



# Keeping Children Safe in Education: Information for Parents & Carers



Our school is committed to creating a happy and safe environment for our children to learn. This leaflet will help you understand how we keep your children safe by telling you:

- How children can be harmed
- What we must do to keep your child safe from harm
- What you must do as a parent/carer to help your child be safe and enjoy school

## Safeguarding Children and Child Protection

Child Protection is an important subject in which all staff receive regular training. Our priority is to work with you but there may be times when we must involve other people. Everybody has a responsibility to keep all children under the age of 18 safe. Our school has a statutory responsibility to share any concerns it may have about a child in need of protection with other agencies and in particular police, health and children's social care.

Schools are not able to investigate concerns but have a legal duty to refer them. In most instances, the school will be able to inform the parents/carer of its need to make a referral. However, sometimes the school is advised by children's social care or police that the parent/carer cannot be informed whilst they investigate the matter.

We understand the anxiety parents/carers understandably feel when they are not told about any concerns from the outset. The school follows legislation that aims to act in the interests of the child.

*We ensure children learn in a safe, caring and enriching environment.*

*Children are taught how to keep themselves safe, to develop positive and healthy relationships, and how to avoid situations where they might be at risk including by being exploited.*

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## Definitions of abuse

**Physical abuse:** when a child is deliberately hurt or injured

**Sexual abuse, including sexual exploitation:** when a child is influenced or forced to take part in a sexual activity. This can be a physical activity or non-contact, e.g., being made to look at an inappropriate image

**Emotional:** maltreatment of a child, making them feel inadequate, worthless or unloved

**Neglect:** the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs. Sexual Harassment: unwanted conduct of a sexual nature which can occur online and offline. Sexual violence: Rape, assault by penetration or sexual assault (intentional sexual touching without consent)

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*It is advised that ALL parents/carers are familiar with our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy which is available through our website and on request. A child should be able to go to school and feel safe so that they can achieve their very best.*

<https://www.rushey-tmet.uk/parents/safeguarding>

## We will ensure that:

- Anybody who works or volunteers at our school will have had the appropriate checks carried out to ensure that they are safe to work with children and then provided training to identify child abuse and what to do if they are concerned
- The school has a Designated Safeguarding Lead, Andrew Curran, who has had extra training to know what to do when a concern is brought to them
- We listen to you and work closely with you if we are concerned about your child but, sometimes, we may not be able to discuss our concern. The school has a safeguarding policy which tells you more about this and when we must speak to the police or children's services
- Our IT filtering and monitoring services protect your children from viewing unsuitable content online as far as possible.
- Your child will learn about keeping themselves safe. Lessons include healthy eating, anti-bullying, online safety, road safety, healthy relationships, drug and alcohol awareness. As part of these lessons, your child will be told what to do if they are worried or concerned about their safety

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*If you have concerns about the wellbeing of a child please contact us via the school's reception on **0116 2663730**, asking for a member of the Safeguarding Team.*

*Alternatively, you can email us: **[safeguarding@rushey-tmet.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rushey-tmet.uk)**. Please note, this email address is not manned 24 hours a day and is therefore not suitable for emergencies.*

*In the event of a serious concern outside of school hours you should contact: **Children's Social Care (Duty and Advice): 0116 4541005 or the Police 101/999.***

## Parents and carers are the most important people to keep their children safe. You should:

- Feel confident to raise concerns about your child, or about the conduct of a staff member/teacher
- Talk to the school if you need help or support
- Read the school policies about safety issues available on request and on the school website
- Let the school know if your child has a medical condition
- Let the school know if you have any court orders relating to the safety of your child
- Let the school know if your child has caring responsibilities at home
- Let the school know if there is a change in your circumstances such as a house move, a new contact number, a change of name, a change of parental responsibility
- Who will be dropping off or collecting your child and two other emergency contacts. You must inform the school of any changes to agreed arrangements
- Let the school know if your child is going to be absent and the reasons why

## Attendance

Your child's attendance is monitored daily, and absences are always followed up by the attendance officer. It is important that your child attends school as regularly as possible. There may be times when you are asked for evidence relating to absences, e.g., for medical appointments. Please note holidays must not be taken during term-time, and any planned absence from school must be requested in advance.



# Meet your Safeguarding Team

please share your concerns



**Victoria Barwell**  
Principal



**Faisal Lohar**  
Vice Principal



**Andrew Curran**  
Safeguarding Officer



**Shireen Takolia**  
SENCO



**Marion Bullivant**  
Family Support Worker



**Maria Jones**  
Family Support Worker



**Alex Furniss**  
Deputy DSL



**Rebecca Lowth**  
Behaviour Mentor Year 7



**Pamela Raj**  
Assistant  
Head of Year 7



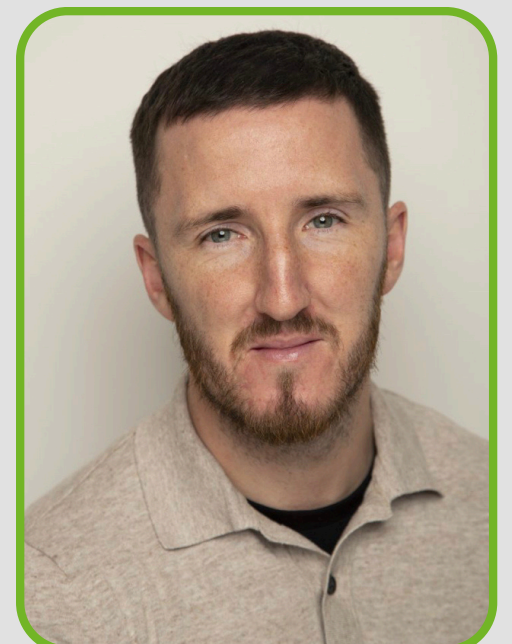
**Charanjit Kaur**  
Assistant  
Head of Year 8



**David Harilal**  
Assistant  
Head of Year 9



**Meera Pithwa**  
Assistant  
Head of Year 10



**Joseph Tailby**  
Assistant  
Head of Year 11

## STUDENTS

If you are worried about your safety and need support, please email us on

[safe@rushey-tmet.uk](mailto:safe@rushey-tmet.uk)



**RMA**  
Safeguarding  
Concern  
Form

## STAFF

Report via the desktop app or if you do not have access to this, email us on

[safeguarding@rushey-tmet.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rushey-tmet.uk)