



Porthleven School.

Torleven Road

Porthleven

Helston

Cornwall TR13 9BX

website: www.porthleven.cornwall.sch.uk

18th June 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

I know that many of you will have heard about the national response to the Everyone's Invited website in recent weeks. This led to an Ofsted Review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges. The findings of this review were published on 10th June 2021.

It is clear that the Ofsted Findings raise a significant national and societal issue and in that context, I wish to remind parents and carers of the safeguards that we have in place to make sure that our pupils are not placed at risk:

- All staff have updated safeguarding training in line with the latest government guidance. Our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy has guidance within it around peer on peer abuse and harmful sexual behaviour along with our response procedures.
- We also follow the guidance in Keeping Children Safe in Education.
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/954314/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2020_-_Update_-_January_2021.pdf
- All pupils are taught the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) curriculum. This programme is well taught, comprehensive in nature and age-appropriate. Our RSE Policy is available on school website.
https://porthleven.eschools.co.uk/website/sre_sex_and_relationship_education_-_the_christopher_winter_project/551359
- The use of technology has become a significant component of many safeguarding issues. We understand the responsibility to educate our pupils on Online Safety Issues; teaching them the appropriate behaviours and critical thinking skills to enable them to remain both safe and legal when using the internet and related technologies, in and beyond the context of the classroom. Our Online Safety and Data Security Policy is available on the school website. <https://porthleven.eschools.co.uk/website/policies/522075> .
- All pupils benefit from working in a calm, safe school underpinned by a clear behaviour policy and subsequent expectations. Our Behaviour Policy is available on our school website.
<https://porthleven.eschools.co.uk/website/policies/522075>
- We have high expectations of conduct from all members of our community including respect, honesty, kindness, tolerance and courtesy. We communicate these values every day

through high expectations of behaviour and this is further supplemented by our PSHE curriculum that is delivered through class sessions and as part of our assemblies.

- All pupils know who they can speak to if they have a concern. We have posters around the school with photographs of key members of staff who are on the Safeguarding team to ensure that pupils know who they can go to for this support. **The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mr Ratcliffe and the Deputy Safeguarding Leads are Mr Clayden and Mrs Figgins.**
- Pupils are well supported throughout the day including during break and lunchtimes. There is a high level of supervision to ensure that all pupils are safe and have access to trusted adults should they need to report any concern. There are members of the leadership team on-call at all times of every day and available to support pupils with any concerns or matters.

We benefit from the strong governance of the Southerly Point Co-operative Multi-Academy Trust and our school's Local Governing Body. In practice, this involves regular visits to the school and regular, detailed monitoring of safeguarding processes alongside quality training and developmental support.

Our position as a trust and school is clear: **sexual violence and sexual harassment are never acceptable, will never be tolerated and are not an inevitable part of growing up.** I can assure you that we will never permit such behaviour to become accepted and we remain committed to working openly and transparently with our pupils to promote mutual respect.

What you should do if you have concerns?

To continue to keep everyone safe, we must keep lines of communication open. The appropriate means for disclosing an allegation of abuse relating to another pupil is always to inform a member of the safeguarding team directly. In the event that an allegation is made against a member of staff, this must be sent to the Headteacher. If the allegation is against the Headteacher, this must be sent to Donna Bryant, Trust Executive Leader. Details of this are in our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy. We will always act on concerns raised.

External support is always available from:

- The Multi-Agency Referral Unit (MARU) 0300 1231 116
- Cornwall Children's Social Care - out of hours 01208 251300
- Childline on 0800 1111
- NSPCC on 0800 136663 or help@nspcc.org.uk

Kind regards,
Mr D Clayden
Head of School



Executive Headteacher: Mr. D. Ratcliffe
Phone: 01326 562249 Email: head@porthleven.cornwall.sch.uk

Head of School: Mr. D. Clayden
<http://www.porthleven.cornwall.sch.uk/website>