



SENDScope

Independent School

Safeguarding Advice for Visitors

POLICY WRITTEN BY:	SENDScope Director Jacqueline Bebbington
DATE POLICY PREPARED:	May 2022
DATE POLICY REVIEWED:	September 2024
DATE FOR NEXT REVIEW:	September 2027

The following guidance is followed by the school and given to all visitors:

Our school is committed to safeguarding children and promoting children's welfare and expects all staff, governors, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment and maintain a vigilant and safe environment. It is our willingness to work in a safe manner and challenge inappropriate behaviour that underpins this commitment. By signing in and out of the visitors' book you are agreeing to follow the advice within this leaflet. All visitors must wear the visitor's badge provided by reception. Any adult without a badge will be accompanied to the school's reception (St Francis Xavier's) to confirm they have signed in.

Visitors must be accompanied at all times by a member of the school staff.

Unsupervised visitors: If your visit involves unsupervised contact with young people, you will be asked to show the photographic ID badge provided by your employer and written confirmation that you have an Enhanced DBS Certificate including a Barred List Check. You may be required by the setting to present your Enhanced DBS Certificate. We will not make a copy of your certificate. We will simply note the level of the check undertaken. You will also need to read and understand the school's Code of Conduct for Adults and Part 1 of the DfE's Guidance, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. The school's Child Protection Policy is available on the school's website.

If you have ANY concerns about a child's welfare or well-being or have a concern about the behaviour of any adult within the school towards a child:

- Discuss your concerns without delay with the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Principal or a member of the safeguarding team.
- Remember it is important to share your concerns even if you are unsure.

- Anyone (in emergencies or if they need to) can make a referral directly to Children's Services.
- The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for managing allegations against staff and volunteers can be contacted via Children's Services.
- SENDSCOPE staff can provide you with a copy of the setting's procedures for managing allegations against staff and volunteers.

If a child makes a disclosure to you:

- Do not investigate but report them immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead or another member of the senior staff at the school
- Avoid being shocked or embarrassed.
- Listen to the child without interrupting them.
- Do not promise to keep a secret.
- Do not ask the child any leading questions.
- Reassure them that 'it is not their fault and they have done the right thing to tell you'.
- Immediately following the disclosure report your concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (see above) and write down what the child said using the child's own words and phrases. Sign and date this document and hand it to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
- Consider how best to manage your own feelings
- Following reporting your concerns remember that the disclosure and the child's identity should remain confidential

The setting can provide additional national guidance in respect of safer working practices for all adults working with young people, including advice regarding 'on-line safety'.

Remember:

- Provide a positive role model to young people
- Dress appropriately, ensuring your clothing is not likely to be viewed as offensive or revealing
- Treat all members of the school's community with respect and tolerance
- Work with children so that you are visible by a member of the school staff
- Respect a child's privacy and dignity
- Always be able to justify any physical contact you have with a young person
- Always report any situations that arise that you may feel may give rise to a complaint or misunderstanding in respect of your own actions
- There should be no delay in ringing 999 and requesting fire, police or an ambulance.

Never:

- Photograph a child without the setting's permission
- Never use your personal mobile phone in areas used by young people
- Ignore inappropriate behaviours towards children either by other children or adults
- Share personal details with a child
- Meet or contact the child out of school including by text, email, Facebook or other social media or give a child a lift home
- Discuss the school, children or adults working within the school on social media
- Make inappropriate comments to a child including racist, homophobic, sexist or sexualised comments

- Give gifts to a young person (unless part of the school's agreed rewards policy or with the agreement of your line manager) or show them preferential treatment

Key staff and Governors:

Principals: Mrs Jacqueline Bebbington and Ms Natalie Walsh

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Jacqueline Bebbington

Those trained to deputise for the Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ms Natalie Walsh

Chair of Governors: Mr David Hayes

Safeguarding Governor: Mrs Sharon Murphy

Names of First Aiders: Ms Natalie Walsh and Mrs Jacqueline Bebbington

Other Safeguarding Guidance:**In the case of a fire follow the following procedures:**

- Use the designated fire exit that is clearly sign posted.
- Meet at the SENDSCOPE muster point on the school field which is clearly marked on the premises plan.
- Follow advice and guidance of staff to ensure that they can account for all visitors.

A fire blanket is located within the kitchen area of SENDSCOPE and a fire extinguisher is located in the main classroom area.