

# DOWNEND SCHOOL



Downend School

## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN POLICY

Status: Statutory  
Reviewed: February 2011  
Ratified: March 2011  
To be reviewed: February 2012

### AIM:

We will strive to make Downend School a place where all children and young people have the best possible opportunities in life and can be involved in shaping the future and a place where they:

- Enjoy the best possible physical and mental health and live a healthy lifestyle – (Be Healthy)
- Are safeguarded, protected from harm and neglect and feel safe and secure at all times –(Stay Safe)
- Have encouragement and excellent opportunities to learn, play, enjoy and achieve wherever they are – (Enjoy and Achieve)
- Have the opportunity to achieve their aspirations, be creative, and play a full and positive part in their communities – (Make a Positive Contribution)
- Grow up in strong and secure families and vibrant communities, and achieve rewarding adult lives – (Achieve Economic Wellbeing)

Downend School fully recognises its responsibilities for safeguarding children.

The policy applies to all staff, governors and volunteers who may be working in the school.

There are five main elements to the policy:

- Ensuring we practice safe recruitment of staff.
- Raise awareness of child protection issues and equip students with the skills needed to keep them healthy and safe.
- Develop and implement procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of bullying or abuse.
- Support students who have been victims of abuse in accordance with agreed action plans.
- Establish a safe and healthy environment in which young people can learn and develop.

The school is required to take any reasonable action to ensure the safety of its students as defined in the Children Act 2004 and the Education Act 2002 and most recently the Government's paper, "Working Together to Safeguard Children" 2006.

In cases where the school has reason to be concerned that a child may be subjected to ill treatment, neglect, or other forms of abuse, the Headteacher or a designated senior member of staff is obliged to follow the safeguarding children procedures established by South

Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board and inform Social Services of the concern.  
**The designated senior member of staff for Child Protection is Mrs Gill Miller.**

We will follow the procedures set out by the South Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Procedures and:

- Ensure that the designated senior person for safeguarding children receives appropriate training in order to carry out the role.
- Ensure we have a nominated governor responsible for safeguarding children.
- Ensure every member of staff knows who the designated senior member of staff responsible for safeguarding children and all other trained Child Protection staff.
- Ensure all staff are aware of their responsibilities in referring any concerns to the designated person.
- Develop effective links with relevant agencies and cooperate as required with their enquiries regarding child protection matters and attend case conferences as required.
- Keep written records of concern about students.
- Ensure that written records are kept securely in a locked place.
- Develop and then follow procedures where an allegation is made against a member of staff.
- Ensure safe recruitment practices are always followed and a central record of all adults supporting learning is kept up to date.
- Ensure that all on site and off site activities, including trips, involving children are properly documented and risk assessments made.
- Ensure that the school site is a secure and safe place for children and young people.
- Wherever a situation is unclear the designated person will seek clarification and guidance from LA Safeguarding Manager.

The nature of safeguarding issues can lead from a concern arising with any member of the school community at any time. All concerns are taken seriously and will be dealt with as soon as appropriate to do so.

### **Training for Staff:**

Whole School Staff training and induction occurs every year. Training, by the designated member of staff is part of the **NQTs** induction and training to support and other staff new to the school as part of the Induction Programme. Training is also given to staff at the start of each term, where new appointments have been made during the previous term.

### **Downend School's Related Policies:**

Child Protection Policy  
Anti-Bullying Policy  
Behaviour Policy  
Safer Recruitment Policy  
Whistleblowing Policy

**Related Documents:**

South Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Procedures  
Child Protection Referral Flowchart  
Managing Allegations of Abuse Against School Staff.  
Communications Protocol

**Ratification:**

Date: 15/03/11

Signature of Headteacher

Date: 15/03/11

Signature of Chair of Governors

Date: 15/03/11

SLT responsible:

Gill Miller