

# St. Luke's CE Primary School



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*Headteacher: Mrs. Sharon Cowey, MA, NPQH*

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Dear Parents/Carers,

There has been much disturbing news lately about the abuse of children by coaches at football clubs and similar groups. Although these events took place many years ago and safeguarding practice has moved on greatly, the governors at St Luke's felt it may be helpful to send a letter to all parents and carers outlining the practices, procedures and policies designed to protect children. We strive to ensure that, as far as is humanly possible, all children are safe in school and in any extracurricular groups they attend.

All adults working with children are subject to a DBS (disclosure and barring service) check. This will pick up anyone with criminal convictions. Those subject to the check includes governors, teachers and TAs, volunteers, peripatetic teachers, coaches, clerical, premises and catering staff. There are many school policies with direct relevance to safeguarding children as well as the Safeguarding policy itself: for example, Whistleblowing, Behaviour Management, Anti Bullying, Staff Code of Conduct, etc. All the school policies can be accessed on the school website. The policies spell out in detail what actions should be taken and procedures followed in the event of concern.

The school has a senior member of staff and a governor who has responsibility for Safeguarding. They both attend regular training and they disseminate new knowledge throughout the school.



*to learn, to succeed, to value one another*

Just as important as the formal procedures, is the ethos of the school. At St Luke's there is a culture of safeguarding, of openness, friendliness and a readiness to discuss issues without fear of criticism or ridicule.

We hope you will find this letter reassuring. When it comes to safeguarding there are no hard and fast guarantees. What there is however is a sincere desire to ensure children's safety and wellbeing at all times.

Yours sincerely,

Sheila Nelson

Safeguarding Governor



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