



WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD

If you are worried about a child's safety, please do not hesitate to contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputies straightaway.

Bedford Borough Integrated Front Door
(children's social services) 01234 718700
Out of hours – 0300 3008123

If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police on 999

Meet the Designated Safeguarding Team:

The Safeguarding Team oversee and coordinate all aspects of the school's work to ensure that children are kept safe.

safeguarding@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Designated Safeguarding Lead
Head of Year Nine:
Mr Will Atkinson
atkinsonw@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Head of Year Seven:
Mrs Anthea Jones
jonesa@goldington.beds.sch.uk

School Safeguarding Governor:
Mrs Kate Reynier
reynierk@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Special Educational Needs Coordinator:
Mr Sailesh Roopnarain
roopnarains@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Eight:
Mr Michael Lincoln
lincolnm@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Ten:
Mr James Pinkney
pinkneyj@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Eleven:
Mr Liam Hall
hall@goldington.beds.sch.uk

All can be contacted via the school office or on 01234 261516

For a copy of our school's Child Protection Policy, please visit the Safeguarding page on our [school website](#)

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the seventeenth edition of the newsletter from the Goldington Academy Safeguarding Team. Our aim is to bring you all the latest, relevant help and advice on issues that we feel will be of importance to you. In this issue, the main focus is on **visitors to Goldington Academy** and **persistent and severe absenteeism**.

Safeguarding children is everybody's responsibility. If you have concerns about the safety or welfare of any child, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

We hope that you will find the information in this newsletter useful. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information or support with any of the topics raised.

Yours sincerely

Mr W Atkinson
Assistant Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Visitors to Goldington Academy

Many visitors come to Goldington Academy and may include parents, professionals, interviewees etc. Visitors must always enter the school site through the main reception and must sign in through our Inventory system. First time visitors must read our Code of Conduct. All visitors must wear a visitor's badge at all times. Any visitor on site who is not wearing a badge will be asked to sign in and wear a visitor's badge by a member of staff.

Some visitors to school will present an enhanced DBS check or reassurances from their employer that they have been properly vetted to work alone on a school site. In this case, visitors will be given a green lanyard to wear. Where checks have not been presented to the reception staff, visitors will be given a red lanyard to wear and must be supervised by a member of Goldington Academy staff whilst on the school site.

Do you know your visitor lanyards?



Visitors with a **GREEN** lanyard can work alone at Goldington Academy without supervision.



Visitors with a **RED** lanyard **MUST** be accompanied by a member of Goldington Academy staff whilst in the school.

Should you have any concerns about a visitor, please speak with the nearest member of staff as soon as possible.

Persistent and severe absence

For most young people, school is the best place to be during term time. Socialising and learning ensure that most children are happy and that their developmental needs are being met. Being in school allows young people to engage with a range of experiences both inside and outside of the classroom.

Persistent absence

Any child who has missed more than ten percent of school is considered to be a persistent absentee. There is a clear link between attainment at key stage and absence levels – pupils who are absent more attain less compared to those pupils who are in school more often.

Severe absence

Any pupil who is absent for fifty percent of the school year or more is considered to be severely absent. Being severely absent means that learning is severely hindered and often pupils who are severely absent lose contact with friendship circles, meaning that they do not often socialise outside of the immediate family. This hinders social development.

Goldington Academy's attendance target is **96%**, and we update parents on their child's attendance through a number of channels, e.g., through interim reports. We understand that sometimes children may not be able to attend school for different reasons, perhaps if they are too ill or there is an extreme circumstance. Please contact the school office to inform us if your child cannot attend school for any reason.

For further information please visit [How to improve your child's school attendance and where to get support - The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](https://www.blog.gov.uk/2019/05/21/how-to-improve-your-childs-school-attendance-and-where-to-get-support/)

What Parents and Carers Need to Know about Disney+ (nationalcollege.com)

In 2019, media titan Disney launched its own streaming platform, intending to challenge the likes of Netflix and Amazon Prime. Giving (often exclusive) access to shows and movies such as the legendary studio's animated classics and the revered Star Wars back catalogue. Disney+ has been a colossal success, proving popular with viewers of all ages.

Despite Disney's reputation for wholesome, child-friendly content, however, there is far more material available on their platform, some of which is aimed exclusively at adults. This could easily fly under the radar, given the company's general image. Our #WakeUpWednesday guide has useful tips to help your family sit back, relax and enjoy what Disney+ has to offer.

<http://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/goldington-academy>

Once you have registered, you will be able to access the "Online Safety for Parents and Carers' course" and National Online Safety's Resources (which includes a wide range of online platform guides on the latest social media channels and games). This aims to help empower parents with the knowledge to protect their children from the dangers of the internet.

Early Help Service

The Early Help service is made up of six Early Help professionals who support schools to co-ordinate early help for pupils and their families. The Early Help service includes the following teams:

- Adolescent response team
- Early Help Hub
- Education Welfare
- Family Information Service
- Family Support Hub
- Inclusion Support
- Parenting Team
- Strengthening Families Team

For further information, please visit [Early Help Assessment - Overview | Bedford Borough Council](#) or speak to any member of the school's safeguarding team.