

SAFEGUARDING at



Shrewsbury Academy
Part of the Marches Academy Trust



Introduction

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from significant harm.

Safeguarding means:

- Protecting children from abuse and maltreatment.
- Preventing harm to children's health or development.
- Ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

Shrewsbury Academy takes safeguarding very seriously; the safety and welfare of our students is paramount. This document sits alongside our MMAT Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures and outlines our school specific safeguarding processes and how we support our children and families.



SUPPORT

- Meet our team
- Available support
- How to access support

Meet our team

Students can access support from any staff member at Shrewsbury Academy. Staff will refer on to our dedicated and designated safeguarding team,



Shrewsbury Academy Designated Leads for Safeguarding and Child Protection

	NAME	Title		NAME	Title
	Mr J Taylor	Head Teacher DSL		Mrs S Bellis	Safeguarding Governor
	Mrs L Howells	Director of Safeguarding		Mrs R Powell	Pastoral and DDSL
	Mrs A Grant	Assistant Head – DT for P/CLA		Mrs R Pitt	Teacher / DDSL
	Mr M Lawrenson	Teacher / DDSL		Mrs A Lockett	Director of Attendance/DDSL

PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THESE MEMBERS OF STAFF IF YOU HAVE ANY SAFEGUARDING OR CHILD PROTECTION CONCERNS or contact SHR_DSL@shr.mmat.co.uk

Available Support

Support is available to students and families in respect of any barriers to education through external and internal services, we have a dedicated safeguarding and pastoral team in school, based in our pastoral hub called Harbour. The team are happy to support with any questions or queries.

Students can access support in school via any member of staff in person, email or by posting any worries or concerns in our designated worry box or bullying box, which are monitored daily.

Shrewsbury Academy are proud to be able to work with some external agencies throughout the year, not just term time, and believe that access to support should be available throughout school holidays.

We can offer various programmes of support through school counsellors, school nurses, equine therapy and mental health support, to name a few. We also have excellent relationships with external support agencies and can refer as required to ensure that our students have access to appropriate support when required.

Shrewsbury Academy is the first school in Shropshire to successfully achieve a Bronze Award in recognition of Young Carers and the support we offer at School.



We run a free breakfast club each morning, open to all students which is free of charge. This is supported by the National Schools Breakfast Programme.

How to Access Support

Support can be accessed by students and families through email, telephone or in person. Our knowledgeable pastoral and safeguarding teams are happy to discuss and offer advice at any time. The pastoral team can be contacted by email shrpastoral@shr.mmat.co.uk or by phone through our main school line 01743 276700.

External support is also available through the signposting section of this appendix or by contacting Shrewsbury Academy.

If you have immediate concerns about the safety and/or wellbeing of a child or young person out of school hours you can access support via **999, 101** or Compass **0345 678 9021**.



Everybody's Responsibility

At Shrewsbury Academy, safeguarding is the responsibility of "everyone". Working alongside The Marches Trust values and Achievement through Caring approach, it enables us to ensure safeguarding is at the heart of all we do. All employed staff are DBS checked and can be identified by their grey lanyard and identification badge.

Visitors sign in and out at the school's main reception, via our electronic sign in system. and will hand in their mobile phone which will be locked away securely during their visit. Visitors will be issued with a red lanyard and must always be supervised by a member of Shrewsbury Academy staff. Professional visitors will again sign in and out of our

electronic system and will be issued with a purple lanyard.

All concerns, regardless of how trivial are taken seriously at Shrewsbury Academy.

Induction and Training

Staff

All staff are required to complete mandatory training in respect of Safeguarding and Child Protection. All staff are aware of appropriate policies and legislation which they commit to work alongside. This training is monitored and regularly updated. Designated Safeguarding staff receive additional, specialist training and CPD opportunities to develop and maintain the knowledge required.

All employees are responsible for safeguarding children and young people and promoting their welfare. This means that all Trust employees are required to take action to protect our children and young people from maltreatment, prevent impairment of children and young people's health or development and ensure that they grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care. This will enable all children and young people at Shrewsbury Academy to have the best outcomes and the ability to reach their true potential.

Employees are expected to demonstrate consistently high standards of personal and professional conduct.

Our safer school's accreditation, which is reviewed annually, shows the dedication and commitment Shrewsbury Academy implements to ensure our school is a secure environment for all.

Students

Shrewsbury Academy delivers safeguarding to children and young people through a robust PHSE programme. Assemblies create opportunities to deliver important and current messages.

Information is regularly shared with students through tutors and assemblies.

External agencies empower and enhance any targeted support identified and collaboratively to support the culture of safeguarding at Shrewsbury Academy.

Students are encouraged to talk openly with no judgement in respect of concerns for themselves or others.

Families

Regular communication, awareness and resources are provided through emails and bulletins.

Families are encouraged to talk openly with no judgement in respect of concerns for themselves or others.



Trauma Informed School (TIS)

Shrewsbury Academy has been working collectively with TIS UK (Trauma Informed Schools UK).

A trauma informed school is one that can support children and teenagers who suffer with trauma or mental health problems and whose troubled behaviour acts as a barrier to their learning.

Staff at Shrewsbury Academy have undertaken training through TIS UK and continue to support students to overcome any barriers they may face, recognising that behaviours can be a form of communication. Trauma informed practice ensures that Shrewsbury Academy puts the emotional and psychological needs of our students first. This holistic approach addresses trauma's underlying cause instead of punishing behaviour to enable us to provide a safe and supportive environment for our students.

A trauma-informed approach is about balancing clear boundaries with an understanding and awareness of the impact trauma can have on a child or young person.

A trauma-informed approach is an ethos that impacts every single relationship in school beyond just that of teacher-to-student. It can extend to what support teachers might expect, especially when dealing with challenging behaviour, as their wellbeing and sense of safety must also be considered.



Shrewsbury Academy is a vibrant learning community, with caring and forward-looking staff, energetic and thoughtful students, a proactive governing body and an ever-developing cross section of community partners. Students aged 11- 16, are placed firmly at the centre of all we do; we pride ourselves on offering a wealth of opportunities allowing all in the learning community to experience success in many ways and at a variety of levels. Our challenge therefore is to constantly seek out new ways to innovate from within the classroom and outside it, as we believe firmly in the need to keep moving forward, so that our young people have the best possible experiences and life opportunities.

We believe in our CARE values, and we all work hard every day to achieve them:

- Co-operation
- Aspiration
- Resilience
- Excellence

These values tie in and work collaboratively with the Marches Academy Trust values.

PSHE and RSE have a learning journey which maps delivery Yr7-11. Topics include Mental Health, Online Safety, Respect, Diversity, Healthy Lifestyles, British Values, Consent and Sexual/Relationship Advice. Some of these topics are delivered via drop down days. The school has a EDIB group led by a designated adult who is our EDIB Ambassador. We are proud of our successful LGBTQ+ community, called Skittle Squad, our M&M club supporting our English as additional language and ethnic minority students and Supernovas supporting our neurodiverse students. All of these are student lead groups, offering a safe space for students.

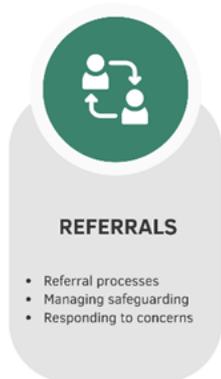
Behaviour routines are taught through the consistency in the classroom protocol. This includes lesson grading and expectations of behaviour. Each classroom has the 'Achievement Through Caring' behaviour poster (caring for yourself, caring for others and caring for the community).

Weekly assemblies respond to live issues in the year group, school, community or nationally.

The role of the form tutor is crucial as the advocate for the child and link to home. Tutor time reinforces personal development issues. Harbour, our pastoral hub, is at the centre of the school to support students who want to report issues and offer a space for any who may have barriers to learning.

Our enrichment opportunities promote healthy lifestyles, self-esteem, and independence. For some the opportunities available through visits, trips and activities can be a once in a lifetime opportunity and experience. Our enrichment opportunities are available through session 0 and session 6 (before and after school) and offer a wide range of activities to all. Break and lunch time activities are also available to students.

We provide regular opportunities for staff, student, and parent feedback.



Managing Safeguarding

The Designated Safeguarding Lead and Director of Safeguarding at Shrewsbury Academy oversee safeguarding concerns and ensure they are addressed.

We use a system called CPOMs (Child Protection Online Management System) to manage and monitor safeguarding referrals and concerns.

Students

Support is available for any child and young person during school hours from all members of staff. Safeguarding students is everybody's responsibility.

If a child or young person has any concerns or worries about themselves or about any other member of the school community, they can raise these with any adult in school.

Staff will listen carefully to children and young people when they are making disclosures or passing on information and will refer this to a member of the safeguarding team.

When speaking to someone who has a concern:

- We make sure the person speaking up feels they're being listened to and supported.
- We don't promise to keep information confidential but will only share with people who need and have the right to know.
- We tell the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy about any concerns so they can decide what the next steps are.
- We write a clear record in CPOMS of what we have been told, seen, or heard.
- The (D)DSL decides on the next steps.

Staff will also raise any concerns they have about children and young people via the same systems. All our staff are trained in safeguarding Level 1 as a minimum, Prevent trained and are kept up to date and informed around updates relating to KCSIE as well as local concerns and national legislation and updates. Staff are encouraged to refer anything that may be a concern. Our safeguarding team will triage concerns and provide support and advice on referrals. What we do next depends on the concern and level of risk which we assess using the [Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership Threshold Document](#).

If families have any concerns, they can contact any member of our safeguarding team or pastoral team.

When referrals are made a member of our safeguarding team will review it and decide on the most appropriate course of action. This might involve speaking to families or referring to external agencies such as Compass, Police. We will always keep our children and young people's best interests at the centre of all our safeguarding procedures.

We will communicate outcomes of referrals where this is appropriate within information sharing rules.



Community

Shrewsbury Academy aspires to be an integral part of our community and has embedded strong relationships with local agencies, businesses and continue the journey to ensure our school is at the heart of our local community.

We pride ourselves on building strong professional relationships with all our stakeholders, this includes families, outside agencies such as social care, Strengthening Families, and the Police. We understand that our children and young people can only thrive when school and the community work together.

Families often have little influence over what happens when their children and young people are away from home. We believe that working collaboratively with children, families, and the local community, business, and agencies, we can ensure that our demographic is a safe environment for all.

Both nationally, and in our local area we are aware that cases of criminal exploitation, anti-social behaviour alongside children at risk of contextualised safeguarding, are on the rise, for us in Shrewsbury we have seen a small number of the community involved in such activity. Safeguarding is the priority for us at Shrewsbury Academy, and we recognise that education is key in preventing our students from harm and raising awareness of risks is paramount.

We run our own food bank scheme called S4T – “Something for Tea”. This free and confidential support is open to all, with no criteria to access this service.

S4T provides a bag of food items to support when required. We are thankful for all donations from agencies, services, community, families and staff.

Please do not hesitate to contact lucy.howells@shr.mmat.co.uk or rachel.powell@shr.mmat.co.uk to access.

We are also able to refer our school community to local food bank services if required.



We have signed up to be part of the Neighbourhood Watch Community Safety Charter and as such is making a commitment to take positive concrete steps to contribute to making our area safer for everyone. Neighbourhood watch has created the community safety charter to better understand how different organisations and individuals working together for a common aim, can help reduce incidents of harassment, anti-social behaviour and intimidation in public spaces and ensure those who are affected are given reassurance and support they need.



We take part in Operation Encompass



Operation Encompass

Our school is involved in a national project, which is being run locally in partnership with Shropshire Council and West Mercia Police.

Operation Encompass is a process whereby the Domestic Abuse Education Co-ordinator will inform a Designated Safeguarding Lead if a child or young person has experienced any domestic abuse incident. This will be done prior to the start of the next school day. Information sharing between professional agencies allows school staff to provide emotional and practical support to their pupils experiencing domestic abuse.

Domestic abuse can broadly be defined as “any incident or pattern is defined as behaviour of a person towards another person if they are aged 16 or over and are personally connected to each other and the behaviour is abusive. Behaviour is abusive if it consists of any of the following - physical or sexual abuse, violent or threatening behaviour, controlling or coercive behaviour, economic abuse, psychological, emotional or other abuse”

The definition also identifies children as victims of domestic abuse if they see or hear, or experience the effect of, the abuse and are related to either person as above.

This can include, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse – psychological, physical, sexual, financial and emotional.’

Operation Encompass ensures that a member of the school staff, usually the Designated Safeguarding Lead, is given special training, to enable them to liaise with Domestic Abuse Education Co-ordinator in receiving and using the information that has been shared, in confidence.

The sharing of details under Operation Encompass is permitted under Statutory Safeguarding Legislation and in respect of local authority schools under the Crime and Disorder Act (for the prevention of crime) and doing so without the child’s or parent’s consent is permissible under both pieces of legislation and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Further information can be found at <https://www.operationencompass.org/>

SIGNPOSTING 

Support Services

Compass

Compass is the front door for children’s social care for receiving new enquiries regarding concerns for the welfare or protection of children and young people in Shropshire. Compass promotes the offer of early help to children and families in the first instance, where it’s safe to do so.

Website: <https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/early-help/practitioners/compass-childrens-social-care/>
Tel: 0345 678 9021

Shropshire Early Help

Early help offer early intervention to support a child, young person or their family as soon as a problem emerges. This can be required at any stage in a child's life, from pre-birth to adulthood, and applies to any problem or need that the family can't deal with alone.

Website: www.shropshire.gov.uk/early-help

To make a referral: 0345 678 9021 or 0345 678 9040 if out of office hours

Shropshire Family Information Service

Information on all aspects of family life for parents and carers of children aged 0-19 in Shropshire.

Resource packs are available, and there is an online directory of over 2000 local services, including childminding and out-of-school activities.

Website: www.shropshire.gov.uk/early-help/practitioners/the-early-help-offer-provision-of-earlyhelp-services/family-information-service

Children's Society

National charity working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect. This includes specialist support that empowers young people to make positive changes and rediscover their hope, including the Climb service. As well local services, their website also offers valuable information for young people and professionals.

Website: www.childrensociety.org.uk

NSPCC

The UK's leading children's charity, consisting of a range of services and training. A helpline is available for young people, or adults who are concerned about a young person. Additionally, performing a search for exploitation on their website brings up a number of articles relating to which are useful for providing an overview of different types of exploitation.

Website: www.nspcc.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 800 5000 (for an adult concerned about a child) or 0800 1111 (for young people)

or email help@nspcc.org.uk

Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 8:00am to 10:00pm or Sat - Sun 9:00am to 6:00pm

Childline

Offers a free and confidential helpline for young people up to 19 years old, one-to-one chats with a counsellor is also available, or you can email them for advice by setting up and account. Their website also has some useful online resources including games and videos.

Website: www.childline.org.uk

Helpline: 0800 111

Shrewsbury Food Bank Shrewsbury Food Bank organises and distributes parcels of donated food, toiletries, cleaning products and household items to individuals and families

Please contact a member of the Pastoral Team who are more than happy to refer you.

Child Exploitation

Branch Project

The Branch Project works with children and young people who have experienced Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) or are worried about it.

Website: www.wmrsasc.org.uk/the-branch-project

Purple Leaf

Purple Leaf work with young people who have exhibited or are at risk of exhibiting harmful sexual behaviour. They also provide education and training courses for professionals.

Website: www.purpleleaf.org.uk

Enquiries: 01905 677444 or email enquiries@purpleleaf.org.uk

Catch 22

Catch22 designs and delivers services that build resilience and aspiration in people of all ages and within communities across the UK.

Website: <https://www.catch-22.org.uk/>

Support for families

Early Help / Targeted Early Help

Offer early intervention to support a young person or their family as soon as a problem emerges.

Website: www.shropshire.gov.uk/early-help

To make a referral: 0345 678 9021 or 0345 678 9040 if out of office hours

PACE (Parents Against Child Exploitation)

PACE provides one-to-one telephone advice & support to parents & facilitates meetings between parents, as well as offering advice & support when pursuing disruption & prosecution of perpetrators.

Website: www.paceuk.info

Enquiries: 0113 240 3040

SPACE

Offer help and guidance to parents of exploited children.

Website: www.bespaceaware.co.uk

Enquiries: Email email@bespaceaware.co.uk

PEGS (Parent Educational Growth Support)

PEGS support parents who experience child-to-parent abuse - including physical, emotional, psychological, verbal, sexual or financial abuse.

Website: www.pegssupport.co.uk

Enquiries: Email hello@pegssupport.com

Parenting Team Shropshire

In Shropshire, we recognise how important the role of parents and carers is, and how difficult that role can be without the knowledge of appropriate strategies that can be used to deal with everyday parenting challenges.

Website: <https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/the-send-local-offer/early-help/the-parenting-team/>

Substance Misuse

With you

Support service for any young people who are using drugs or alcohol. An allocated worker will work with the young person towards their goals with the aim of reducing their substance misuse. A referral to the service can be completed by professionals by completing a Smarter screening tool.

Website: www.wearewithyou.org.uk/services/shropshire

Enquiries: 01743 294700 or email srpinfo@wearewithyou.org.uk

Frank

Provides honest information about drugs, including an online search facility as well as a 24 hour helpline.

Website: www.talktofrank.com

Helpline: 03001 23 6600, text 82111 or email frank@talktofrank.com

Opening hours: 24 hours

Families Anonymous

For family members and friends affected by another's abuse of mind-altering substances, or related behavioural problems. FA has groups spread throughout the country, which meet regularly.

Website: www.famanon.org.uk

Helpline: 0207 4984 680

Shropshire Recovery Partnership

Free treatment service for any adults across Shropshire who have a problem with drugs or alcohol. Services included individual support with a keyworker, group sessions, and access to detox and rehabilitation services.

Website: <https://shropshire.gov.uk/shropshire-choices/i-need-help/care-and-support-for-different-conditions/drugs-and-alcohol-shropshire-recovery-partnership-srp>

Enquiries: 01743 294700 or email shropshireinfo@addaction.org

Health and Wellbeing

Bee U

Bee U is the NHS emotional health & wellbeing service for young people up to the age of 25, who live in Shropshire or Telford & Wrekin. Referrals can be made by social care, education & health professionals. Parental consent is required prior to making a referral.

Website: <https://camhs.mpft.nhs.uk/beeU>

Enquiries: 0808 196 4501 or email 025spa@mpft.nhs.uk

Kooth

Online mental wellbeing community, which offers free & anonymous support for young people.

Website: www.kooth.com

Young Minds

Provides support & guidance to young people around their mental health, a parents' support phoneline is also available.

Website: www.youngminds.org.uk

Helpline for parents: 0808 802 5544

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 9:30am to 4:00pm

School Nurse Support

School Nurses offer services to school aged children between the ages of 5 to 19 years old and children 5-25 with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) who attend local state schools and some special schools. The School Nursing Service works closely with The Health Visiting Service who work with children and their families aged 0-5 years.

Website: <https://www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk/school-nurses-shropshire>

HEALTHFORTEENS

ChatHealth is a confidential text messaging service that enables children and young people (aged 11-19) to contact their local public health nursing (school nursing) team for confidential advice and support. You can get in touch for advice about any aspect of your physical or emotional health.

Website: <https://chathealth.nhs.uk/>

TXT UR School Nurse

Support in respect of Physical Health, Emotional Health

For confidential advice and support

07507330346

Headspace

App containing useful tools to improve emotional & mental wellbeing, including meditations & exercises. This is a paid app but a free trial is available, & the website also contains some articles which are free to read.

Website: www.headspace.com

Sexual Health Services Shropshire

Website: <https://openclinic.org.uk/clinics/severn-fields-health-village/>

Youth Service

Shropshire Youth Association

SYA are a registered charity which helps youth clubs in Shropshire to get set up and keep going. They also run youth clubs and deliver youth projects.

Website: www.sya.org.uk

Enquiries: 01743 730005 or email info@sya.org.uk

Online Safety

CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection)

CEOP's aim is to keep children safe from sexual abuse & grooming online, by giving advice. An online form can also be used to report directly to CEOP if something has happened online which has made a young person feel unsafe, scared or worried. The form can also be used by friends, family members or professionals who are worried about someone.

Website: www.ceop.police.uk

Internet Matters

Online safety hub, built with input from young people.

www.internetmatters.org/connecting-safely-online

Report Harmful Content

Reporting any harmful content you may come across online.

<https://reportharmfulcontent.com>

NSPCC Report Remove Tool

For a child or young person, having a sexual image or video of themselves shared online can be a distressing situation. This can be difficult for parents and carers too, but there are ways you can support your child. If they're under 18, they can use Report Remove.

Website: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-reporting/report-remove/>

Domestic Abuse

Shropshire Domestic Abuse Service (SDAS)

Local service for victims of domestic abuse in Shropshire. Professionals are able to make a referral, & there is also a helpline for victims or anyone worried about someone. Their website contains videos & a useful checklist tool for young people.

Website: www.shropsdas.org.uk

Helpline: 0300 303 1191

National Domestic Violence Helpline

Free 24 hour helpline for anyone suffering from domestic abuse. Their website also contains useful advice for victims, or for anyone who is worried about someone.

Website: www.nationaldomesticviolencehelpline.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 2000 247 or email helpline@womensaid.org.uk

Opening hours: 24 hours

Women's Aid

Provide practical advice & support to women & children who are experiencing domestic abuse.

Website: www.womensaid.org.uk

Enquiries: info@womensaid.org.uk

Men's Advice Line

Support for male victims of domestic abuse.

Website: www.mensadviceline.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 801 0327 or email info@mensadviceline.org.uk

Opening hours: Mon - Fri 9:00am to 8:00pm