HUNTS CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Child-Friendly Safeguarding Policy

2026–2027

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Statement of intent

At Hunts Cross Primary School, we want every child to feel safe, happy, respected and cared for, both in school and outside school.

Sometimes children experience things that make them feel worried, frightened, upset or unsafe. Sometimes, adults may not know that something is wrong unless a child tells them.

This policy explains what safeguarding means, how we help to keep you safe and what you can do if you are worried about yourself or someone else.

At Hunts Cross Primary School, we will:

- Help you understand how to keep yourself safe.
- Listen to you when you have a worry.
- Make sure you know which adults you can talk to.
- Take your worries seriously.
- Help you understand what to do if something does not feel right.
- Treat you fairly and with respect.
- Work with other people and services when we need to help keep you safe.

If you do not understand anything in this policy, please ask a trusted adult in school to explain it to you.

Every child matters. Every child has the right to feel safe.

1. What does safeguarding mean?

Safeguarding means doing everything we can to protect children from harm and help them grow up safely.

At Hunts Cross Primary School, safeguarding means:

- Protecting you from being hurt or harmed.
- Making sure you are cared for.
- Helping you stay healthy and happy.
- Making sure you are listened to and treated with respect.
- Helping you learn how to keep yourself safe.
- Making sure you know where to go if you need help.

We want Hunts Cross Primary School to be a place where everyone feels welcome, included and supported.

We will teach you about keeping safe in school, at home, in the community and when using the internet.

Sometimes, keeping you safe means that an adult may need to share information with other people who can help you. If this happens, we will try to explain what is happening in a way you can understand.

2. Staying safe

Everyone has the right to feel safe.

If something is worrying you, you can talk to an adult you trust. This could be your teacher, a teaching assistant, a member of the safeguarding team or another adult who helps you in school.

You do not have to deal with a worry on your own.

Please remember:

- You are important.
- You have the right to be safe.
- It is never your fault if someone hurts you or makes you feel unsafe.
- You will not be in trouble for asking for help.
- You can tell an adult even if you are unsure whether something is wrong.
- You can keep telling adults until someone helps you.
- You should never have to keep a secret that makes you feel worried, frightened or uncomfortable.

Sometimes people may tell you not to tell anyone about something that has happened. If you feel unsafe, you must tell a trusted adult.

If you are worried about another child, you should tell an adult too. You could be helping to keep them safe.

What might make you feel worried?

You should talk to an adult if someone:

- Hits, kicks, pushes or hurts you.
- Calls you unkind names or threatens you.
- Makes you feel frightened or uncomfortable.
- Touches you in a way you do not like or that makes you feel unsafe.
- Asks you to do something that feels wrong.
- Makes you keep an upsetting or worrying secret.
- Sends you unkind messages or inappropriate pictures.
- Tries to make you do something online that you do not want to do.
- Hurts, threatens or frightens another child.

If you are worried about anything at all, it is always okay to ask for help.

3. Who can I talk to?

At Hunts Cross Primary School, there are adults whose job is to help keep children safe. They are called the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs).

Our safeguarding team includes:

Mr Growney

Mrs Whitlock

Mrs Spreadbury

Mrs Ware

Other members of staff are also trained to recognise when a child may need help.

You can talk to any adult in school whom you trust. You do not have to wait until you see the safeguarding team.

What happens if I tell someone?

If you tell an adult that something is worrying you, they will listen and try to help.

They may need to tell the safeguarding team so that the right people can help keep you safe. Sometimes, information will need to be shared with other professionals, such as social workers, if they need to help protect you.

An adult might not be able to keep everything you say a secret, because keeping you safe is the most important thing.

You have done the right thing by speaking up.

What if I am still worried?

If the first adult you speak to does not help, or you are still worried, please tell another adult.

You can also contact Childline on 0800 1111 or visit www.childline.org.uk. Childline is a free service for children and young people where you can talk about anything that is worrying you.

If you are in immediate danger, get help from a trusted adult straight away or call 999 if it is safe to do so.

4. Bullying

At Hunts Cross Primary School, everyone deserves to feel welcome, respected and safe.

Bullying is when someone deliberately hurts, threatens or upsets another person repeatedly. It can happen in different ways.

Types of bullying

- Physical bullying: when someone hurts another person physically. It could include hitting, kicking, pushing, pinching or deliberately damaging someone's belongings.
- Verbal bullying: when someone uses words to hurt another person. It could include name-calling, insults, threats or unkind comments.
- Emotional bullying: when someone tries to hurt another person's feelings. It could include deliberately leaving someone out, spreading rumours or making someone feel frightened or unwanted.

- Online bullying (cyberbullying): when someone uses a phone, computer, games console or the internet to upset, threaten or embarrass another person.
- Discriminatory bullying: when someone targets another person because of who they are. This could relate to their race, skin colour, religion, disability, sex or another part of their identity.

What should I do if I am being bullied?

- Tell a trusted adult.
- Explain what has happened and how it makes you feel.
- Keep telling an adult if the bullying continues.
- If it happens online, show an adult the messages or pictures if you can do so safely.
- Remember that asking for help is the right thing to do.

What if I see someone else being bullied?

Do not join in or encourage the behaviour. If you can do so safely, support the child who is being hurt and tell an adult what you have seen.

At Hunts Cross Primary School, we will take bullying concerns seriously and work to make sure children feel safe and supported.

5. Internet safety

The internet can help us learn, play games and keep in touch with people. However, not everyone online is safe, and sometimes people use the internet to upset or trick others.

We want you to know how to stay safe online, whether you are using a computer, tablet, mobile phone or games console.

How can I stay safe online?

- Never share your password with other children.
- Do not share personal information, such as your address or phone number, with people you do not know.
- Do not agree to meet someone you have only spoken to online.
- Tell an adult if someone online makes you feel uncomfortable or frightened.
- Do not send pictures or messages because someone is pressuring you.
- Be kind and respectful when communicating online.
- Tell an adult if you see something upsetting, frightening or inappropriate.
- Remember that people online are not always who they say they are.

If someone sends you an unkind message, asks you for a picture or tries to make you do something that feels wrong, stop, do not respond and tell a trusted adult.

You will not be in trouble for asking for help.

Our school has an Online Safety Policy to help protect you and explain how to use technology safely.

6. Healthy and unhealthy relationships

Relationships are the connections we have with other people, including our family, friends, classmates and adults who care for us.

A healthy relationship should help you feel safe, respected and valued.

Healthy relationships

- You feel safe and comfortable.
- You can be yourself.
- You are listened to.
- People treat you kindly and fairly.
- You can say how you feel.
- You can say no if you do not want to do something.
- You respect each other's differences.
- You can ask for help if something is wrong.

Unhealthy relationships

An unhealthy relationship may make you feel frightened, upset, confused or uncomfortable. For example, someone might:

- Hit, push or hurt you.
- Call you names or make you feel worthless.
- Threaten you or make you feel scared.
- Try to control who you talk to or play with.
- Pressure you to do something you do not want to do.
- Ask you to keep an upsetting secret.
- Ignore you when you say no.
- Make you feel that something bad will happen if you tell anyone.

If someone treats you in a way that makes you feel unsafe, please tell an adult.

Your body belongs to you. You have the right to say no to unwanted touch, and you can always ask an adult for help.

If someone has hurt you or made you feel uncomfortable, it is not your fault.

7. Keeping safe in school

We want everyone at Hunts Cross Primary School to feel safe in our classrooms, corridors, toilets, playground and other areas of the school.

All staff work together to help keep the school safe.

Visitors to school

Visitors must follow the school's arrangements when they arrive. You may notice that visitors sign in and wear an identification badge or lanyard.

If you see someone you do not recognise who appears to be somewhere they should not be, tell a member of staff. Do not approach them if you feel unsafe.

Keeping safe around school

- Walk sensibly around the school building.
- Follow instructions from staff.
- Use equipment safely.
- Treat other children with kindness and respect.
- Tell an adult if something is broken or dangerous.
- Tell an adult if someone is hurt or needs help.
- Follow the school rules in the playground and at lunchtime.

What if something happens at school?

If you fall, get hurt, feel frightened or see something that worries you, tell a member of staff as soon as possible.

You will be listened to, and an adult will help you work out what to do next.

8. Remember: you have the right to feel safe

At Hunts Cross Primary School, we want you to know that you matter and that there are people who can help you.

If something is worrying you:

1. Tell someone you trust.
2. Explain what has happened, as best you can.
3. Keep telling someone if you still need help.

You do not need to know the right words. You do not need to be certain that something is wrong. You just need to tell someone that you are worried.

We will listen to you and do our best to help you.

Our promise to you

At Hunts Cross Primary School, we will do our best to make sure you feel safe, happy, respected and ready to learn.

We want every child to know:

- I have the right to feel safe.
- I have the right to be listened to.
- I can ask for help.
- I am not alone.
- I matter.

Together, we can make Hunts Cross Primary School a safe and happy place for everyone.