



Sandal Magna Community Academy

Child Friendly Safeguarding Policy



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At Sandal Magna, we want to make sure that you feel looked after, safe and happy when you are in and out of school. Sometimes we don't know if something bad or unsafe is happening, so you need to tell us. It is really important that you can identify when you need help and know who you can talk to.

What is a bad relationship?

A bad relationship may cause you to feel unhappy, uncomfortable or unsafe. Here are some examples to look out for:

- The person might push you, hit you or destroy your things.
- The person might tell you what to do, what to wear or who you can see.
- You might feel scared – they might say they will hurt you if you don't do something.
- The person calls you names, makes you feel bad and makes you feel bad about yourself.
- The person might not take no for an answer when you say you don't want to do something.

What is bullying?

Bullying can include a range of different things. It is classed as repeated behaviour which is intended to hurt someone either emotionally or physically. It can include:

- Emotional bullying
- Physical bullying
- Verbal bullying
- Racial bullying
- Homophobic bullying
- Sexist bullying
- Cyber/Online bullying

What is peer-on peer abuse?

A peer is someone who might be your friend, another child in school, or a child you may know outside of school. Abuse is something which usually physically or emotionally hurts another person by using behaviour that is meant to scare, hurt or upset that person. Sometimes, it can be hard to know when abuse is happening. It is really important you know how to identify when you are being abused so you can tell someone and we can make sure it stops.

What is sexual harassment?

Sometimes, people or children can act in a way that makes the other person feel uncomfortable or unsafe. It can happen online or it can happen in person. When it does happen, it can make people feel scared, embarrassed or upset. This can include:

- Someone making rude comments to you or about you
- Calling someone by rude names
- Rude jokes
- Physical touching
- Sharing rude pictures or videos online
- Being forced to do something you don't want to do

How do I know if someone is experiencing peer-on-peer bullying, abuse or sexual harassment?

It might be hard for you to know if you are being bullied, abused or being sexually harassed and you might not really understand it is happening. It is important you can recognise when behaviour isn't appropriate so this is why we learn about different relationships and keeping safe during lesson times. It is also important to know if someone else might be experiencing these things. Some of the signs may be:

- Not wanting to go to school.
- Having injuries, like bruises.
- Feeling sad and down.
- Feeling like they can't cope.
- Feeling withdrawn or shy.
- Getting headaches or stomach ache.
- Feeling nervous.
- Not being able to sleep, sleeping too much or getting nightmares.
- Feeling panicked.
- Taking part in things they shouldn't be.
- Changing looks to look much older.
- Being abusive to someone else

Remember: Sometimes you can feel these things because of your growing-up hormones, or things that are changing in your life, but you can feel all of these things too if you are experiencing peer on peer bullying, abuse or sexual harassment. Listen to how you feel and talk to someone who can help you identify what you are experiencing.

What to do if I or someone else is being bullied, abused or sexually harassed?

- If you see someone else being abused or bullied, it is important that you help that person. You should never walk away and ignore the problem.
- If you can, and it is safe to do so, be firm and tell the person abusing or bullying to stop, but never get angry or hit them.

Remember: If you don't feel comfortable telling them to stop, go straight to an adult you trust and inform them so they can stop it from happening. You should never feel scared to tell someone!

What happens when you tell someone?

It is the job of everyone that works at Sandal Magna to keep you safe, so remember you can talk to any adult that you feel comfortable with. There are also a number of adults who's main responsibilities are to make sure any worries you do have are dealt with carefully and properly. You might have seen or heard the word DSL, but what does it mean? DSL stands for Designated Safeguarding Lead. At Sandal Magna we have a number of DSL's, these are:

Designated Safeguarding Lead:	Mr Elliott
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:	Mrs Shepherd Mrs Rashid Miss Abernethy Miss Bell

If you speak to an adult, they will always listen to you carefully. Sometimes they will need to check things with one of our DSLs so they can deal with the issue themselves. Please try and understand that our staff and DSLs will only want to help you and make you feel supported and better about a situation. However, there are times when a DSL may need to contact some other agencies for support. These may include Children's Social Care or the Police. This is because schools can't do everything on their own and need to work with other professionals who are best placed to help with arranging other things. It might sound a little bit scary, but they are trained professionals who are great at helping children and young people. Don't worry, our DSLs will talk to you and explain all of this, and you can always ask them questions if you are unsure about anything! If you are not at school and need to talk to someone here is the number you can ring.



Childline professionals are trained just like our DSLs and will always listen to you and help you.

Remember: If you are upset or worried about something that has happened to or you or someone else then please be brave and talk to someone who will listen to you and help you!