Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in safeguarding the welfare of children. At Westbourne Academy, safeguarding is considered everyone’s responsibility. It forms part of the wider safeguarding system for children and we have a duty of care to keep children safe and to enable the best outcomes for them all.

The safeguarding of our students has three main elements:

1. Prevention through the creation of a positive academy atmosphere and the teaching and pastoral support offered to students.
2. Protection by following agreed procedures, ensuring staff are trained and supported to respond appropriately and sensitively to child protection concerns.
3. Support to students who have been abused or witnessed abuse. Abuse can be defined as physical, emotional, sexual or neglect.

Our academy will:

1. Establish and maintain an environment where students feel safe and secure and are encouraged to talk, and are listened to.
2. Ensure that students know that there are adults within the academy who they can approach if they are worried or are in difficulty.
3. Include in the curriculum activities and opportunities which equip students with the skills they need to stay safe from all forms of abuse and to stay safe online.
4. Ensure that wherever possible, every effort will be made to work closely with parents, the local community and outside agencies.

Visitors to our academy are expected to:

1. Sign in and out at reception.
2. Wear a visitors badge, that is visible, at all times.
3. Behave and conduct themselves in a manner that is appropriate for an institution that works with young people.

Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility
The needs of the child are paramount
The need for help is identified early
Anyone with a concern for a child should make a referral

To view all of our policies in full please visit www.westbourne[attrust.org.uk/Parents/Policies/
Current safeguarding issues are listed below. This is not an exhaustive list and, as new policy guidance and legislation develops within the remit of Safeguarding, the policy will be renewed and updated in line with the Suffolk Safeguarding Children Board and Local Authority.

- Children missing from education
- Children missing from home or care
- Child sexual exploitation (CSE)
- Bullying including cyberbullying, grooming and peer on peer abuse
- Domestic violence or abuse
- Drugs including substance abuse
- Fabricated or induced illness
- Faith abuse
- Female genital mutilation (FGM)
- Forced marriage
- Gangs and youth violence
- Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls (VAWG)
- Harassment
- Honour based violence
- Mental health
- Neglect
- Practices or beliefs that are common with particular cultures but which are against the law of England and deemed illegal or harmful to children.
- Private fostering
- Radicalisation and extremism
- Ritualistic abuse
- Sexting
- Teenage relationship abuse (sexually active under 18 year olds)
- Trafficked children

For advice if you are worried, please contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Alternate Safeguarding Lead.

If you have any problems at school, at home, with your family or friends, or in the local community. Please don’t suffer in silence. Go to our academy home page and click on the ‘S’ icon.

Use our confidential online tool to report it and I will do whatever I can to help. If I don’t know then I will know someone else who can help you.

This is a confidential online service to stop you or a friend or someone you have been suffering.

Mrs C Cook
Assistant Principal (Student Support)