



Safeguarding Information

Dear Parents/Carers,

For families who are not already aware, I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Richard Street and I am the deputy head and the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). I would like to provide you with some information about the safeguarding role and the support school can provide. My overall remit is to ensure that the school adheres to its safeguarding policy which can be found on the school's website. The school's Deputy DSL position is held by Caroline Judd. Within this, the role of the DSL and its Deputy is wide ranging and involves:

Working with Others

Part of my role is to act as a source of support and advice for all staff in school and a point of contact for all stakeholders involved with the school. I work closely with Mrs Judd and Mrs Colbourn, to help promote educational outcomes by knowing the welfare, safeguarding and child protection issues that children in need are experiencing, or have experienced, and identifying the impact that these issues might be having on children's attendance, engagement and achievement at Bramhope. We really value and work hard to retain the supportive engagement with parents and/or carers in safeguarding to help promote the welfare of children, particularly where families may be facing challenging circumstances.

Raising Awareness

Mrs Judd and I ensure each member of staff is provided with up-to-date information about a range of issues as detailed in the school's child protection policy. We provide regular training opportunities and frequent updates to ensure all children are kept safe. We conduct regular audits in school to ensure we are compliant with the school's policy, quickly identifying any areas that need improvement. To ensure our knowledge is up to date, we receive regular training and safeguarding updates through various organisations, including the Leeds Safeguarding Partnership.

Understanding the Views of Children

It is important to us that children feel heard and understood. We encourage a culture of listening to children and take account of their wishes and feelings in any measures the school put in place to protect them. We understand the difficulties that children may have in approaching staff about their circumstances and consider how to build trusted relationships which facilitate communication. Mrs Judd is also the pastoral lead in school and is there for any child requiring additional support. Mrs Judd provides a range of support for children from 1:1 informal 'check-ins' to structured support in groups. If you have any concerns about your child, please contact your class teacher in the first instance.

Holding and Sharing Information

We recognise the importance of recording, holding, using and sharing information effectively as set out in the statutory document 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023'. Within this it is our duty to share information both within the school and with other schools on transfer including in-year and between primary and secondary education. We also may share information with safeguarding partners, other agencies, organisations and practitioners. We understand the importance of keeping information safe through relevant data protection legislation and regulations. We also recognise the critical importance of keeping detailed, accurate and secure written records of concerns and referrals. Please rest assured that in most cases we will share this information with you. There may be some cases, due to the best interests/safety of your child, where we may not share this information.

Managing Referrals

The DSL and Deputy DSL are expected to refer cases to a range of agencies to protect children and support families. This includes where there is suspected abuse and neglect; radicalisation; significant risk of harm or where a crime may have been committed. We do this with professionalism and care. We will always work with families to help provide appropriate support to protect the children in our care.

We are here to help

Ultimately, we are here to support your child and your family. We recognise that life brings with it many challenges and there are certain times within the life of a family that can be really difficult. Mrs Judd and I are here to listen to your needs and provide appropriate support, advice and guidance. We are here in the best interests of your child. It is not our role to judge; we just want to help.

Availability

Mrs Judd and I are available during school hours and can be contacted by phone or email either on admin@bramhopeprimaryschool.co.uk or pastoral@bramhopeprimaryschool.co.uk. We are both normally welcoming families to school in the morning at one of the main gates or entrances to the school building. Our school website has a wealth of information but if you have any concerns, questions or just need someone to discuss something, please do get in touch and we will contact you as soon as possible.

Thank you for your ongoing support and I look forward to another safe and successful year for all the children in our care at Bramhope.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Street

Deputy Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mr Street DSL



Mrs Judd Deputy DSL

