



# Ashwood Spencer Academy

## Team Approach

At Ashwood, every member of staff's primary aim is to ensure that our children are **safe** and **happy**. We have a specific **safeguarding team**, comprising of 4 members of staff with DSL level training. The team consists of:

- \* Miss Morgan Baines—Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Assistant Principal (AP)
- \* Mrs Paula Baines-Chambers—Principal (P) and DSL
- \* Mrs Sharon Mayer—Family Support Lead (FSL) and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)
- \* Mrs Kim Smith—Vice Principal (VP) for Inclusion and DDSL

## Staff Accountability

We recognize that Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility and is child-centered. Because of this, we ensure that all members of staff in our school undertake safeguarding training yearly so that key messages and updates are learned consistently, as well as being informed of messages throughout the year in weekly briefings. Adults who work closely with children with increased safeguarding needs complete forms half-termly detailing the children's needs including academic, emotional, physical etc... and build on these to create a working document so that a picture of a child is built up gradually. This allows for commonalities and differences to be noted and provides the professionals who attend meetings for those children to have a comprehensive picture to relay to appropriate services.

## Case level

Between the safeguarding team, Miss the cases of the children who have either Early Help or Social Care involvement are worked. This ranges from EHA and TAF Meetings, to Child In Need (CIN), Child Protection (CP) and Looked-After Child (LAC) cases. Miss Baines is the Designated Teacher for Looked-After Children.

Having this team approach where key information is shared through appropriate and confidential measures, means that cases are managed with many staff's professional expertise in mind. This also provides quality assurance at all times.



## CPOMS

We use CPOMS as our way of recording all information relating to the welfare of our children. Complying with GDPR regulations, here we can upload appropriate documents and record information in a way that is dated and retained. This allows us to use information recorded to respond accordingly.

Information and access is shared with staff on CPOMS on a 'need-to-know' basis. DSL's and SLT (Senior Leadership Team) are alerted to and able to view everything on CPOMS to ensure that they are aware of all matters. It also allows all actions to happen quicker without relying on face-to-face conversations or paper copies.

## Child and family level

We place a great deal of emphasis on the children understanding their entitlement to be safe and happy. Child-friendly posters are displayed in all classes informing children of their rights and who they can go to to discuss how they feel. This is accompanied by calming pastoral offices in school that children can visit when needed.

Mrs Mayer (FSL) runs a range of carefully planned groups with parents and children in school. These groups work on informing parents of academic developments, positive play, behavior strategies, etc... and sees bonds being developed between parents and children.

## Relationships with Derby City

The Safeguarding Team receive updates from Derby City Council and attend briefings and network meetings to ensure that key messages are noted.

We have termly 'Team Around the School' meetings with EHA coordinators and School Health. These help us identify and work with families before concerns and situations worsen, acting as early intervention.

Members of the Safeguarding Team also access training that is provided by Derby City. This aims to keep staff up-to-date with recent legislation and apply this in practice. It also allows for information to be disseminated to the whole staff team.