding team if they are worried about your safety.

### The four main areas of Child Protection concerns are:

1. **Physical Abuse** – This is when someone hurts you. Examples of this are hitting, smacking, shaking, throwing, burning biting
2. **Emotional Abuse** – This means when someone upsets you or makes you feel bad. They could say horrible things to you and make you feel sad and worthless
3. **Neglect** – this means things like not providing meals, warmth or clothing. It could also mean not taking you to the doctors or dentist when you need to go. There may be lots of different reasons why a child is neglected, and it is really important that school knows so that we can help.

4. **Sexual Abuse** – This can be someone touching you in an inappropriate way. They may touch you in private places such as your bum or chest and you don't like it. This can also mean someone is making you watch things to do with sex or encouraging you to act in an inappropriate way.

If you **need to talk**, you can choose **any adult** in our school who **you trust**, this may be a teacher, a learning support assistant, an outdoor education instructor, it is up to you. Some staff have a very important role in helping everyone stay safe, they are the Safeguarding Team if you want to you can talk to one of them or ask to see them. DSL stands for Designated Safeguarding Lead. DDSL stands for Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead. These are people are the safeguarding team and we have at least one member responsible for each of Ashcroft school sites.

**In our school the Safeguarding Leader is Duncan Bridgwood. He is supported by the team, which includes Wendy Whitehead, Tom Edghill, Leigh Fleming.**

But remember, every member of staff is here to help.



**Paula Tankard**  
Head Teacher



**Duncan Bridgwood**  
Lead DSL for all of  
Ashcroft



**Wendy Whitehead**  
DDSL for Cheadle



**Leigh Fleming**  
DDSL for College



**Richard Stevens**  
Deputy Head and  
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**Tom Edghill**  
DDSL for Nurture



**Chris Gallagher**  
Assistant Head and  
DDSL for ACCESS

