****

**PERRYMOUNT PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**CHILD PROTECTION**

**Safeguarding Children**

**Information for Parents/Carers 2022**

Dear Parent/ Carer

This is a brief guide to our safeguarding procedures which have at their very core ‘Child Protection’. This brief document outlines our processes. It also reaffirms our commitment to ensure that everyone at Perrymount has received appropriate training and does their utmost to ensure every child is safe.

All of our child protection policies are based upon the principle that:

  **‘the protection and the rights of the child are paramount.’**

The school aims to achieve this principle by having policies in place which have been discussed and understood by all staff. The safeguarding polices at Perrymount are -

* Safeguarding
* Staff Code of Conduct
* Educational visits
* Behaviour policy
* Anti bullying policy
* E Safety
* Extremism and Radicalisation Policy
* Intimate Care
* Administration of Medicines
* Health and Safety
* Whistleblowing
* Central record of all staff to include qualifications check and DBS

All policies can be viewed by parents either on our website or at the school office. The Central Record held on staff is confidential. This record is however checked each term by our Chair of Governors, Headteacher and annually by Lewisham Local Authority.

Each year all staff are trained on the different categories of child abuse. These are physical, emotional, neglect and sexual abuse. Staff are also trained to look for signs of child sexual exploitation, forced marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM). If any of these signs exist or are reported to us, it is the schools duty to inform both the police and social services straight away.

Staff are briefed as to what to say and how to react to different safeguarding situations and are encouraged to report to the Headteacher even the slightest concern so that it can be investigated. Once reported, a form is completed on My Concern (school’s safeguarding software) which highlights the suggested abuse and outlines the school’s response. This response can range from a discussion with parent and child to clarify the matter or a full Social Service investigation.

Since July 2015 schools have also been charged with a safeguarding duty to prevent people being drawn into terrorism. All staff have attended training about signs to look for and to report any unexpected changes in children’s behaviour to the Safeguarding Lead who must then inform the appropriate authorities.

As part of safeguarding procedures all schools must have one designated teacher in charge of safeguarding who has been externally trained in both child protection and safer recruiting. At Perrymount the designated teacher is Miss Keen, the Headteacher, who is fully up to date with all training. Other qualified staff are:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Position Held | Trained in Child Protection | Trained in Safer Recruitment |
| Christine Keen | HeadteacherDesignated Safeguarding Lead | Yes | Yes |
| Nina Wilson | Deputy HeadteacherDeputy Designated Safeguarding Lead | Yes | Yes |
| Paula Cooke | Attendance and Welfare OfficerDeputy Designated Safeguarding Lead | Yes |  |
| Michelle Hamilton  | Office ManagerDeputy Designated Safeguarding Lead | Yes |  |
| Shirley Cable | Nursery PractitionerPear Tree ASCDeputy Designated Safeguarding Lead | Yes |  |
| Rosamund Clark | Chair of GovernorsGovernors Safeguarding Lead.  | Yes | Yes |
| John Paschoud | LA Governor |  | Yes |

The role of all designated staff is to closely monitor children who are vulnerable and attend all meetings regarding their welfare and safety so as to develop a social network around the child.

If a safeguarding allegation is made against a member of staff, this again is reported to the Headteacher who involves Lewisham’s independent reviewing officer straight away (LADO). If the allegation is made about the Headteacher the same procedure applies but is reported straight to the Chair of Governors – Rosamund Clark.

I hope you have found this letter informative and if you do have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to come and see me. If you wish to read the entire Safeguarding policy 2022 it is on our website or ask the office to print you a copy.

Christine Keen

Headteacher