

Safeguarding Advice for Parents and Guardians

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding is about making sure that your child is safe, protected from harm, and supported while at school. It includes everything from preventing abuse and neglect to ensuring a safe environment and teaching children how to respond to risks. Schools have policies in place and procedures to handle any concerns, so your child can thrive in a secure and caring setting. According to the UK National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC), safeguarding involves:

- Protecting children from abuse and neglect
- Preventing harm to their health or development
- Ensuring they grow up in a secure and caring environment
- Taking steps to help all children achieve the best possible outcomes

How do schools safeguard children?

Schools have a duty to safeguard children. This includes:

- Appointing a designated safeguarding lead (DSL) and team who are responsible for supporting staff, assessing children's needs, and working with external agencies
- Implementing a child protection policy and procedures to address specific safeguarding concerns
- Conducting background checks on all adults working in the school to ensure they are safe to work with children, with at least one panel member trained in safer recruitment
- Ensuring all staff receive safeguarding and child protection training, regularly updated to stay effective

What does safeguarding look like at the Blue School?

Here's how we keep children safe at our school:

- We respond promptly to unplanned absences and track poor attendance patterns
- We keep confidential records of any concerns related to children's well-being
- We teach students about safeguarding and teach them how to handle concerns and worries
- We supervise students at key times, such as when they enter and leave the school

Who should I contact if I have a safeguarding concern?

You can speak to any member of staff or to a member of our Safeguarding team.

Who can my child talk to if they have a concern?

Your child can speak to any trusted adult in the school. If there is a concern about their safety, the adult will refer it to the DSL or Safeguarding Team for further action.

Where can I find more information or the school's policies?

- For detailed information, you can:
- Refer to the school's safeguarding policy, available on our website
- Check the visitor briefing available at the school entrance
- View all school policies here: <https://www.luderitzblueschool.com/policiesandforms>

Key Terms

Abuse – Any form of mistreatment or neglect that harms a child, either through direct actions or by failing to prevent harm.

Safer Recruitment – A process that ensures staff are suitable to work with children, including checks on their right to work in Namibia and mental and physical fitness for their role.