



SHERBORNE



# Safeguarding – A Summary

June 2024

## Clarifying Information

- "Sherborne School" includes Sherborne Short Courses unless stated otherwise.
- "Parents" includes anyone representing the student, such as agents, guardians, and carers.

## Section One – Introduction

### 1. Introduction to Safeguarding

Sherborne School is committed to ensuring the well-being of children in its care. This includes protecting them from harm, promoting their health and development, and creating a safe environment. All staff are responsible for identifying concerns, sharing information, and taking action to protect the children. The school's approach is child-centred, always prioritising the child's best interests.

The Safeguarding Policy is reviewed annually by the Governing Body.

### 1.2 Statement, Principles, and Aims

#### 1.2.1 Statement

Sherborne School prioritises the welfare of children, ensuring they are safe from harm or exploitation regardless of their background or status. Safeguarding also includes online safety. Legal obligations are marked by "must," while "should" indicates recommended actions unless there is a good reason otherwise.

The school promotes the well-being of students by addressing:

- Physical and mental health
- Protection from harm
- Education and recreation
- Contribution to society
- Social and economic well-being

The school acts as a guardian, providing a safe and secure environment where everyone is respected.

Staff and volunteers understand the importance of taking action and working with children, parents, and other agencies to safeguard and promote children's welfare.

### **1.2.2 Principles**

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. It involves:

- Protecting children from harm
- Preventing health or developmental issues
- Ensuring safe and effective care
- Enabling the best life chances

All children have the right to be protected from harm regardless of their background.

This policy applies to everyone working at the school, including teachers, staff, volunteers, and students working at the school. It is available on the school's website.

### **1.2.3 Aims**

The school aims to safeguard children by:

- Always acting in their best interests
- Valuing and respecting them
- Involving them in decisions
- Maintaining a safe learning environment
- Encouraging open communication
- Not tolerating any form of discrimination or bullying
- Teaching safety, including online
- Implementing health and safety procedures
- Having clear policies on drugs and substance misuse
- Training staff to recognise and respond to radicalisation
- Appointing a dedicated safeguarding lead
- Ensuring all staff understand their safeguarding responsibilities
- Providing annual training for staff
- Promoting a supportive environment for staff to share concerns
- Identifying and supporting at-risk children early
- Sharing information with necessary agencies

- Working with other professionals and agencies
- Keeping accurate records of safeguarding concerns
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely
- Ensuring off-site activities are safe
- Adopting a code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Ensuring staff know how to report concerns
- Managing safeguarding effectively through induction, support, and training
- Reporting to relevant authorities when necessary

The school aims to create a secure environment where children feel safe, are encouraged to speak up, and are listened to. The curriculum includes opportunities for children to learn about staying safe from abuse and other dangers, particularly online.

## **Section Two - Roles and Responsibilities**

### **2.1 Overview**

All adults at the school are responsible for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. This includes taking action when there are concerns about child protection.

The Governing Body ensures the school has an effective safeguarding policy, reviewed annually and publicly available.

**The Designated Safeguarding Governor for Sherborne School is Robin Leach**

The school has a Lead Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) responsible for safeguarding. Any concerns should be reported to the DSL, who will decide on the necessary actions, including contacting social services or the police. The DSL also leads efforts to prevent radicalisation.

**The Designated Safeguarding Lead for Sherborne School is Allister Sheffield**

**On Sherborne Short Courses the Designated Safeguarding Lead is David Shaw.  
The Deputy DSLs are Simon Larkin and Samantha Belgeonne**

If the DSL is absent, Deputy DSLs, who have received appropriate training, will take over their duties. If the DSL is the subject of a complaint, the Headmaster, who is also trained in child protection, will take on the DSL's responsibilities.

*DAS, Director of Short Courses, June 2024*