



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

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:

Mr Neil Davies

daviesn@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Special Educational Needs &/or Disabilities Coordinator:

Miss Claire Johnstone

jonstonec@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Eight:

Mrs Louise McCarthy-Gardner

mccarthy-gardnerl@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Nine:

Mr Michael Lincoln

lincolnm@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Ten:

Mr James Pinkney

pinkneykj@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Eleven:

Mr Liam Hall

halll@goldington.beds.sch.uk

All can be contacted via the school office 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 fourth edition of the safeguarding 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 advice for parents/carers on the safe use of **private tutors** and the impact of **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)** on **young people**.

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

Using private tutors – considerations for parents/carers

As families consider additional academic support, especially in KS4, it is important to understand the responsibilities and risks associated with using private tutors. While private tutoring can be a valuable tool to boost confidence, close learning gaps, or support exam/test preparation, it is largely unregulated. This means that parents/ carers must take extra care when selecting someone to work with their child.

The NSPCC and DfE recommend that parents/carers:

- Ask for and check references and DBS certificates.
- Check the tutor's qualifications and experience, especially for the subject and age group.
- Ensure the tutor understands safeguarding responsibilities, particularly if tutoring takes place in the home or online.
- Ensure tutoring takes place in a safe, supervised environment.
- Avoid leaving children alone with a tutor unless absolutely necessary and appropriate safeguards are in place.
- Ensure children know how to raise concerns and feel comfortable doing so.

For further information, please visit [Finding a tutor for your child | NSPCC](#)

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

ACEs are “highly stressful, and potentially traumatic, events or situations that occur during childhood and/or adolescence. They can be a single event, or prolonged threats to, and breaches of, the young person’s safety, security, trust or bodily integrity.” (Young Minds, 2018). The impact of ACEs on a child’s mental and physical health are long lasting.

Examples of ACEs:

- Physical abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Living with someone who abused drugs
- Living with someone who abused alcohol
- Exposure to domestic violence
- Living with someone who has gone to prison
- Living with someone with serious mental illness
- Losing a parent through divorce, death or abandonment

If you have any concerns about the impact of ACEs on your child, please contact a member of the school’s safeguarding team.

For further information please visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XHgLYI9KZ-A>

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about Snapchat

[What You Need to Know about Snapchat | Free E-Safety guide](#)

As one of the most popular messaging apps available, Snapchat sees an enormous amount of usage across the globe – with a significant number of those utilising the platform being under 18. For that reason, it’s important to understand the potential risks to younger users when spending time on this app.

Of course, it can be difficult to identify every hazard associated with the platform, let alone what can be done to mitigate these concerns. Our guide lays out the key online safety risks of Snapchat, as well as how to safeguard young people while they use the app.

<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:

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|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Adolescent response team | • Family Support Hub |
| • Early Help Hub | • Inclusion Support |
| • Education Welfare | • Parenting Team |
| • Family Information Service | • 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.