



Breda Academy

SAFEGUARDING – A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

At Breda Academy our motto, chosen by the students is **Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow**.

We want to ensure that Breda Academy is a school where our students feel safe and an important part of our whole school community #thisiscommunity #proudtobebreda.

We believe that fostering good relationships with the Parents/Carers of our students is very important. A close partnership between school and home should help ensure that all our children learn and reach their potential in a caring, supportive, and safe environment. Good communication is essential if we are to achieve this.

Our Aims

To create an environment in which the safety and welfare of our students are paramount in our school, Breda Academy will take the following steps;

- endeavour to maintain a strong pastoral ethos;
- provide a secure framework and clear procedures in relation to child protection;
- give guidance to staff in the exercise of their professional responsibilities through a Code of Conduct;
- provide a Counselling Service within school;
- provide Child Protection and Safeguarding Training for all Staff as appropriate;
- use opportunities within the curriculum and Personal Development to address related issues;
- regular review of related School Policies;
- ensure that new employees, both full and part time, volunteer helpers, etc. are subject to standard vetting procedures; and
- implement clear procedures for entrance of Visitors to the School Premises.

School Safeguarding Team

If you have any child protection concerns, please contact a member of the Safeguarding Team.

The responsibility for ensuring that appropriate child protection measures and procedures are in place rests with the Board of Governors.

The Child Protection and Safeguarding Team in Breda Academy 2024/25 consist of,

Chairperson of BOG	Mr I Gibson
Designated Governor	Ms Shaw
Acting Principal	Mr P Perry
Designated Teacher	Mrs G Scott
Deputy Designated Teachers	Ms J McMullan, Mrs S McWilliams, and Ms G Ferguson

PROCEDURES

To protect our pupils at Breda Academy, we will adhere to the following procedures when a student raises a concern with a member of staff.

Receive

Remain calm and listen actively without asking leading questions.

Reassure

Reassure the child. Confidentiality cannot be assured as information may have to be passed on to help/support them.

Respond

Tell the student what is going to happen next and ensure that they are safe and secure.

Record

Note down important information with the time and date too.

Report

There is a professional responsibility to pass on information to the Designated Teacher or the Deputy Designated Teachers.

It is also the Parents/Carers responsibility to inform school of any changes in circumstances e.g., a change to contact details, so that we can work together to ensure appropriate information is held to enable parental/school contacts. It is also important to ensure student safety and wellbeing so that appropriate support is put in place, if appropriate.

At all times, Breda Academy works and cooperates fully with the EA Child Protection Support Service, Social Services, the PSNI and other external support agencies.

The Child Protection Policy is reviewed and updated according to the advice and guidance contained in the publication, Safeguarding and Child Protection in schools: A Guide for Schools".

Copies of all Safeguarding and Pastoral Care policies are available on our school website www.breda.academy

For other enquiries, pastoral or academic, please check the flowchart, "What to do if..." which will guide you to the correct person, department, or team.

The Safeguarding Team May 2024