

Culture of Safeguarding Statement

At St Francis of Assisi...

- **We are a 'Telling' school**
What this looks like: our school is a place where pupils feel secure and are encouraged to talk about their worries, where they are listened to and feel safe. Pupils are encouraged to talk freely to any member of staff if they are concerned about something, but we also have a dedicated Wellness Team to provide additional support. Throughout our curriculum we provide activities and opportunities for children to develop the skills they need to identify risks and stay safe, and to articulate their thoughts and feelings.
- **Staff are well trained**
What this looks like: Annual safeguarding training for all staff takes place during the September INSET training day. Anyone missing this training is required to complete it at the earliest opportunity. Staff joining the school during the year receive this training as part of their induction. Throughout the year, staff receive additional safeguarding training, covering issues such as radicalisation, online safety and peer-on-peer abuse. Safeguarding is a regular agenda item at staff meetings. The Headteacher receives regular training in order to fulfil the role of Designated Safeguarding Lead; the Assistant Headteacher, the SENCo and the Computing Lead are all regularly trained Deputy Safeguarding Leads. Records of all training are kept by the Headteacher.
- **Concerns are always reported**
What this looks like: Staff at St Francis are trained in using the CPOMs system to securely report any concerns around the safety of pupils. Staff are expected to report concerns on CPOMs; Safeguarding incidents are immediately verbally reported to the DSL or Deputy DSLs before any reports are uploaded onto CPOMs. Safeguarding concerns are dealt with immediately by DSLs, who seek additional advice from the Norfolk CADS (Children's Advice and Duty Service) where necessary.
- **Concerns are followed up**
What this looks like: in most instances, pupil disclosures or staff concerns will be dealt with by the DSL who may seek advice from outside agencies such as CADS. Parents may be contacted for a meeting where concerns can be discussed and support offered if appropriate. Actions will be logged. Our independent school Parent Support Advisor support families if requested. Concerns which arise from alerts raised through our school internet security systems are monitored, recorded and followed up by our Computing Lead. Occasionally, safeguarding procedures may result in outside agencies becoming involved in order to ensure the wellbeing of a child.
- **Safeguarding procedures are regularly reviewed and monitored by DSLs & Governors**
What this looks like: the DSL and Deputy DSLs meet regularly to discuss reported concerns and subsequent actions. There is a nominated Governor responsible for ensuring that safeguarding policies and procedures are adhered to, including the maintenance of accurate records. The Safeguarding Governor carries out regular checks within school and reports findings directly to other Governors. They also complete an annual Child Protection and Safeguarding Report. The Headteacher provides a safeguarding report to Governors at every meeting; this does not identify individual pupils.

*Our school Safeguarding Policy, available on our website, further details all procedures for dealing with safeguarding issues at St Francis. It also includes references to additional policies relating to safeguarding, such as the Whistle-blowing Policy.