



Safeguarding Statement

Southend High School for Girls is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of all students and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

We are fully committed to ensuring that consistent, effective safeguarding procedures are in place to support families, students, and staff at school. Any concerns are passed through members of staff who are trained as 'Designated Safeguarding Leads' in school in compliance statutory guidance.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Anna Leman, Assistant Headteacher. She is supported by a team of Designated Deputy Leads and pastoral staff including Pastoral Support Officers and Heads of Year.

The school will, in most circumstances, endeavour to discuss all concerns with parents about their children. However, there may be exceptional circumstances when the school will discuss concerns with Social Care and/or the Police without parental knowledge (in accordance with Child Protection procedures). The school will, of course, always aim to maintain a positive relationship with all parents. The school's child protection policy is available publicly.

To ensure that students stay safe the school will:

- fulfil all statutory responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children
- have in place effective child protection, safeguarding and staff conduct policies
- adhere to safe recruitment practices
- have a designated professional lead in the school and trained deputies
- have a designated safeguarding governor
- have arrangements in place designed to take account of all possible safeguarding issues including Sexual Violence and Harassment, Child Sexual Exploitation and Preventing Radicalisation
- have arrangements for working with other agencies and for sharing information with other professionals
- take account of the local authority's procedures and practices established by the Southend Safeguarding Partnership
- listen to children and young people and take account of their wishes and feelings
- provide appropriate supervision and support for staff including undertaking safeguarding induction and training
- follow clear policies for dealing with allegations against people who work with children
- have clear procedures in place to handle allegations of abuse against children
- teach children about keeping themselves safe, including safety online
- put in place appropriate safeguarding responses to children who go missing from education
- monitor the quality of safeguarding practices and their impact on outcomes for children
- monitor school attendance, punctuality and students who are deemed to be missing from education