

Blackley Academy is committed to keeping our pupils safe, both in school and the wider community

'Keeping Children Safe in Education' is new statutory guidance and replaced the government's previous safeguarding guidance. It was updated in May 2016 (guidance commenced 5th September 2016). The guidance applies to all schools and colleges. It covers safeguarding information for all staff and how schools should manage safeguarding as well as important things such as safer recruitment of staff. It explains that everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in safeguarding children. It also includes guidance on what to do if you are worried a child is being abused.

Designated Safeguarding Lead



This is the senior member of staff with responsibility for safeguarding in the organisation, who reports to the Head of School.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) at Blackley Academy is Janet Lea.

The Deputy DSL is Rhonda Alleyne.



The role of the DSL and Deputy DSL are to oversee and manage referrals. This includes referring all cases of suspected abuse to the Local Authority Children's Social Care and Health. They work with the Headteacher and inform her of issues including ongoing enquiries. They are supported by the school nurse, who also has an important role in safeguarding.

Our range of Safeguarding/Health and Safety Policies are on our web site under the section

'School, information/school policies' and are designed to:

Ensure we practice safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children;

Raise awareness of child protection issues and equip students with the skills needed to keep them safe;

Develop and then implement procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse;

Support students who have been identified as in need of early help or at risk of harm in accordance with his/her agreed Child Protection, Child in Need or Early Help Plan;

Establish a safe environment in which our young people can learn and develop.

We recognise that because of the day-to-day contact with children, school staff are well placed to identify concerns early and to observe the outward signs of abuse. We therefore:

Do our utmost to maintain an environment where young people feel safe, secure, valued and respected and encouraged to talk, believing they will be listened to.

Ensure our pupils know that there are adults in the school whom they can approach if they are worried;

Include opportunities in the curriculum, assemblies and workshops programmes as well as in Computing and IT for pupils to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse and to know who they should turn to for help.

Our Procedures

We follow the procedures set out by the Manchester Safeguarding Children Board and take account of guidance issued by the Department for Education (DfE)

We ensure every member of staff (including supply staff and volunteers) and the Board of Trustees and Ambassadorial Advisory Group (AAG) know the name of the DSL and understand their role. These are on display around the Academy.

We ensure all staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and understand their responsibility for referring any concerns to the DSL.