

Striving for Excellence Together

Sir William Romney's School Child-friendly Safeguarding Policy

Working together to keep you safe



Safeguarding refers to keeping someone safe – here at Sir William Romney's School we take this very seriously.

We follow guidance from the government about keeping young people safe – this guidance is called Keeping Children Safe in Education, and we share this with staff every year. We want to help you understand what safeguarding means to you and to help you decide when you might need more support.

We are here to listen. We are here to support you. We are here to keep you safe.

Our promises

- We will work to protect you from harm and make sure you are safely looked after.
- We will help support your health and development.
- We will work to make sure you have the best life chances and can grow up happy, healthy, and successful.
- We will listen to you if you want to talk to us and need our help.
- We will respect you and take your worries seriously.
- We will share information with other professionals when it is necessary in order to keep you safe.
- We will give you guidance to help you learn how to look after yourself both online and in the real world.



Recognising when you might need help

When someone does something to hurt you or leaves you feeling scared and upset, it can be called **abuse**. This can happen to anyone; it's not always easy to tell someone about it, especially if the person abusing you is someone who loves you or is someone you care about.

It is important that you know –

- It is never your fault if someone is hurting or abusing you
- There is always someone who can help you
- It's important to tell someone if someone is hurting you – they might be hurting someone else too.
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Every child has a right to a happy and safe childhood

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Some examples of different types of abuse include:

- Someone says or does something that makes you feel bad about yourself, which makes you feel scared, sad, upset or frightened.
- If someone doesn't take proper care of you, and you feel abandoned lonely or neglected. Your basic needs

might not be met, such as food, clothing, shelter, education, nurture and healthcare.

- If someone makes you do things, or look at things, that make you feel ashamed, uncomfortable, or guilty. They may ask you to keep it a secret or give you presents to encourage this.
- If someone touches you in a way that you don't like – for example, touching your private parts.
- Someone deliberately hits you, hurts you, injures you or humiliates you.
- If you see someone be aggressive towards, threaten, hit or hurt someone you love, making you feel scared, unhappy or worried.

Key Terms and what they mean.

Child on child abuse – when one child (under 18) causes physical, emotional or sexual harm to another child. This can include bullying, hitting, sexual violence, sexual harassment, upskirting (taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing) and more.

Sexual Violence – this means offences recognised under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 and obviously is very serious.

Sexual harassment – Unwanted conduct of a sexual nature. An example is someone making an unwanted sexual comment or a sexual joke. Sexual harassment is never just 'banter' and is not ok.

Child Criminal Exploitation – When a young person is manipulated and forced into committing crimes.

Child Sexual Exploitation – A young person is given things like gifts, money, drugs, affection etc. in exchange for performing sexual activities.

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Who can I speak to?

In school:

A trusted adult e.g.

- Anyone in the Safeguarding Team
- Your Head of Year
- Your Tutor
- Any Teacher or Teaching Assistant
- The School Nurse

Out of school:

- Childline - 0800 1111
- The Police – 999 if you feel unsafe in an emergency.
- CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) –
www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre
- Your Doctor

The Safeguarding Team

We have a team of people at SWR specially trained to protect you from harm.

Mr Dillon is the Designated Safeguarding Lead. This means Mr Dillon has the main responsibility for making sure you are happy, safe and healthy.

Miss Cooper is our Safeguarding Officer. Miss Cooper works with Mr Dillon to make sure you are safe.

Mr Dillon and **Miss Cooper** are supported by **Mrs Jepps** and **Mr Ruscoe**.

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