

## SAFEGUARDING AND PROMOTING THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN

Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 places a duty on local authorities and the governors of maintained schools to make arrangements to ensure that their functions are carried out with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.



Section 157 of the same act and the Education (Independent Schools Standards) (England) Regulations 2003 require proprietors of independent schools (including academies) to have arrangements for safeguarding and promote the welfare of children who are pupils at the school. "Keeping Children Safe in Education", issued to schools in September 2024, detailing statutory guidance, placing a duty on schools to promote the welfare of children. The definition of safeguarding children as detailed in the document "Working Together to Safeguard Children" issued to the schools in December 2023 is as follows:

- *Protecting children from maltreatment*
- *Preventing impairment of children's' health and physical development*
- *Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes*
- *Children includes everyone under the age of 18.*

Safeguarding children is consequently more than contributing to the protection of individual children and the school is committed to the development of policy and practice that supports children and their families to be safe, healthy, enjoy and achieve, contribute positively and achieve economic wellbeing.

St Paul's C of E Academy strives to promote the welfare of our pupils by:

1. Creating and maintaining a safe learning environment.
2. Identifying child welfare concerns and taking appropriate action.
3. Using the curriculum to enable our children to develop keep safe strategies
4. Creating a listening culture to hear the child's voice
5. Operating safe recruitment and selection procedures to prevent unsuitable people working with our children.

The school has a suite of policies designed to meet these needs and are available on request or via the school website.

This policy reflects current legislation. Accepted best practice and complies with Government guidance: **Working together to Safeguard Children (December 2023)** and **Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2024)**.