



Safeguarding Newsletter—Summer 1 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the summer term. I hope you all had a lovely Easter.

All staff at Belle Vue have a responsibility to safeguard children, but just a reminder to you that we have the following designated staff in place, with responsibility for safeguarding:

Mrs. C Davies—Designated Safeguarding lead

Mrs. S Richardson—Deputy Safeguarding lead

Mrs. A Perrett—Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Mrs. C Mulligan—Deputy Safeguarding lead

Governor responsible for safeguarding: Mrs. S Rose

If you have any concerns regarding the safeguarding of a child/children, please contact the school immediately on 01384 389900 or email info@belle-vue.dudley.sch.uk. **If you suspect a child is in immediate danger please ring 999. If you have a concern during holiday time, please email safeguarding@belle-vue.dudley.sch.uk**

Key Information

- ◆ Safeguarding is a top priority.
- ◆ All staff in school follow specific policies and procedures to ensure the safety of all children.
- ◆ We have a safeguarding section on our school website, where you can seek further information.
- ◆ Raising awareness about online safety is safeguarding.
- ◆ Ensuring good attendance is safeguarding.
- ◆ Informing us if you feel you are struggling and would like some support.



We will ask questions and this is important:

It is our job to ask questions, so please don't feel offended if we do.

Some examples of when we may ask you a question include:

- ◆ When a child tells us something and we need to find out a bit more information.
- ◆ If your child has a bruise or mark which we were not aware of.
- ◆ Your child's behaviour changes e.g. they become withdrawn.
- ◆ You are consistently late bringing or collecting your child.
- ◆ Your child's attendance is poor.
- ◆ We feel you may be struggling and would like some support.

Please know that we are not here to judge, but to ensure the safety of all children, by following the policies

Ways you can help:

- ◆ Letting us know if your child has a bruise/mark and what caused it.
- ◆ Informing us of any changes at home which you feel may impact upon your child in school.
- ◆ Informing us if you feel you are struggling and would like some support – we are here to help!



All safeguarding concerns that are either identified within school or reported to us, along with any action(s) taken, are logged on an online platform called 'CPOMS', so that we have a detailed and accurate record for each child. If your child/children move to a new school, their records are sent with them via internal transfer.

How else do we keep children safe in school?

- ◆ Locks on main doors and gates into school
- ◆ Signing in system for visitors + badge ID system
- ◆ All staff safeguarding trained
- ◆ DSL on site every day
- ◆ A system of safer recruitment – including background checks on all staff
- ◆ First aid training
- ◆ Fire alarm testing & practises
- ◆ Safeguarding policies in place across school
- ◆ Safeguarding is addressed with children through the curriculum including how to keep safe online
- ◆ Themed assemblies
- ◆ School values - Establish, Nurture, Grow
- ◆ Our Belle Vue Way
- ◆ Family support worker who is ELSA trained

Plus much more!

Safeguarding at Belle Vue Primary School



Governing bodies should ensure that the school designates an appropriate senior member of staff to take lead responsibility for child protection. Key aspects of the 'Designated Safeguarding Lead' role include:

- ◆ Making sure all staff are aware how to raise safeguarding concerns
- ◆ Ensuring all staff understand the symptoms of child abuse and neglect
- ◆ Referring any concerns to social care
- ◆ Monitoring children who are the subject of child protection plans
- ◆ Maintaining accurate and secure child protection records
- ◆ Raising awareness of the school's safeguarding policies and procedures, and ensuring they are implemented and reviewed regularly

Mrs Rose, Safeguarding Governor, meets with Mrs Davies termly for a safeguarding update and to check the school's Single Central Record.

Attendance ladder

How close are you to 100%

100%	Perfection	0 days off school	0 lessons missed
99%	Excellent	2 days off school each year	10 hours of education missed
97%	Good	5 days off school each year	25 hours of education missed
94%	Slight concern	11 days off school each year	55 hours of education missed
90% Persistently Absent	Concerned	19 days off school each year	95 hours of education missed
85% Persistently Absent	Very concerned	29 days off school each year	145 hours of education missed

Why is good attendance important?

Good attendance and punctuality are vital for success at school, and to establish positive life habits that are necessary for future success. Through regular attendance, pupils can:

- ◆ Build friendships and develop social groups.
- ◆ Develop life skills.
- ◆ Engage in essential learning and other school social events.
- ◆ Achieve to their full potential.
- ◆ Minimise the risk of engaging in anti-social behaviour and becoming victims or perpetrators of crime.

All parents should promote good attendance and work in partnership with their child's school to provide a cohesive approach.

We discourage parents from booking holidays during term time, regardless of the reason. We appreciate the impact this has during financially difficult times. We also acknowledge parental annual working patterns and the positive impact of spending time together as a family. Holidays, weddings and parental appointments will not be authorised.

Absences

When a pupil is absent from school, this will be classified as either 'authorised' or 'unauthorised'.

The Headteacher decides when absences are authorised.

Authorised absences are only permitted for valid reasons such as:

- ◆ Illness.
- ◆ Medical or dental appointments.
- ◆ Religious observances.
- ◆ Family bereavement.

Wherever possible, parents should always try to arrange medical and dental appointments during school holidays or after school hours.

Unauthorised absences:

Unauthorised absences are those which the school does not consider essential or reasonable. Unauthorised absences can include:

- ◆ Forgetting school term dates.
- ◆ Oversleeping.
- ◆ Absences which have not been explained.
- ◆ Arriving at school after the register has closed.
- ◆ Leaving school for no reason during the day
- ◆ Keeping pupils off school unnecessarily or without explanation.
- ◆ Day trips or family outings.
- ◆ Birthdays and holidays.
- ◆ Truancy before or during the school day.