Child Protection and safeguarding terms

Child protection means the protection of children from

- Exploitation
- Physical, sexual or emotional abuse, and
- Neglect

Safeguarding means:

- Protecting children from abuse and maltreatment.
- Preventing harm to children's health or development.
- Making sure children grow up with safe and effective care.
- Taking action to allow all children to have the best outcomes.

Parent refers to birth parents and other adults who are in a parenting role, eg step-parents, foster carers and adoptive parents.

Child refers to all children on our school roll and any child under the age of 18 who comes into contact with our school. This includes unborn babies.

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Every school must have a senior member of staff who is responsible for child protection. This person has the title of Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Our school also has one Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL).

School responsibilities

The Department for Education has set out in **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026** that every school must have a Child Protection Policy.

Our school child protection policy sets out

- The school's commitment to working in partnership with parents.
- The process for dealing with child protection concerns.
- The process for reporting allegations of abuse by members of staff, including volunteers.

If you want to read the school child protection policy you will find it on the school's website.

www.newtownschool.co.uk

Alternatively, the school can provide you with a paper copy. Ask for this at the school reception.

All adults in school, including regular volunteers, must have training to make sure that they are aware of the signs of abuse and know what to do about their concerns.

School staff have a duty to talk to other agencies such as Children's Social Care and the Police if they have reason to believe that your child may be at risk of harm.

If your child transfers to another school, we will send any safeguarding information about your child to the receiving school.

What you need to know

If you need help with your child at home for any reason, the school will be able to provide advice and support or, with your agreement, suggest other agencies or teams that may be able to help.

You can ask to speak to a member of our Senior Leadership Team (SLT).

or any other member of school staff to discuss how we may be able to help.

If anyone in school has any concern about the welfare of your child:

- this will be discussed with you (unless school staff have reason to believe that talking to you about concerns could put your child at a greater risk of harm).

Staff may

- offer to work with you to help your child.
- discuss their concerns with Children's Social Care. A social worker may consult with other agencies before deciding what should happen next and will also speak to you about the concern and keep you informed about what is happening.

If an allegation of abuse is made about an adult who works or volunteers at the school, this will be discussed with the Police and Children's Social Care. If your child is involved, you will be informed of discussions and decisions as appropriate.

You will find additional information at:

- The Wiltshire Safeguarding Children Board: Wiltshire Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership (SVPP) - Home page (wiltshiresvpp.org.uk)

Wiltshire Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership

- The Department for Education website:
  Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026
  www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2

- Childline
  https://www.childline.org.uk/
  Free 24-hour telephone helpline:
  0800 1111

Key school personnel

Name	Role
Chris Marshall	Designated Child Protection Teacher
Anneka Fisher	Deputy Designated Child Protection Teacher
Nicola Bieda	Deputy Designated Child Protection Teacher
Andy Durrant	Designated Child Protection Governor

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Safeguarding and child protection at Newtown Community Primary School