THURLSTONE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Grow Together;
Learn Together;
Feel Loved.

SAFE. SEEN. SUPPORTED.

Working together to keep our children safe, happy and connected.

Every child matters. ♥

WHAT IS SAFEGUARDING? ♥

Safeguarding means taking action to protect children from harm and promoting their welfare. It is about helping every child to be safe, happy, healthy and able to reach their full potential.

It includes:

- Protecting children from abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- Supporting their physical and emotional wellbeing.
- Ensuring they feel safe, respected and included.
- Helping children recognise unsafe situations and know how to ask for help.
- Working with families and professionals when extra support is needed.
- Creating a school environment where every child feels they belong.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. ♥

THE FOUR MAIN TYPES OF ABUSE

Abuse can take different forms. It is important that we all understand what these might look like.

1. PHYSICAL ABUSE

When a child is deliberately physically harmed. This might include hitting, shaking, burning or other actions that cause injury.

2. EMOTIONAL ABUSE

When a child is repeatedly made to feel frightened, worthless, unloved or inadequate. This can include persistent criticism, threats, rejection or exposure to frightening situations.

3. SEXUAL ABUSE

When a child is forced, persuaded or manipulated into sexual activity. This can happen in person or online and may include physical contact or non-contact activities, such as being exposed to inappropriate images.

4. NEGLECT

When a child's basic physical or emotional needs are persistently not met. This might include inadequate food, clothing, shelter, supervision, medical care or emotional support.

Children can also experience harm through bullying, online abuse, exploitation and domestic abuse.

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Support when it's needed most.

Our school takes part in Operation Encompass, a national initiative that helps us support children who have experienced domestic abuse.

- When police attend a domestic abuse incident and a child has been involved or exposed, information can be shared securely with school.
- This means we can respond sensitively to your child's needs, often before the start of the next school day.
- A child may need extra reassurance, time with a trusted adult, a quiet space or understanding if they are tired or upset.
- The information is confidential and shared only with staff who need to know in order to support the child.

Operation Encompass is about support, not judgement. ♥

WHY GOOD ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Being in school helps children to:

- Build and maintain friendships.
- Develop confidence and independence.
- Feel connected to their classmates and teachers.
- Experience the security of familiar routines.
- Make progress in their learning.
- Develop a strong sense of belonging.

We know that some children face barriers to attendance, including illness, anxiety, SEND or difficult family circumstances. Our approach is always to listen, understand and support.
If your child is finding attendance difficult, please talk to us. We will work together to find the right support. ♥

WHY BELONGING MATTERS ♥

Feeling a sense of belonging is one of the most powerful ways we can safeguard children.

A child who feels they belong is more likely to:

- Feel secure.
- Develop positive relationships.
- Build resilience.
- Seek help when something is worrying them.
- Feel valued and accepted for who they are.

CONNECTION IS PROTECTION.



When children feel they belong, they are better placed to feel safe, thrive and learn.

OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM



Mrs Charlotte Gibbins
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Mrs Beth Wise
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Mr Nick Peace
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Nicky Shaw
Safeguarding Governor

If you have a concern about a child's safety or wellbeing, please contact school and ask to speak to a Designated Safeguarding Lead.

If a child is in immediate danger, call 999.