



# Stillness Junior School

## Safeguarding News

**Issue 1 – Autumn Term 2025**

Safeguarding is about ensuring that everyone is safe from harm / exploitation and feels safe in our school. Harm can take many form; bullying, abuse (physical / mental), neglect, discrimination and harassment.

All our staff understand safeguarding to be of the highest importance and they know that their vigilance of the children and of the adults is critical. All staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and their responsibility for referring any concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or in their absence the Deputy Safeguarding Lead). We are committed to the provision of child protection training for all our staff.

Safeguarding issues are regularly discussed at Governors, Leadership Team and Staff Meetings and we work closely with a range of outside agencies, including Children's Social Care.

For more information please read our Safeguarding Policy (which can be accessed on our school website [www.stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk](http://www.stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk)). This policy applies to all staff, governors, professionals and volunteers working within our school.

**Please visit our school website for further safeguarding information**

Safeguarding Leads:

Mrs Mitzi Nichol  
Headteacher

Mrs Zoe Renner-Thomas  
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs P Brown  
Inclusion Lead

Safeguarding Governor:  
Mrs Emily Mackenzie

### **Safeguarding at Stillness Junior School is “everyone’s responsibility, every day!”**

Our first and foremost priority is to keep your child safe and healthy; there are safeguarding notices around our school to remind staff and visitors of our policies and practices with the key message that: **“Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility, every day”**. Under the Ofsted framework safeguarding is a key indicator of what constitutes a good school. Keeping your child safe means:

- ✓ The health and safety of all children;
- ✓ Making sure that the adults who work here have undergone safety and security checks;
- ✓ Protecting the children from deliberate harm;
  - ✓ Being an anti-bullying school;
  - ✓ Being proactive against racist behaviour;
- ✓ Protecting our children from harassment and discrimination;
- ✓ A positive approach to behaviour management including the use of physical intervention safely where necessary;
- ✓ Meeting the needs of children with medical conditions;
  - ✓ Providing first aid;
- ✓ Protecting children from drug and substance abuse;
  - ✓ Children enjoying safe educational visits;
  - ✓ Caring for children’s personal needs;
- ✓ Keeping children safe when using the internet;
  - ✓ Making sure our school is secure and safe;
  - ✓ Being a “listening school”.

Safeguarding is a process of making sure vulnerable children and young people are protected from being abused, neglected or exploited. If you worried or concerned about a child and/or family please do not hesitate to email the school on [kim@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:kim@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk). Please be assured that all concerns will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

All of our staff at Stillness Junior School have regular safeguarding updates and this includes:

Child Protection and Prevent Duty training.  
***“Prevent is part of the UK’s counter terrorism strategy, preventing people from becoming involved in terrorism or supporting terrorism.”*** Safeguarding is also part of our induction programme for new staff.

We would like to highlight our safeguarding policies and some of the useful articles and websites which can be accessed via our school website:

[www.stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk](http://www.stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk)

Please visit our Safeguarding at Stillness

**KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IS  
EVERYONE’S RESPONSIBILITY**

## Social Media

We are responding to an increasing number of incidents that are occurring online. Whilst there are many benefits to children having access to the online world, it comes with many risks, especially if their use is unsupervised. Studies have found that excessive use of social media increases a young person's susceptibility to depression, anxiety, poor body image and self-worth. It can also impact a child's sleep routine, which in turn can affect their ability to concentrate and thrive in school.

### Age restrictions of Social Media Apps

Please be mindful that social media apps are not appropriate for pupils under the age of 13. Below are the age restrictions for the most popular apps:

**What's App—13 years +**

**Instagram—13 years +**

**Facebook—13 years +**

**Snapchat—13 years +**

**TikTok—13 Years +**

*“Schools can help protect pupils by creating a safe environment through robust safeguarding practices, and ensuring all staff and volunteers don't pose a risk to children. It's vital that they also teach children about staying safe, and make sure they feel confident to approach a member of staff if they have a worry or problem.”*

### Safeguarding Governor Role:

The Safeguarding Governors' responsibilities include:

- ✓ Ensuring the school is following safer recruitment procedures when recruiting any new staff members
- ✓ Reviewing all activity and policy relating to the physical and emotional well-being of all children
- ✓ Seeking improvement to secure the school follows best practice in creating a productive and safe environment for all

If you think a child is in immediate danger, contact the police on 999. If you're worried about a child but they are not in immediate danger, you should share your concerns.

### What is a Designated Safeguarding Lead?

Each school must have an appropriate senior member of staff to take lead responsibility for child protection. Key aspects of the “Designated Safeguarding Lead” role include:

- Ensuring that all staff are aware of the processes for raising safeguarding concerns
- Ensuring all staff understand the signs of child abuse and neglect
  - Referring any concerns to Social Care
- Monitoring children who are the subject of Child Protection and Children in Need Plans
- Maintaining accurate and secure child protection records
- Raising awareness of the school's safeguarding policies and procedures, and ensuring these are implemented and reviewed regularly

### Useful Safeguarding Acronyms and Vocabulary:

**DSL:** Designated Safeguarding Lead

**MASH:** Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

**CP:** Child Protection

**CiN:** Child in Need

**CEOP:** Child Exploitation and On-Line Protection Centre

**KCSIE:** Keeping Children Safe in Education

**PREVENT:** Part of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn in to extremism

**CAMHs:** Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

**SEND:** Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

**Please help us and your child by ensuring their attendance remains above 96%, allowing them to achieve their potential**