

Safeguarding Curriculum Overview

The Vine Schools

1. Core Principles and Intent

Across The Vine Schools, safeguarding is central to the curriculum and to daily school life. We recognise safeguarding and child protection as a shared responsibility and adopt a proactive approach built around the principle that “*it could happen here*”.

The safeguarding curriculum is designed to:

- Equip pupils with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to keep themselves and others safe
- Promote physical, emotional, mental, and online safety
- Foster a culture where pupils feel safe to speak, ask questions, and seek help
- Promote British Values, equality, respect, and tolerance
- Support early identification of risk and prevent harm, abuse, exploitation, and radicalisation.

2. Curriculum Structure and Delivery

Safeguarding is embedded rather than standalone, thoughtfully mapped through:

- PSHE / RSHE
- Computing (Online Safety)
- Wider curriculum links
- Collective Worship, Assemblies, and Enrichment Days
- Visitors, and external agencies

We emphasise age-appropriate teaching, with flexibility for:

- Small group or 1:1 support
- Contextual safeguarding responses
- Personalised approaches for vulnerable pupils and those with SEND

3. Key Safeguarding Themes Covered

Jigsaw PSHE supports our safeguarding curriculum through a progressive PSHE programme that helps children learn how to stay safe, healthy and emotionally well.

Through regular lessons, children develop an understanding of:

- healthy relationships
- online safety
- bullying and respectful behaviour

- recognising risks
- managing emotions
- identifying trusted adults and asking for help

The programme also promotes positive relationships, emotional wellbeing, resilience and pupil voice, helping to create a safe and supportive school culture where children feel listened to and valued.

In addition, the My Happy Mind programme strengthens this provision by explicitly teaching children about mental health, self-esteem, and emotional regulation. It helps pupils understand how their brains work, develop positive habits for wellbeing, and build resilience through practical strategies such as self-awareness, gratitude and goal setting. This complements Jigsaw by embedding consistent, age-appropriate language and tools for wellbeing across the school, further supporting safeguarding by helping children to recognise their emotions, manage challenges, and seek help when needed.

Jigsaw supports the delivery of statutory Relationships and Health Education and helps prepare children to stay safe both in and outside of school.

The safeguarding curriculum across The Vine Schools consistently addresses the following thematic strands:

a) Personal Safety & Wellbeing

- Body awareness and privacy
- Managing feelings and emotional regulation
- Mental health awareness
- Identifying trusted adults and help-seeking strategies

b) Relationships, Respect & Behaviour

- Healthy friendships and family relationships
- Anti-bullying (including cyberbullying)
- Respect, consent, and boundaries
- Challenging stereotypes and prejudice
- Equality, diversity, and inclusion

c) Online Safety & Digital Literacy

- Safe use of technology and devices
- Privacy, passwords, and data sharing
- Social media awareness

- Online grooming and exploitation
- Media manipulation and critical thinking

d) Risk Awareness & Physical Safety

- Road, rail, water, and fire safety
- First aid and emergency response
- Medicines and household safety
- School visits and environmental risks
- Bikeability, swimming, and outdoor learning safety

e) Wider Safeguarding Risks (Upper KS2)

- Substance misuse (including vaping)
- Peer pressure and risk-taking
- Knife crime awareness
- Laws, justice, and responsible citizenship

4. Teaching Approaches and Learning Culture

The Vine Schools share a commitment to creating safe, open, and supportive learning environments, characterised by:

- Frequent opportunities for pupil voice
- Clear behaviour expectations underpinned by restorative approaches
- Regular reinforcement of school values
- Trusted adult systems and reporting mechanisms
- Sensitive handling of difficult or potentially triggering content

5. Responding to Local Contextual Safeguarding Themes

Our safeguarding curriculum is responsive and continually adapted to reflect the specific needs and risks within our school community. We actively identify and respond to emerging local contextual safeguarding themes through a range of intelligence and evidence sources, including:

- Ongoing safeguarding monitoring and recording
- Regular safeguarding team meetings and professional supervision
- Pupil voice, including surveys and discussions

- Attendance patterns and wider pastoral concerns
- Conversations with parents and carers
- Local intelligence, including Wiltshire and SVPP updates
- Our knowledge and understanding of our families and wider community

This information enables us to identify trends, emerging risks, and priority areas for development. In response, we adapt our curriculum, assemblies, targeted interventions, and wider pastoral support to ensure that safeguarding education remains relevant, timely, and effective.

By doing so, we ensure that pupils are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to keep themselves safe in the context of the risks they are most likely to encounter.

6. Enrichment, Partnerships & External Support

Safeguarding learning is strengthened through:

- External agencies such as the NSPCC, Switched on Rail Safety, police, fire service, medical professionals, and voluntary sector partners
- Junior Good Citizen
- National and school-based awareness events (e.g. Safer Internet Day, Anti-Bullying Week, Mental Health Week)
- Parent information, particularly around online safety
- Use of specialist programmes and resources (e.g. PANTS, first aid training)

7. Alignment with Statutory Guidance

All safeguarding curriculum provision across The Vine Schools is aligned with:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education
- Prevent Duty and anti-radicalisation requirements
- Wider safeguarding legislation and local authority guidance

Schools maintain robust systems for recording, monitoring, and responding to concerns and work closely with families and external agencies where appropriate.

Summary Statement

Across The Vine Schools, safeguarding is explicit, progressive, and deeply embedded within the taught and lived curriculum. Through consistent themes, age-appropriate delivery, and strong relationships, pupils are empowered to understand risk, protect themselves and others, and grow into safe, respectful, and informed members of society.