

The Safeguarding Curriculum at Uplands Junior L.E.A.D. Academy

Safeguarding and the promotion of children's well-being is at the heart of our ethos at Uplands. Due to this, great importance is placed on identifying opportunities within the curriculum for children to learn about safeguarding.

Our broad, balanced and diverse curriculum gives Uplands pupils the chance to acquire knowledge, understanding and skills that significantly impact on personal development, behaviour and welfare so that the children keep themselves safe, happy and healthy both now and in their future.

We address any questions, issues or concerns when they are raised, staff challenge children to think deeply about physical and mental well-being. We give pupils opportunities to explore values, personal rights, responsibilities and equal opportunities that develop moral concepts that impact positively on safeguarding, promote British Values and prevent radicalisation and extremism.

Practical safeguarding opportunities are planning into the curriculum.

For example:

- Road safety and bikeability.
- Poolside and water safety are taught through swimming lessons.
- Visits to school from medical staff and people who help us in society.
- Charity assemblies such as the NSPCC and Islamic Relief
- Well-being and mental health focused assemblies

Safe use of technology including online safety, password security and privacy settings. We have developed an open and safe learning environment in which pupils express their views, seek help and help others. The promotion of equality of opportunity and protected characteristics for pupils and staff help prevent any form of direct or indirect discriminatory behaviour. Our children learn not to tolerate any prejudiced behaviour and if there are incidents the applications of the behaviour policy is swift and consistent. Our pupils understand our behaviour policy.

We utilize our assemblies and PSHE lessons to promote safeguarding matters and explore themes. For example, we talk about anti-bullying including cyber bullying and British Values including how these values are promoted within our diverse school. Leadership clubs run by Mrs Wood and the L.E.A.D. Global Citizenship project as well as Y6 Young Leaders promote good citizenship and enable children to make a positive contribution to Uplands. Staff and pupils are quick to challenge stereotypes and derogatory language around school. Our academy provides pupils with an understanding of people and communities beyond their immediate experience including the role of women, different family groups including same sex couples. Our curriculum and assemblies promote all forms of equality and respect for people of all faiths and none, races, genders, ages, disabilities and sexual orientation.

Opportunities are created in a variety of subjects to address areas of safeguarding, for example, themes are highlighted through class texts in English. Examples are:

- In Y3 Charlotte's Web- loneliness, friendship, bereavement, personal growth and change. The Boy Who Grew Dragons – nurturing, wellbeing, inclusiveness. Harley Hitch and the Iron Forest – jealousy, democracy, rights and fairness.

- In Y4 *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* – war, evacuees, fighting for freedom. *The Land of Roar*- family relationships, friendships. *Journey to the River Sea* – losing parents, loneliness, being different.
- In Y5 *Secrets of a Sun King*- sickness of a relative, bereavement related to war. *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* – absent parents, ADHD, dyslexia, implied domestic abuse. *Oliver Twist* – historic/contextual child labour, neglect, criminal exploitation, orphanage and adoption.
- In Y6 *When The Sky Falls* -bereavement, war, friendship, emotional wellbeing and mental health, ethical decision making, community and citizenship. *When the Mountains Roared* - resilience and coping strategies, environmental awareness and responsibility, cultural understanding and empathy, inclusion and diversity. *Tom Sawyer* – gender roles and stereotypes, social class and discrimination, friendships and relationships, risk and safety.

Time is taken at the beginning of every school year to reaffirm school values, expectations, trusted adults and rules for being part of the Uplands team. This approach ensures everyone is clear about their roles and responsibilities and it sets the tone and is part of our culture of safeguarding.

PSHE is a vital part of our curriculum, both the taught curriculum and integrated using everyday opportunities to reinforce the key messages and teaching. The PSHE curriculum can be found on the curriculum page. Through the study of the topics within the curriculum, safeguarding knowledge is deepened, and children are more able to protect themselves from harm. Through the exploration of themes, assemblies and informal class discussion children's progress is continually assessed and any issues are raised with a member of the safeguarding team.

We encourage personal development through encouraging pupils to play a positive role in the life of the school and the wider community. In doing so we help develop their sense of self-worth. Children take part in community singing, litter picks and remembrance events. We place a strong value on pupil voice and carry out pupil voice to ensure that pupils feel safe in and out of school. We work hard to raise awareness of key concepts such as anti-bullying and the children's ever-changing roles and responsibilities as they get older. The School Council take part in a wider representation of pupil voice across the trust and more locally attend team building events with other Leicester L.E.A.D. Academies. Through continuous exposure to British Values, our curriculum teaches pupils how society is organized and governed, and we ensure that they experience the process of democracy through the School Council and Eco Warriors.

We teach our pupils about rights and responsibilities, and they learn to appreciate what it means to be a positive member of a diverse, multicultural school through the opportunity to hear from visiting speakers such as health workers, emergency services and representatives from local places of worship whom we invite into school. Online safety is explicitly taught to provide a regular reminder about how to keep themselves safe online. We also offer constant reminders whenever issues arise about social media and parental controls.

Worry boxes, posters, displays and child friendly safeguarding leaflets in classrooms and communal areas help the children know that it is good to talk and share any concerns they have with a trusted adult. Our PE curriculum, lunchtime and after school clubs provide children with understanding of the importance of exercise and sport. We aim to involve as many children as possible in team events and competitions, which help raise their self-worth, a sense of belonging, communication and teamwork skills.

We recognize that children need to develop their personal strength, confidence and understanding of self in order to progress emotionally, academically and socially. All staff, including our full time Pupil and Parent Support colleague, build respectful and trusting relationships with pupils and parents so that information can be shared between home and school. We encourage parents to share information about what is going on in a child's personal life that could have an impact on them however large or small. This knowledge is vital for staff so that they can act swiftly to provide care and support. All children at some stage will need additional care due to experiences such as bereavement, breakdown of relationships, issues with friendship groups and what is going on in the world. Through providing pastoral care, we are helping to safeguard children. Nurture groups, drawing and talking, art therapy is all used to support children. We have links to charities and outside agencies that can support children and families through specific difficulties.