

ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH SUPPORT Headteacher: Mr M Anderson

January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Safeguarding Policies and Procedures

Northwood School are committed to a strong culture of safeguarding, ensuring that all staff embrace the concept of "it could happen here." We are fully committed to creating a culture of vigilance. We expect everyone who works in and visits our school to share this commitment. We encourage staff, students and visitors to report anything that concerns them and we will always act in the best interest of the child. Our students are taught how to stay safe, including when online, and to recognise when they may be at risk. We ensure our students know how to get help when they need it. In line with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018), we place importance on contextual safeguarding and consider risks in our local community when assessing the safety of our students

We are also part of Operation Encompass, a Police and Education early intervention safeguarding partnership, which is an initiative that helps to safeguard children/young people who may have been exposed to domestic abuse.

Northwood School acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice that reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice standards and Ofsted requirements.

Our Safeguarding policies and procedures recognise that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that, regardless of age, gender, religion or beliefs, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or social-economic background, all children have a positive and enjoyable experience of activities at school in a safe child centred environment.

Students and staff surveys tell us that students feel safe and secure at our school. Our Ofsted Report demonstrates our effective Safeguarding policies and procedures (see full report on our website).

We would also like to take this opportunity to outline just a few of the ways we continue to promote the safeguarding of your child throughout the academic year at Northwood School:

- Designated safeguarding team Mrs Kahn (Designated Safeguarding Lead) & Ms
 Foskett (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
- Assemblies
- Form time
- PSHCE

- Safe School Police Officer
- Screening arches
- Searches & use of screening wand
- Staff training
- External Agencies
- CCTV
- Clear behaviour plan
- Duty staff
- School Council
- Student Voice groups
- Parent feedback

We are also currently running jointly planned projects with Hillingdon Safer Schools Police Team as well as other external providers. Our Safer Schools Police Officer is PC Gaster and he regularly visits our school. Working with the Safer Schools Team is standard practice across schools in the borough. There are also opportunities for our students (and parents) to have the opportunity to discuss issues that affect their local community.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns for your own or another child's safety. In addition you can contact Hillingdon Stronger Families Hub on 01895 556006, NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000 or if you feel your child is in immediate danger, call the Police on 999.

We thank you for your continued support in keeping our community safe.

Regards,

Mrs A Kahn

Deputy Headteacher Designated Safeguarding Lead