

The venue Infant School

Safeguarding Newsletter- October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of our first half term, we would like to welcome you to the first safeguarding newsletter of the year. This aims to keep you informed about safeguarding matters, provide helpful advice and resources, and highlight ways in which we can work together to promote the wellbeing and safety of all children both in school and at home. We are committed to working in partnership with you to ensure that every child feels safe, supported, and able to thrive.

At The Avenue, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is our highest priority. Every child has the right to feel safe, valued and listened to while they are in our care. Therefore, if your child talks to an adult about something that is happening at home, we have a duty to be professionally curious to help us understand how to support them best. A member of the safeguarding team may call you to discuss it. Please do not be worried or offended, we are simply ensuring that we provide the best care possible for your child.

Meet Our Safeguarding Team

If you have any concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child, please speak to one of our safeguarding team members:

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):

Mrs Morrall

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs Spencer

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs Lucas

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Miss Halford

You can contact the safeguarding team through the school office: 01933 276366 or Admin@theavenue-inf.northants.sch.uk

What Does Safeguarding Mean?

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. It involves:

- ✓ Protecting children from harm
- ✓ Promoting children's health, wellbeing, and development
- ✓ Ensuring children grow up in a safe and supportive environment
- ✓ Taking action when there are concerns about a child's welfare

Our staff receive regular safeguarding training and follow clear procedures to ensure all children are safe and supported.

Support for families is available via Jodie Halford, the Family Support Worker.

Attendance Matters

Regular attendance helps children feel secure, build friendships, and make progress in their learning.

If your child is absent, please notify the school office as early as possible. Our attendance team will contact families when children are absent without explanation, as part of our safeguarding responsibilities. If you are genuinely struggling to get your children to school, please come in and speak to us.

Helping Children Stay Safe

Throughout the year, children will learn about staying safe through our curriculum, assemblies, stories, and class discussions.

Topics may include:

- Trusted adults
- Road safety
- Online safety
- Personal boundaries
- Healthy friendships
- Understanding feelings and emotions
- Asking for help when worried

We encourage all children to talk to a trusted adult if they feel worried, upset, or unsafe.

Online Safety

Even our youngest children are spending more time online. Parents and carers can help by:

- Checking age ratings on apps, games, and websites.
- Keeping devices in family spaces where possible.
- Talking regularly about online experiences.
- Reminding children never to share personal information online.
- Encouraging children to tell an adult if something online worries them.

Remember to check our Facebook page for our regular Friday Update.

Working Together

We know that parenting can be challenging at times. If you need guidance or advice with issues such as:

- Behaviour
- Emotional wellbeing
- Family circumstances
- Attendance
- Online safety
- Financial support
- Housing
- Mental health
- Trauma

please speak to us. Our Family Support Worker, Jodie Halford, is here to help and can signpost you to appropriate services and support.

If you have concerns about a child inside or outside of school, please report them. No concern is too small when it comes to keeping children safe. If you believe a child is at immediate risk of harm, call **999**. If you would like safeguarding advice because something doesn't 'feel right' you can call the NSPCC on **0808 800 5000**

Together, we can ensure every child feels happy, safe, and ready to learn.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

The Avenue Safeguarding Team.