

Health and Safety - Everyone at our school has a responsibility to keep adults and children safe within the school environment. The school has a clear health and safety policy which everyone must follow. The school has fully trained first aiders to deal with any accidents in school.

Online safety - The school recognises that technology plays an important role in the education of our children and is committed to safeguarding children online. Parents/carers should be vigilant and ensure that their children are accessing age-appropriate social media platforms, content and gaming, on tablets, smart phones and computers.

Complaints - If you have any complaints about how the school is working with you or your child, please feel confident to speak to us. The Principal will always be happy to speak to you to resolve any difficulties. It is better to speak to us as soon as you have a concern so that it does not become a bigger issue. If you do not feel the matter has been resolved, you can raise your concerns with the Academy Council.

Useful Contacts

Principal	Rita Hindocha
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Siobhan Evans
Chair of Academy Council	Suzanne Overton-Edwards

Brook Mead Academy

0116 4827195

www.brook-tmet.uk

info@brook-tmet.uk (General enquiries)

safeguarding@brook-tmet.uk (Safeguarding concerns and enquiries)

Our school is committed to creating a happy and safe environment for our children to learn. This leaflet will help you understand how we keep your children safe by telling you:

- How children can be harmed
- What we must do to keep you child safe from harm
- What you must do as a parent/carer to help your child be safe and enjoy school



Safeguarding Children and Child Protection

Keeping Children Safe in Education: Information for Parents & Carers



Safeguarding & promoting the welfare of our scholars

Brook Mead Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and expects all staff, contractors, visitors and volunteers to share this commitment. If you have any concerns about a child's safety or welfare, see or hear something that concerns you - please pass on to a member of the safeguarding team without delay.

DO NOT IGNORE IT - REPORT IT

The Safeguarding Team 2023/24



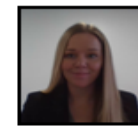
Siobhan Evans
Assistant Principal
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)



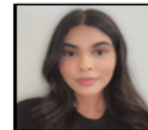
Rita Hindocha
Principal
Deputy DSL



Dani Aylmer-Teago
Lead Behaviour & Safeguarding
Officer/ DDSL



Holly Walker
Assistant Principal
Deputy DSL



Mrs Meman
Assistant Head of
Year 7
Deputy DSL



Mr Chohan
Assistant Head of
Year 8
Deputy DSL



Ms Samuel
Assistant Head of
Year 8
Deputy DSL



Mr Palmer
Assistant Head of
Year 9
Deputy DSL



Miss Noton
Assistant Head of
Year
Deputy DSL

If you have any concerns in relation to a member of staff, please report directly to Rita Hindocha (Principal). If you feel unable to talk to Ms Hindocha, please contact the Chair of our Academy Council, Suzanne Overton-Edwards. Details are available from reception.

We ensure children learn in a safe, caring and enriching environment.

Children are taught how to keep themselves safe, to develop positive and healthy relationships, and how to avoid situations where they might be at risk including by being exploited.



Child Protection is an important subject in which all staff receive regular training. Our priority is to work with you but there may be times when we must involve other people. Everybody has a responsibility to keep all children under the age of 18 safe. Our school **has a statutory responsibility** to share any concerns it may have about a child in need of protection with other agencies and in particular police, health and children's social care. Schools are not able to investigate concerns but have a legal duty to refer them. In most instances, the school will be able to inform the parents/carer of its need to make a referral. However, sometimes the school is advised by children's social care or police that the parent/carer cannot be informed whilst they investigate the matter. We understand the anxiety parents/carers understandably feel when they are not told about any concerns from the outset. The school follows legislation that aims to act in the interests of the child.

Definitions of Abuse

Physical abuse: when a child is deliberately hurt or injured

Sexual abuse, including sexual exploitation: when a child is influenced or forced to take part in a sexual activity. This can be a physical activity or non-contact, e.g., being made to look at an inappropriate image.

Emotional: maltreatment of a child, making them feel inadequate, worthless or unloved.

Neglect: the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs.

Sexual Harassment: unwanted conduct of a sexual nature which can occur online and offline.

Sexual violence: Rape, assault by penetration or sexual assault (intentional sexual touching without consent)

It is advised that **ALL** parents/carers are familiar with our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy which is available through our website and on request.

A child should be able to go to school and feel safe so that they can achieve their very best.

We will ensure that:

- Anybody who works or volunteers at our school will have had the appropriate checks carried out to ensure that they are safe to work with children and then provided training to identify child abuse and what to do if they are concerned
- The school has a Designated Safeguarding Lead, Siobhan Evans who has had extra training to know what to do when a concern is brought to them
- We listen to you and work closely with you if we are concerned about your child but, sometimes, we may not be able to discuss our concern. The school has a safeguarding policy which tells you more about this and when we must speak to the police or children's services.
- Our IT filtering and monitoring services protect your children from viewing unsuitable content online as far as possible.
- Your child will learn about keeping themselves safe. Lessons include healthy eating, anti-bullying, online safety, road safety, healthy relationships, drug and alcohol awareness. As part of these lessons, your child will be told what to do if they are worried or concerned about their safety

What parents/carers must do

Parents and carers are the most important people to keep their children safe. You should:

- Feel confident to raise concerns about your child, or about the conduct of a staff member/teacher
- Talk to the school if you need help or support
- Read the school policies about safety issues available on request and on the school website
- Let the school know if your child has a medical condition
- Let the school know if you have any court orders relating to the safety of your child
- Let the school know if your child has caring responsibilities at home
- Let the school know if there is a change in your circumstances such as a house move, a new contact number, a change of name, a change of parental responsibility
- Who will be dropping off or collecting your child and two other emergency contacts. You must inform the school of any changes to agreed arrangements
- Let the school know if your child is going to be absent and the reasons why

Attendance

Your child's attendance is monitored daily, and absences are always followed up by the attendance officer. It is important that your child attends school as regularly as possible.

There may be times when you are asked for evidence relating to absences, e.g., for medical appointments. Please note holidays must not be taken during term-time, and any planned absence from school must be requested in advance.