



CHILD-FRIENDLY

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

2026-27

Your safety matters. Every adult at Five Lanes is here to listen and help.

This policy will help you understand:

- what safeguarding means
- things that might make a child feel unsafe
- who you can talk to
- what adults will do when you tell them a worry

Date: September 2026 | Review: September 2027

Working together to build a firm foundation for learning and flourishing

Trust • Respect • Compassion

What does safeguarding mean?

Safeguarding means helping every child to be safe, healthy and cared for.

This includes when you are at school, at home, out in the community and online. Child protection is the help adults give when they are worried that a child may be unsafe or harmed.

Your rights

Every child has the right to:

• feel safe • be listened to • be treated with respect	• get help when you need it • be cared for and healthy • learn without being harmed or frightened
--	---

What is a worry?

A worry is anything that makes you feel unsafe, frightened, uncomfortable, confused, sad or pressured. You do not have to wait until a worry feels ‘big’. If something does not feel right, tell an adult.

How we help to keep you safe

- Adults are trained to notice worries, listen carefully and get help.
- We teach you about safe choices, healthy relationships and online safety.
- We check that the people who work or volunteer in school are suitable.
- We notice when children are missing from school and make sure they are safe.
- We take every safeguarding worry seriously, wherever it happened.

Remember: you can talk to us about something that happened in school, outside school or online.

What might make a child unsafe?

Abuse is when someone harms a child or does not care for them properly. It can happen once or many times, face-to-face or online. Abuse is never a child's fault.

Physical harm Someone deliberately hurts your body, for example by hitting, kicking, shaking, burning or biting you.	Emotional harm Someone often frightens, threatens, humiliates, rejects or controls you, or makes you feel worthless.
Sexual harm Someone touches you in a sexual way, asks you to touch them, shows or asks for sexual pictures, or makes you do something sexual that you do not want to do.	Neglect A child does not get the food, clothing, care, medical help, supervision or safe home they need.

Children can harm other children too

This is called **child-on-child abuse**. It can include:

- bullying, hitting, threatening or deliberately leaving someone out again and again
- racist, sexist or homophobic words, or treating someone badly because of a disability, belief or difference
- unwanted touching, sexual comments, jokes or behaviour
- pressuring someone to do a dare, keep an unsafe secret or take part in something they do not want to do
- taking, asking for or sharing a nude or semi-nude picture - a picture showing someone without clothes or showing private parts

Even if you are worried about something that is not on this page, tell us. We will listen.

Safe relationships and online safety

Relationships should make you feel safe, respected and able to be yourself. This includes relationships with family members, friends, other children and adults.

A safe relationship	Warning signs
You feel comfortable.	You feel scared or confused.
You are listened to.	Someone hurts, threatens or controls you.
You can say 'no'.	Someone asks you to keep an unsafe secret.
Your body and privacy are respected.	You are pressured to touch, send a picture or join in.
You are not pressured or controlled.	Someone will not accept 'no'.
Your body belongs to you. You can say 'no'. It is always okay to tell.	

Staying safer online

- If a message, image, game or chat makes you worried, stop and tell a trusted adult.
- Do not reply to or forward an unsafe message or picture. Show it to a trusted adult.
- Keep passwords private. Only share them with a trusted adult who looks after you when needed to keep you safe.
- Never arrange to meet someone you only know online without your parent or carer.
- Tell an adult if someone asks for personal information, pictures or a private chat.

Do not worry if you clicked, replied or made a mistake. You are not in trouble - tell an adult so they can help.

A surprise is temporary and is meant to make someone happy. A secret that makes you worried, frightened or uncomfortable should always be told.

When you are worried: tell someone

Tell any adult at Five Lanes you trust. If the first person cannot help, keep telling until someone does.

You could talk to a teacher, teaching assistant, lunchtime adult, wraparound adult, office staff member or the Headteacher.

You can also tell us if your worry is about an adult who works or volunteers at school.

DSL: Miss Chalker

Sarah-Jane Chalker
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

DDSL: Mrs Marchant

Hannah Marchant
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Words you can use

“I need to tell you something.” “I do not feel safe.” “This happened online.” “I am worried about someone else.”

What happens when you tell an adult?

- 1. We listen.** We will take you seriously and give you time to explain in your own words.
- 2. We share only what is needed.** We cannot promise to keep an unsafe secret. We tell the DSL or DDSL and only the people who need to help.
- 3. We decide how to help.** This may include talking to your family or asking a social worker or the police for help. We will not speak to someone first if doing that could make you less safe.
- 4. We keep supporting you.** We will explain what we can and listen to your views. You can ask questions at any time.

You are not in trouble. It is not your fault. Telling is always the right thing to do.

Need help when school is closed?

Talk to a trusted adult or contact Childline free on **0800 1111** or visit [childline.org.uk](https://www.childline.org.uk).

If someone is in immediate danger, call **999** or ask an adult to call.

This child-friendly version explains the main points of our full Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy 2026-27.