



Pupil Friendly Safeguarding Policy





What does safeguarding mean?

Safeguarding means protecting someone from harm. At Milecastle we put actions in place to make sure we do everything possible to keep us all safe and happy. This includes all our pupils, parents, staff and visitors in school. We have written this policy to help you understand how you can keep yourself and others safe in school and at home.



What is this document?

Milecastle has a safeguarding policy for staff, governors and families. We have written this policy to be shared with all our pupils so that you understand how we can keep ourselves and each other safe in school and at home. It will help you decide what could be a 'problem' and where to get help and support. It is really important that you know who to talk to and also to understand why you might need to talk to someone.

At Milecastle, the adults in school want:

- to make sure that school is a friendly, welcoming and supportive place for you to spend time in - somewhere you want to be
- to be there for you to talk to if you need to and for you to know who to ask for help
- give you safe messages in your lessons to help you learn how to look after yourself both online and in the real world
- have all the right rules in place to help look after you. We will follow these rules all of the time. These rules are sometimes called **policies**.



What is a DSL?

DSL stands for **Designated Safeguarding Lead**. In every school there is always somebody who has the responsibility to keep you safe and all staff have to tell that person if they are worried about you. Staff have training and are taught how to keep children safe as it is the most important part of their job.

In our school the DSL is Mrs Richardson and the deputy DSLs are Mrs Dillon and Mrs Chirnside. Mrs Hall, our Chair of Governors, is our Safeguarding Governor. It is the job of **everyone** that works at our school to keep you safe so remember you can talk to **any** grown up that you trust.



You can also contact **Childline** on **0800 11 11** or the **NSPCC** (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children) on **0808 800 5000**. They are a free, confidential service that you can ring or access online 24 hours a day. You will see the Childline posters around school.

Tips for keeping you safe

Is someone bullying you?

Secrets such as surprise parties are fun, but some secrets are not good and should never be kept. Bullying should not be kept a secret and no-one should ask you to keep a kiss, hug or touch a secret. Computers and mobile phones help us all to share things and talk to our friends or family, but they can also make it easier for bullies and other people that want to hurt you, get close to you. Never keep bullying a secret.

You **must** tell someone at school so we can help you.

You **DO NOT** keep it a secret!

If you are unhappy with any comments or photographs you've seen on your computer or mobile then you can also contact www.thinkuknow.co.uk as well as adults in school.

Has someone said something to you, or have you heard something that you do not like or that upsets you?

You **must** tell someone at school so we can help you.

You **DO NOT** keep it a secret!



Is someone offering you presents?

Presents are a good thing to get, but you should not take a present from anyone without checking with your parents first. Most of the time it will be ok, but sometimes people try and trick children into doing something by giving them presents (like sweets, money or phones). This is sometimes called a bribe. If it does not seem right, tell someone so they can help you.

You **DO NOT** keep it a secret!



Has someone touched you on a part of your body like your bottom, chest or anywhere else you do not like?

Your body belongs to you and not to anyone else. This means **all** of your body. It is **not okay** for someone to touch you and make you feel uncomfortable. People who do things like this often lie and tell you things to frighten you and make sure you don't tell anyone. It is **not** your fault and you will be taken care of and supported.

You **must** tell someone at school so we can help you.

You **DO NOT** keep it a secret!



Has someone asked you if you want a tablet or to smoke a cigarette, or to have a drink of something and you do not know what it is?

DO NOT eat, drink or smoke what they are giving you. You do not know if it will do you harm.

You **must** tell someone at school so we can help you.

You **DO NOT** keep it a secret!

Has someone hit, punched, smacked you or hurt you in anyway?

This is **NOT** okay!

You **must** tell someone at school so we can help you.

You **DO NOT** keep it a secret!



How do we at Milecastle work to protect all the children in our school?

Safeguarding and Child Protection mean similar things in that we look after children and keep them safe.

There are lots of different ways, but one of the main ways is making sure staff here know how to keep you safe and also make sure you have someone to talk to if you need to.

Mrs Richardson (the Headteacher) and the Deputy DSLs are here to support young people and their families if there is a child protection concern.

There are times though when we may need to contact some other agencies for support. These may be 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 Social Workers and the Police are specialist trained professionals who are great at helping children and young people. There are lots of other agencies who support children and their families as well.

Don't worry! You can always speak to any member of staff in school who will be able to support you.