**Who should I talk to if I have concerns about a child?**

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
**Martin Higgs**

Officer with responsibility to cover for the Designated Safeguarding Lead
**Cathryn Wicks**

Other Safeguarding Officers
**Helen Hughes**, **Kate Hall**, **Claire O'Rourke**, **Amy Clemens**, **Mandy O'Neill** and **John Dawe**

The Single Point of Contact for the Prevent Agenda
**Martin Higgs**

Named Member of the Governing Body with responsibility for Safeguarding
**Emily Jane**

## Contacts

Alverton Primary School 01736 364087
South West Child Protection Procedures www.swcpp.org.uk
Local Safeguarding Children Board Website www.safechildren-cios.co.uk
Emergency Services 999
Devon and Cornwall Police 101
Cornwall Children's Social Care Multi-Agency Referral Unit (MARU)
0300 1231 116
Cornwall Children's Social Care - out of hours 0300 1234 100
Cornwall Safeguarding Children Standards Unit 01872 254549



# Alverton Primary School




# Safeguarding

## Parent Guide

Number 1

Alverton Primary School is committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The highest priority will be given to following guidance and regulations to safeguard them. All adults employed in the school or working as volunteers are required to undergo a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check.

The health, safety and well-being of every child is of paramount importance to us. We listen to our pupils and take what they tell us seriously. Our aim is that children enjoy and achieve in their time as pupils at this school. Our safeguarding provision involves:

* Establishing and maintaining an environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to.
* Ensuring that children know that there are adults in the school who they can approach if they are worried.
* Including opportunities in the curriculum for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from harm or abuse.

We want to work in partnership with parents and carers to help your child achieve their full potential. If we have any concerns about a child's welfare, we will endeavour to be open and honest with you and to meet with you to discuss the matter. The school will seek to work with parents to address potential child welfare issues e.g. to address concerns with attendance or to seek clarification over bruising or injuries.

We will, where appropriate, inform parents of any decision to make a referral to the Multi-Agency Referral Unit. However, if we are unable to inform parents directly, this will not prevent a referral being made. On rare occasions, there are circumstances in which concerns should not be shared with parents and a direct referral would be made to protect any of our pupils.

The procedures which we follow have been laid down by the Cornwall Safeguarding Unit and the school has adopted a Child Protection Policy in line with this for the safety of everyone.

**What to do if you are concerned about a child.**

All children have a right to be safe no matter who they are or what their circumstances.

Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility.

We all need to listen to children even though we may not always be comfortable with what we hear.

**Remember...**

It doesn't matter if you are a paid worker, a volunteer or a member of the community, you have a responsibility to act if you are worried about a child.

Each agency will have someone who has a responsibility for child protection and safeguarding issues (see the back page of this leaflet for the names of the members of staff at Alverton with this responsibility) - they have had training and know what to do.

It is not your responsibility to investigate child abuse but you should tell the appropriate person. It is their job to decide whether to pass your concerns on. If necessary, they will speak to Children's Social Care or the police. The police and social workers can then decide whether they need to investigate your concerns.

Children can be abused physically, sexually, emotionally or through neglect. The concerns that you have may make up part of a bigger picture which could help to prevent serious harm to a child. Giving families help at an early stage can prevent abuse and neglect.

