

Safeguarding at Mill Mead Primary School



We all have a responsibility to keep children (under the age of 18) safe and protect them from abuse, both at home and in school.

Abuse is defined as follows:

Physical abuse: a form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

Emotional abuse: the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond a child's developmental capability as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning or preventing the child from participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, although it may occur alone.

Sexual abuse: involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing, and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse. Sexual abuse can take place online, and technology can be used to facilitate offline abuse. Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children. The sexual abuse of children by other children is a specific safeguarding issue in education and all staff should be aware of it and of their school or college's policy and procedures for dealing with it.

Neglect: the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy, for example, as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to: provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment); protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger; ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

If you are concerned that any child is at risk of harm, or unsure about something you have been told or witnessed, please speak to a member of our Safeguarding Team immediately.

Safeguarding at Mill Mead Primary School



Our Safeguarding Team



Rachael Walsh
Designated Safeguarding Lead
and Headteacher



Helen Newman
Deputy DSL & Deputy Headteacher



Jack Morris
Deputy DSL and
Wraparound Care Manager



Alistair Ayres
Chair of Governors



Jennifer Voskanian
Governor Responsible
for Safeguarding

REMEMBER: If in doubt, talk it out.

After speaking with a DSL, please ensure you log your concern on CPOMS too: <https://millmead.cpoms.net>

Contact Details:

Rachael Walsh, Designated Safeguarding Lead- head@millmead.herts.sch.uk

Jennifer Voskanian, Governor responsible for Safeguarding- voskanian.j@millmead.herts.sch.uk

Alistair Ayres, Chair of Governors - ayres.a@millmead.herts.sch.uk

General School Contact Details: admin@millmead.herts.sch.uk or call 01992 582 776