



## JFS Safeguarding Policy for Parents

### What we tell your children they need to know:

- That they should never have to experience behaviour from an adult or other young person that hurts them, makes them fear for their safety, makes them feel uncomfortable or pressures them to do something they do not want to do.
- That they can approach all staff with a concern and certain staff have specific responsibilities with safeguarding them.
- All staff will listen to what they have to say with an open mind.
- They can talk about themselves, or if they are worried about someone in their family, or a friend, they can trust us to listen.
- Staff will make accurate notes of discussions to make sure that all concerns are recorded.
- Staff will not promise to keep secrets. They will explain that they have a responsibility to report what has been said, to someone else if they are worried about their safety.
- All staff will immediately tell the Safeguarding team if they are worried about their safety and if the safeguarding team are worried about their safety, they might invite other professionals to talk to them.

### We tell your children that in order to keep themselves safe, they need to:

- Be at school on time and keep their attendance high.
- Be in all their lessons and walk calmly and sensibly around the school between lessons.
- Follow the school rules and behave safely on the school buses and on local transport.
- Actively listen and learn during PSHCE lessons.
- Be responsible for the way they behave and be kind and mindful with what they say and how they treat others.
- Make sure they are not using their mobile phone during the school day.

### What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is the actions taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from physical and psychological harm.

Everyone at JFS who is in contact with children and their families has a role to play; as such, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

We adopt a child-centred approach, which means that at all times, we consider what is in the best interests of the child.

We aim to always work with parents and where necessary, external agencies, to ensure the best possible outcomes for your child.

### Staff at JFS

Staff at JFS know that Safeguarding means that they should:

- Protect your child from harm.
- Make sure nothing stops your child from being healthy or developing properly.
- Make sure your child is safely looked after.
- Make sure your child has the best life chances and can grow up happy and successful.

Staff agree that to look after your child, they will:

- Make the school a friendly, welcoming and supportive place to spend time in – somewhere your child wants to be.
- Be there for your child to talk to if they need to and know who to ask for help to get your child the right support.
- Teach your children about safeguarding issues as part of the wider school curriculum and the PSHCE curriculum so that they learn how to look after themselves both online and in the real world.
- Follow the school's policies when looking after your children.

### The Safeguarding Team

The dedicated team that work to keep your children safe and help protect them from harm are:

- **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):** Miss Patel (R116)
- **KS3 Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL):** Ms Hassam (R114)
- **KS4 Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL):** Miss Rigby and Mrs Tully (R103a)
- **KS5 Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL):** Ms Benarroch (H201)
- **Safeguarding Officers:**
  - Year 7: Vacant
  - Year 8: Mrs Gorasia (H223)
  - Year 9: Mrs Gorasia and Ms Parmar (H223)
  - Year 10: Ms Parmar (H223)
  - Year 11: Miss Watson (H215)
  - Year 12-13 – Mrs Angel (M113)

### Pastoral Support

If you or your child have a problem or issue you are concerned about, you have a responsibility to:

- speak to the Safeguarding Team
- speak to **any** member of staff in school
- encourage your child to attend the Time to Talk lunch sessions in Y109.
- request a peer or staff mentor for your child
- request regular check-ins with the safeguarding officers
- request school counselling for your child
  
- The Safeguarding Team can be emailed directly on: [safeguarding@jfs.brent.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@jfs.brent.sch.uk)
- The school reception staff will be able to help your child find members of staff or help direct you to the right person to talk to.
- Childline is a confidential helpline for a variety of problems and can be contacted on 0800 1111
- In an emergency, or if your child is in immediate danger, you should contact 999.

### **The importance of Attendance**

Children being absent from school, particularly repeatedly and/or for prolonged periods, and children missing education can act as a vital warning sign of a range of safeguarding possibilities.

The Department for Education state that this may include abuse and neglect such as sexual abuse or exploitation and can also be a sign of child criminal exploitation including involvement in county lines. It may indicate mental health problems, risk of substance abuse, risk of travelling to conflict zones, risk of female genital mutilation, so called 'honour'-based abuse or risk of forced marriage.

When children are not at school, they are also more at risk of online abuse.

At JFS we adopt an early intervention approach to identify the existence of any underlying safeguarding risks and to help prevent the risks of a child going missing in future.

Our aim is to work with families to ensure that our students are excited about attending school so that their pastoral needs and academic goals are met.

**If your child is absent, please report it via the attendance form:**

<https://jfs.brent.sch.uk/attendance/>

**If your child is regularly absent, please know that we will:**

- Communicate with you via e-mail and phone
- Invite you in for a meeting
- Discuss the absences with the Brent Education Welfare Officer

### **External Agencies**

At JFS, we work with a number of external agencies to ensure the best outcomes for your children. These include, but are not limited to:

- The Local Authority
- The Education Welfare Officer
- The Safer Schools Officer
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
- Speech and Language Therapist
- JAMI
- Norwood
- Camp Simcha

### **Safeguarding Education and Training**

- All staff receive regular training on knowing the signs and procedures for dealing with safeguarding issues.
- All staff at JFS are updated on relevant changes to legislation about safeguarding and child protection.
- Your child is educated on safeguarding issues through the PSHCE curriculum and through the wider academic and enrichment curriculums.
- Information and courses are signposted to you via e-mail or through the school newsletter.

### **Children who at potentially at greater risk of harm**

At JFS, every child matters and their well-being and academic attainment is monitored. However, we recognise that some children may be more at risk of harm. These children include those who:

- Need a social worker
- Are absent from education
- Are electing to be educated from home
- Need mental health support
- Are looked after or who been previously looked after
- Care leavers
- Have special educational needs, disabilities or health issues
- Identify as lesbian, gay, bi or trans (LGBT)