



## **Child Friendly Safeguarding Policy**

We want STOP GAP to be a safe place for everyone.

All of the adults at STOP GAP will do everything they can to make sure that you are healthy, safe and happy. We respect you, we will listen to you and we will help you to protect your rights. We do our best to help you make good educational progress.

We teach you how to recognise the risks in different situations and how to protect yourself and stay safe.

### ***Safeguarding means that all staff should:***

- Protect you from harm
- Make sure nothing stops you from being healthy or developing properly
- Make sure you are safely looked after
- Make sure you have the best life chances and can grow up happy and successful

### ***How will staff try to protect you?***

- STOP GAP will always try to provide a safe and secure environment for you to learn and progress
- We help to make sure that you remain safe at home, as well as at STOP GAP • We think it is important for you to know where to get help if you are worried or unhappy about something

### ***NEED TO TALK?***

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Matt Hogg- this means that he has the main responsibility for making sure that you are healthy, safe and happy.

Julie Cartlidge, Joel Edgington-Plunkett and Amy Tinsley are our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.



Julie ca



Joel



Matt

If you need to talk - we will listen. You can talk to any adult at STOP GAP. If you do not want to talk, you can always write it down and hand it to a member of staff.

## **ABUSE**

When someone hurts you, it can be called abuse. This is when someone does something to you that is harmful, unpleasant or painful like:

- If someone deliberately hits you, hurts you, injures you or humiliates you in different ways
- If someone says or does something that makes you feel bad about yourself or hurts your feelings which makes you feel scared, sad, upset or frightened
- If someone shouts, threatens, hits or hurts someone you love whilst you are around which makes you scared, unhappy or worried
- If someone doesn't take proper care of you so you feel abandoned, lonely or neglected. You might not be able to eat or wash regularly, or you might not be able to come to school every day or on time
- If someone touches you in a way that you don't like for example touching your private parts
- If someone makes you look at things which make you feel ashamed, embarrassed, uncomfortable or guilty. They may ask you to keep it a secret or give you presents.

Abuse is never ok and if you are being or have been abused you must remember – it is not your fault. You must always tell someone, and they will help it to stop.

## **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**

Sometimes a member of staff at STOP GAP will need to check things with Matt, Julie, Joel or Amy and then, if they can deal with the issues themselves, they will.

There are times though when they may need to contact other agencies for support. These may be Children's' Social Care (Social Workers) or Police. There are lots of other agencies who support children and families as well.

Staff will talk to you and explain all of this, and you can always go and ask staff questions if you are unsure about anything.

***If you need to talk, staff at STOP GAP will always listen***