

11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Safeguarding at John O'Gaunt**

At John O'Gaunt we believe that all children and young people need to know and have trusted adults around them so they feel safe from harm; this can be from others or even from hurting themselves. We also believe it is about taking action to enable all children to have the best possible outcomes.

#### **What is Safeguarding:**

- Giving support to children, young people, and their families
- Early identification and intervention if a child or young person needs help
- Knowing what to do if you are worried about a child
- Recognising if a child or young person is at risk of harm or abuse
- Working together to prevent harm or abuse from happening
- Everyone is responsible for safeguarding children and young people

#### **What we will do as a school:**

- Any young person at John O'Gaunt should be able to go to school and feel safe, so they can achieve their potential/best
- All staff who work or volunteer are firstly vetted to make sure they are safe to work with children. They are then trained in child protection in order to be able to identify child abuse and what to do when there are any concerns
- Every school has a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), who will have extra training in this role. At John O'Gaunt this is Mr S Smith. There is also a dedicated team of safeguarding officers who can be found on this link <https://www.JOGsafeguarding team> We will always listen to you and work closely with you if we are concerned about your child
- The school has a Safeguarding Policy which can be found on our website <https://www.JOGsafeguarding policy>. This policy will tell you more about what we do as a school and when we must speak to the police or children's services. Included on the web page are also links to handy updates, advice and guidance on areas such as social media platforms and what to look out for. We will also be sending these out as regular updates throughout the year.
- We will help all young people to learn about keeping safe. This will include healthy relationships, anti-bullying, e-safety, healthy eating, drug and alcohol awareness

#### **What we expect Parents/Carers to support with:**

- Feel confident to raise concerns about your child
- Talk to the school should you need help or support
- Keep the school informed of any changes in your circumstances which may relate your child's safety e.g. any court orders

- Inform the school of any changes such as a house move, a new contact number, a change of name, a change of parental responsibility. Make sure we have two emergency contacts
- Let the school know if your child is going to be absent and the reasons why. Keep us updated if your child develops any allergies, medical conditions or is taking medication

Can I take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact the school should you have any concerns.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Smith', written in a cursive style.

**Mr S Smith**  
**Assistant Vice Principal / Designated Safeguarding Lead**