



Curnow School

SCHOOL BASED SAFEGUARDING PROCESS

Date Last Reviewed: March 2025

Date of Next Review: March 2026

School Based Safeguarding Process

Curnow School works with the Special Partnership Trust Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Special Partnership Trust - Safeguarding and Health & Safety Policies and the Safeguarding Adults Policy.

At Curnow School this is how this policy is put into practice:

- We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils. We recognise that everyone who comes into contact with children has a duty to safeguard and promote children's welfare.
- We ensure that all appropriate measures are applied in relation to everyone who works in the school who is likely to be perceived by the children as a safe and trustworthy adult, including governors and volunteers. All members of staff therefore, whether paid or voluntary, are required to have an enhanced DBS check.
- The school shares a purpose with parents to educate, keep children safe from harm and have their welfare promoted. We are committed to working with parents positively, openly and honestly. We always encourage parents to discuss any concerns they may have with the school as soon as possible.
- We make sure that all staff understand their role in Keeping Children Safe in Education – this includes always reporting any concerns to the DSL/DDSL.

We do this in the following ways:

- i. Annual training
- ii. A thorough induction
- iii. Weekly teacher and support staff CPD
- iv. Quizzes to check policy understanding
- v. Standing agenda item on all meetings
- vi. Specific training according to role
- vii. Regular refresher training and specific focuses throughout the year

The school employs a number of strategies in order to maximise learning opportunities and reduce risks associated with the Internet (e-safety).

These include:

- Regular training for staff
- Regular sessions are embedded in the curriculum

The Trust has developed an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP); the aim of this policy is to ensure that pupils/students benefit from learning opportunities offered by the school's Internet and Computing resources in a safe and effective manner. We ask parents/carers of the school to sign this policy which outlines ways they can encourage their child to use the Internet in a safe way when they are at home.

The school has identified the Head Teacher as the Designated Safeguarding Lead with responsibility for child protection. The school has additionally identified other members of the Senior Leadership Team as Deputy Safeguarding Leads; this is to ensure the safety and welfare of our learners remains paramount over the school's split site. All members of the Senior Leadership Team have undertaken specific child protection training which includes how to fulfil their role. Refresher and Multi agency training by the Senior Leadership Team is undertaken at two yearly intervals.

All other school staff, including non-teaching staff, volunteers and governors undertake appropriate in-house training to equip them to carry out their responsibilities for child protection effectively. This is kept up to date by annual refresher training and induction processes. There are robust arrangements which ensure all staff know how to raise any concern in relation to the welfare of our pupils.

Curnow School has a designated Safeguarding and Whistleblowing governor; additionally one of the governors has undertaken 'safer recruitment training' alongside the head teacher, senior leadership team and our admin manager. This training is updated every two years to keep the school in line with all statutory guidance. Safeguarding is an established agenda item at each full governor meeting and each staff meeting.

The school has established a health, safety and well-being group which meets on a termly basis and reports back to the Local Governing Body & Trustees.

The school is part of the Trust wider Safeguarding Learning community where all aspects of child protection and safeguarding are developed – including Behaviour, Attendance, Health and Safety and Moving and Handling.

Curnow School gives equal priority to keeping all children and young people safe regardless of their age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

Adults in our school who work with children and young people with SEND are aware of the additional needs children may have that could mean they are more vulnerable to abuse and/or less able to speak out if something isn't right.

They know that some children may be vulnerable because they:

- have additional communication needs
- they do not understand that what is happening to them is abuse
- need intimate care or are isolated from others
- are dependent on adults for care.

Our school ensures all staff access CPD to support their understanding and knowledge to meet pupil needs – including importance of communication and AAC, pupil centred behaviour support/ medical and intimate care procedures.

We recognise the importance of listening to the thoughts and feelings of deaf and pre-verbal children and children who have disabilities and taking time to understand their unique lived experience is an important part of promoting their welfare.

We make sure the child's voice is heard through a range of different approaches. Where there are safeguarding concerns, we speak to children alone and don't use parents or carers as sign-language interpreters or spoken language translators. If a child's disability means talking about their abuse is difficult or impossible, we make every attempt to communicate by other means.

We consider how a child may communicate through their actions and whether distressed or disruptive behaviour is due to the child's disability or if the child is upset for another reason.

We tailor tools and resources to the child's needs and check that the child has understood what we've told them and is able to apply it – we don't make assumptions about what they have understood.

We work with children to empower them and help them feel able to speak out if they have any worries.

Staff have had specific training in Makaton safeguarding words and we have a focus on consent right through the school. We have established routes for pupils to raise concerns and safeguarding is a key part and highlighted within our PSHE/RSE curriculum.

Child Protection/ Adult Safeguarding Information

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child/adult at Curnow School please contact Rob Armstrong (Designated Safeguarding Lead), Sam Murray/Rachel Waters (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads) on 01209 215432

If you are worried about any child or adult you can also contact the following:

Do you have immediate concerns or are worried about a child or young person's safety?

You can contact us using the following methods:

[Complete an online referral >](#)

- Complete an [inter agency referral](#) - NB you will need to save this and email it to us
- Email us at multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk
- Tel: 0300 123 1116

[Child protection and safeguarding - Cornwall Council](#)

Domestic Abuse Help

National Domestic Abuse Helpline Refuge runs the National Domestic Abuse Helpline, which can be called free of charge and in confidence, 24 hours a day on 0808 2000 247. Its website provides guidance and support for potential victims, as well as those who are worried about friends and loved ones. It also has a form through which a safe time from the team for a call can be booked.

Operation Encompass

We are a trained Operation Encompass school.

Operation Encompass ensures there is a simple phone call or notification, to a trained member of school staff, before a child arrives in school. The call or notification is triggered by police recently attending the child's home or being involved in a domestic abuse incident, that the child has experienced.

Operation Encompass is a police and education early information sharing partnership enabling schools to offer immediate support for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse. Information is shared by the police with a school's trained Key Adult (DSL) prior to the start of the next school day after officers have attended a domestic abuse incident thus enabling appropriate support to be given, dependent upon the needs and wishes of the child.

Useful Links

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/safeguarding/schools-protecting-children-abuse-neglect/>
- <https://thecpsu.org.uk/>
- <https://www.tes.com/articles/safeguarding-teaching-resources>
- <https://childline.org.uk/>