



CHELTENHAM COLLEGE SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD WELFARE POLICY

Introduction

Cheltenham College fully recognises its responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children and young people in its care. This responsibility encompasses the following principles:

- To protect children from harm (maltreatment);
- To prevent impairment of children's health and development;
- To ensure that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care thus enabling those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.

Cheltenham College addresses its commitment to these principles through:

Prevention – ensuring all reasonable measures are taken to minimise the risks of harm to children's welfare. These include:

- Ensuring, through training, that all teaching and non-teaching staff are aware of and committed to this Policy and the Child Protection Policy;
- Establishing a positive, supportive, secure environment in which children can learn and develop, together with a School ethos which promotes in all pupils a sense of being valued, listened to and respected;
- Including in the curriculum, activities and opportunities for PSHCE, which equip pupils with the skills they need to stay safe from abuse and which will help them develop realistic attitudes to the responsibilities of adult life;
- Providing pastoral support that is accessible and available to all pupils and ensuring that pupils know to whom they can talk about their concerns.

Protection - ensuring all appropriate actions are taken to address concerns about the welfare of a child or children, working to agreed local policies and procedures in full partnership with other local agencies especially the Police and the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board. These include:

- Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving children and their parents/ carers appropriately;
- Monitoring children known or thought to be at risk of harm, and to contribute to assessments of need and support packages for those children.

Safeguarding, in addition to child protection, encompasses issues such as pupil health and safety, bullying/ cyber-bullying, appropriate medical provision, drugs and substance misuse. These have specific policies and guidance which should be read in conjunction with this document.

September 2010

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