

Safeguarding Profile

Holmer C of E Academy works with children, parents and the community to ensure the safety and protection of children and to give them the very best start in life. We aim to create an environment in our school which is safe and secure for all children. Through providing activities and opportunities in the PSHE curriculum we aim to equip our children with the skills they need to stay safe. e.g. we enable children to have the self confidence and the vocabulary to resist inappropriate approaches and encourage children to develop a sense of autonomy and independence.

We follow the guidelines laid down by the DFE publication Keeping Children Safe in Education and staff receive regular training in Safeguarding.

We work with Herefordshire Social Care teams and if a report is to be made to the authorities, we follow the directives of the social care team.

Copies of our Safeguarding policies (including Child protection) are available from the main school office.

School Security

Holmer C of E Academy provides a secure site, which has controlled entry, but the site is only as secure as the people who use it. We ask all people visiting the site to abide by our security procedures. Gates are locked except at the start and end of each day. Doors should be closed to prevent intrusion but to facilitate smooth exits. Visitors, volunteers and parents must only enter through the main entrance and after signing in at the school office. Children will only be allowed home with adults with parental responsibility or confirmed permission. Children are not allowed to leave school alone during school hours, and if collected by an adult, they must be signed out.

Bullying

We take the issue of bullying very seriously at Holmer C of E Academy. We have an anti bullying policy which is reviewed regularly. We investigate all reports of bullying from pupils, parents/carers and others and work with all the parties to talk through and resolve the situation. Bullying is defined as when a child is deliberately being made unhappy over a sustained period of time. We make anti bullying high profile through assemblies, our curriculum and our active participation in Anti bullying week every year.

Internet Safety

Whether on a computer, tablet, laptop, a games console, mobile phone or other electronic device, at school or at home, children are increasingly accessing the internet, whenever they can and wherever they are. At Holmer we recognise that, in addition to the Internet being a great tool to support our children's learning, there are a number of risks for our children when online.

At Holmer Internet safety has a very high profile. All our staff and pupils are aware of their responsibilities to promote safe and secure use of the Internet and school computer equipment and to follow school Internet safety procedures.

All pupils cover Internet safety issues at the beginning of every school year. These issues are revisited and monitored by the class teacher on a regular basis. This includes ensuring that pupils know what to do if an Internet safety issue arises. All pupils have read, discussed with their teacher and signed an acceptable use of ICT document. For more information about Internet safety for pupils, please see our E-safety policies.

