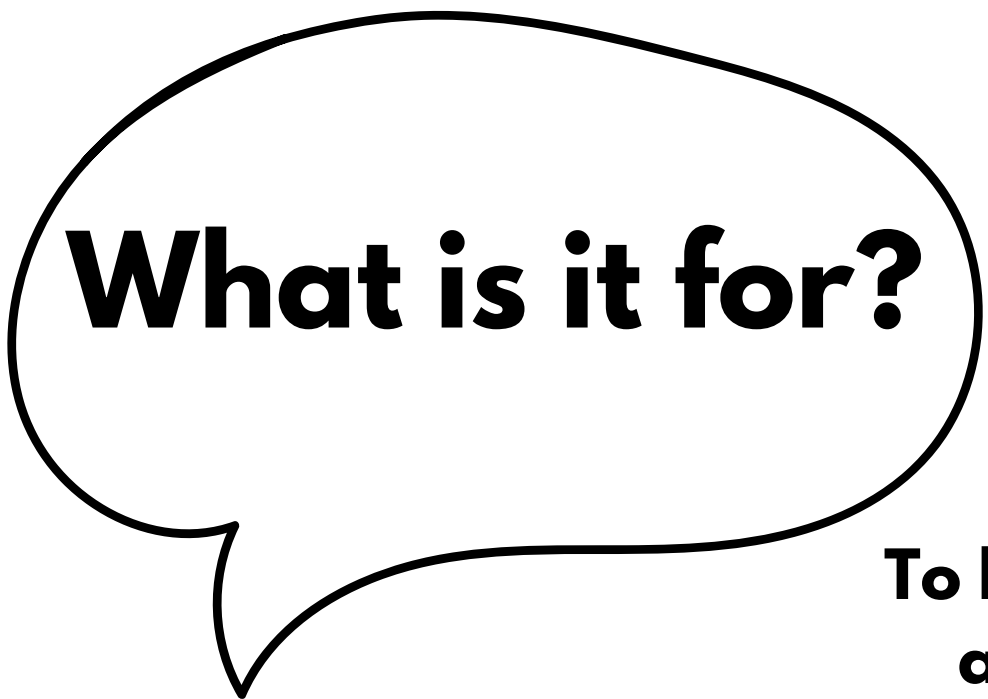
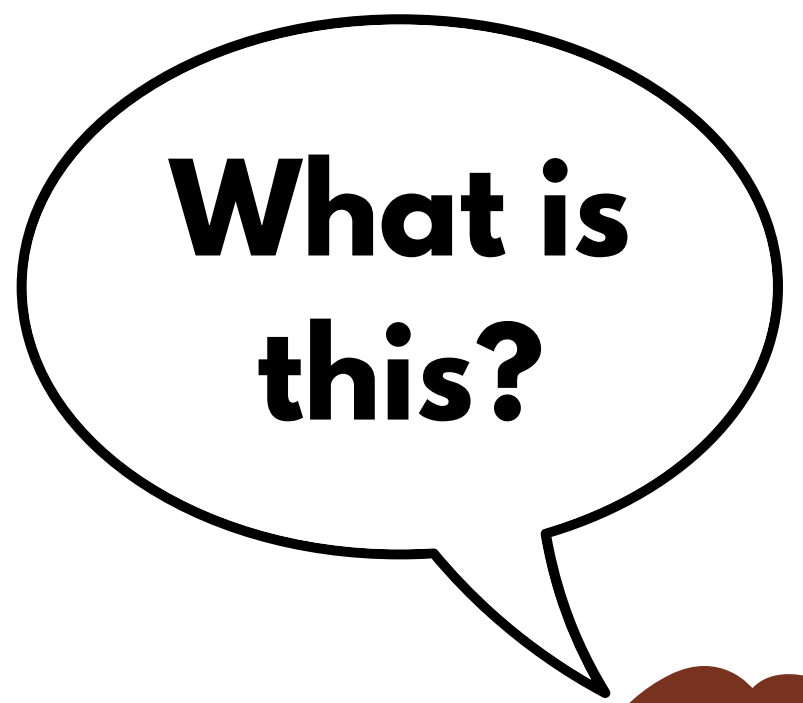


Child Friendly Safeguarding Policy

**St Matthew's Catholic
Primary School**



Our school has a Safeguarding Policy for staff, families and governors. This child friendly policy is designed for young people and this should be read as a guide to the main policy. We have tried to write this in a way that makes sense to you as the Safeguarding Policy is very long.....



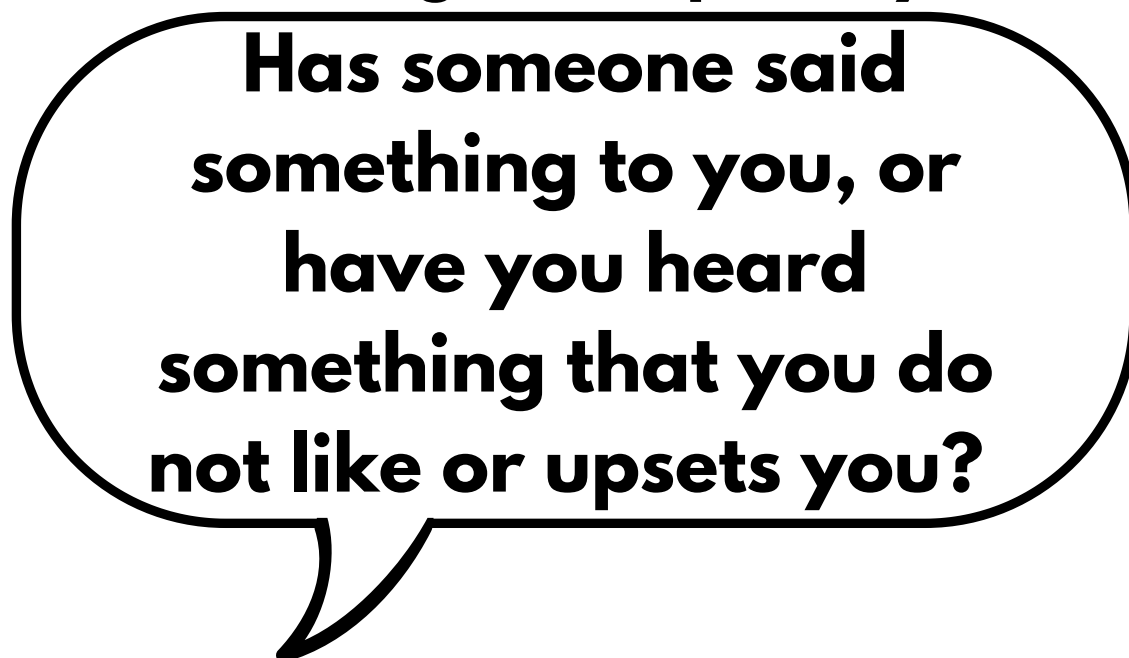
To help you decide what could be a problem and where to get help and support. It is really important that you know who you can talk to and also to understand why you might need to talk to someone.



You might have seen or heard the phrase DSL, but what does it mean? DSL stands for Designated Safeguarding Lead.

In every school there is always somebody who has the responsibility to keep you safe and all staff have to tell that person if they are worried about you. Staff have training and are taught how to keep children safe as it is the most important part of their job.


In our school, the DSLs are Mrs Alderson, Mrs Torley, Miss Wiblin and Miss Shawcross. It is the job of everyone that works at our school to keep you safe so remember you can talk to any grown up that you trust.



You must tell someone at school so we can help you.

Examples of people you can tell are:

- Teacher · Teaching Assistant
- Headteacher or DSL · Lunchtime Supervisor
- A grown up that you trust



Has someone touched you on a part of your body like your bottom, chest or anywhere else you do not like?

It is not okay for someone to touch you and make you feel uncomfortable. People who do things like this sometimes lie and tell you things to worry you and make sure you don't tell anyone. You must tell someone at school so we can help you - it is not your fault and you will be taken care of and supported.

You must tell someone at school so we can help you.



Has someone hit, punched or smacked you or hurt you in anyway?

REMEMBER that any visitors in school will be wearing a red lanyard. If you see someone without a lanyard, tell a trusted adult immediately!



The four main areas of Child Protection concerns are:

1. Physical Abuse – hitting, smacking, shaking, throwing, burning, biting etc.
2. Sexual Abuse – be aware this doesn't always mean touching a child. It could be someone making you watch things or encouraging you to act in an inappropriate way.
3. Neglect – this means things like not providing meals or warmth or clothing or perhaps not taking you to the Doctor when you need to go. There may be lots of different reasons why a child is neglected, and it is really important that we know so we can help.
4. Emotional Abuse – This means when someone upsets you or makes you feel bad or if someone in your family says horrible things to you and makes you feel sad and worthless.

How does our school work hard to keep you safe?



There are lots of different ways, but one of the main ways is making sure the staff here at our school know how to keep you safe and also make sure you have someone to talk to if you need to. Our DSLs are here to support young people and their families if there is a Child Protection concern. Safeguarding and Child Protection mean similar things in that we look after children and keep them safe.

If you are upset or worried about something that has happened to or you or someone else then please remember you can be brave and talk to someone who will listen to you and help you.

If you speak to a grown up, sometimes they will need to check things with your DSL and then if they can deal with the issue themselves, they will. Please try and understand that staff and the DSL will only want to help you and make you feel supported and better about the situation.

There are times though when they may need to contact some other agencies for support. These may be Children's Social Care (Social Workers) or Police. This is because schools can't do everything on their own and need to work with other professionals who are best placed to help with arranging other things. It might sound a little bit scary, but the Social Workers and Police will be specialist trained professionals who are great at helping children and young people. There are lots of other agencies who support children and their families as well and it isn't always that people need to have a Social Worker involved with their family. Sometimes people are Youth Workers or Mentors or Family Support Workers.

Don't worry, your DSL will talk to you and explain all of this, and you can always go and ask them questions if you are unsure about anything.

If you have any questions about this policy, then please contact one of the people below:



REMEMBER, YOU CAN ALWAYS SPEAK TO ANY MEMBER OF STAFF IF YOU HAVE A WORRY!

MOST IMPORTANTLY YOU DO NOT HAVE TO KEEP YOUR WORRIES A SECRET!



USEFUL NUMBERS

**CHILDLINE 0800 11 11
NSPCC 0808 800 5000**