



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

johnstonec@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Eight:

Mr Michael Lincoln

lincolnm@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Nine:

Mrs Louise McCarthy-Gardner

mccarthy-gardnerl@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Ten:

Mr Liam Hall

halll@goldington.beds.sch.uk

Head of Year Eleven:

Mr James Pinkney

pinkneyj@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](#)

Welcome to the fifth 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, we focus on **using private tutors** and the impact of **Adverse Childhood Experiences** 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.

Safeguarding children is the action of promoting the welfare of children and protecting them from harm. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Every single person who has contact with children and families has a role to play.

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>

Top Tips for Adopting Safe & Healthy Online Habits

[Free E-Safety Guide | Safe & Healthy Online Habits](#)

Every year, Comic Relief goes all out to help people, both in the UK and internationally, who are going through a tough time. In our area of specialism, we at National Online Safety are acutely aware that for children and young people in particular, many of those difficult moments increasingly originate from and unfold in the digital world.

From inappropriate content to the toxic behaviour of others, online harms can do long-lasting damage. That is why we are passionate about helping this new generation to build their digital resilience, equipping them to deal with digital dangers. This #WakeUpWednesday guide has a selection of tips for encouraging safe and healthy online habits.

In this guide, we have compiled a list of useful suggestions which could help you and your family strike the right balance and build digital resilience.

<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.