

## Contextual Safeguarding at Carew Academy

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019 defines contextual safeguarding as:

*"Safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours that can be associated with factors outside the school or college and/or can occur between children outside the school or college. All staff, but especially the designated safeguarding lead (and deputies) should be considering the context within which such incidents and/or behaviours occur. This is known as contextual safeguarding, which simply means assessments of children should consider whether wider environmental factors are present in a child's life that are a threat to their safety and/or welfare ... This will allow any assessment to consider all the available evidence and the full context of any abuse".*

To ensure effective contextual safeguarding, we highlighted the contexts the young people we work with are most likely to be:

- **School**
- **Home**
- **Transport to and from school**
- **End-of-day clubs /respite**

We completed a careful risk-based analysis of each context, identifying generic risks and looking at what needs to be in place to ensure how these risks are reduced to a safe level.

### School

In order to strengthen the school's safeguarding systems seven members of the leadership team are DSL trained in addition to the school's family worker. The school's safeguarding systems are externally checked termly by the school's safeguarding governor and the executive safeguarding lead for the trust. In addition, the school's DSL attends Sutton's termly DSL meetings in order to keep up to date with local and national safeguarding trends. The school's RSE curriculum contains explicit safeguarding links.



## Home

The NSPCC explain that 5% of children nationally have been victims of domestic violence, however in Sutton the rate is 8%.

In order to address this key risk Carew has made close links with the Domestic Violence Lead for the borough and the Young Victims of Crime Service. Targeted families have received specialist support from these services both in and outside school. The RSE leads have also developed links with the Domestic Violence Lead to ensure the school's curriculum is up to date and reflects the local trends in this area.

Online safety is also an issue that is present in students' home life and as such the school's E safety curriculum teaches them the skills to keep themselves online. In addition, the E safety lead for the borough delivers an annual E safety parent workshop updating our families on the ever changing safeguarding risks children and young people are exposed to online.

We feel that strong relationships with our families reduces safeguarding risks and as such we offer:

- A family worker who targets our most vulnerable families offering early help, bespoke packages of support and sign posting families to the support available to them locally
- Weekly email contact between home and school by all form tutors
- Multi-disciplinary parent coffee mornings and parenting workshops

## Transport to and from School

Carew students are transported to school from five boroughs. We have two school transport leads who ensure that safeguarding information is shared appropriately between transport and school and vice versa. They develop face to face relationships with the transport staff in these boroughs ensuring that effective lines of communication are maintained. They also have strong working relationships with the managers of these transport services. These relationships further strengthen our home safeguarding measures as they are face to face with our families daily.

## End of school clubs/respite

The family worker has a strong working relationship with the Children with Disabilities Team and all our after school providers to ensure all safeguarding information is passed on in a timely manner. These providers attend TAC, TAF and CIN meetings at the school when appropriate.