



Hillside Infant School Safeguarding Leaders

These members of staff can be approached about any concerns about child safety or child protection issues

- **Mrs Fennell** – Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding lead (DSL)
- **Miss Pugh** – Pastoral care lead and Deputy Designated Safeguarding lead (DDSL)
- **Mrs Pieniek-Jones** - Assistant Headteacher – Inclusion / SENDCO
- **Miss Peters** - Assistant Headteacher - Head of EYFS
- **Mrs Daniels** - Assistant Headteacher - Head of KS1

Please click on the logos for useful information for parents and carers

Parentkind

contact For families with disabled children



Safeguarding and Child Protection parent newsletter

Safeguarding our pupils is a priority at our school

A warm welcome back to all our families at Hillside Infant school!

At school, **safeguarding and attendance go hand in hand**. Regular attendance helps children feel safe, secure and connected to their school community. It also means that staff can notice when something may have changed for a child and provide support when needed.

Why is regular attendance important?

Coming to school every day, unless your child is genuinely unwell, helps children to:

- Build positive relationships with their friends and teachers.
- Develop confidence, independence and important social skills.
- Keep up with learning and avoid falling behind.
- Feel part of our school community.
- Maintain familiar routines, which are particularly important for young children.
- Receive the support they need from trusted adults.

Attendance is a safeguarding matter

We monitor attendance carefully because a change in a child's attendance can sometimes be an indication that a child or family needs additional support.

We may become concerned when we notice:

- Frequent or unexplained absences.
- A pattern of absence on particular days.
- Regular late arrival or collection.
- A sudden change in attendance.
- Children missing school without communication from home.
- A child appearing tired, worried or unsettled when they arrive at school.

This does not mean that every absence is a safeguarding concern. Children are sometimes ill or families experience difficulties. Our role is to notice patterns, ask questions and offer support where appropriate.

If your child is unable to attend school, **please contact the school as soon as possible** and explain the reason for their absence.

If there are circumstances at home that are affecting your child's attendance, wellbeing or ability to get to school, please speak to us so that we can work together to support your child.

At Hillside Infant School we feel it is really important to work with parents/carers and with the agencies that support schools and families so that we can provide a safe environment that educates pupils of risks they may face and how they can respond to them in a safe manner.