

We want Airedale Academy to be a safe place. Staff at Airedale Academy will do everything they can to make sure you are protected and happy. To help them do this they have lots of rules to follow. This document is to help you understand what Safeguarding means to you and to help you decide what could be a “problem” and whom you should talk to.

Staff at Airedale Academy think that Safeguarding means that they should:

- Protect you from harm;
- Make sure nothing stops you being healthy or developing properly;
- Make sure you are safely looked after;
- Make sure you have the best life chances and can grow up happy and successful

Staff agree that to make sure they look after you they will:

- Make the school a friendly, welcoming and supportive place to spend time in
- Be there for you to talk to if you need to and know who to ask for help
- Give you safe messages in your lessons help you learn how to look after yourself both online and in the real world
- Have all the right rules in place to help look after you.

Staff in school can advise and guide you about things that happen in or out of school. When someone hurts you it can be called abuse. This is when someone does something to you that is harmful, unpleasant or painful like:

- If someone deliberately hits you, hurts you, injures you or humiliates you in different ways
- If someone says or does something that makes you feel bad about yourself or hurts your feelings which makes you feel scared, sad, upset or frightened
- If someone shouts, threatens, hits or hurts someone you love whilst you are around which makes you scared, unhappy or worried
- If someone doesn't take suitable care of you so you feel abandoned, lonely or neglected. You might not be able to eat or wash regularly, or you might not be able to come to school every day or on time If someone touches you in a way that you don't like for example touching your private parts.
- If someone makes you look at things which make you feel ashamed, embarrassed, uncomfortable or guilty. They may ask you to keep it a secret or give you presents.

It is important that you know...

- It is never your fault if someone is hurting or abusing you
- There is always someone who can help you
- If someone is hurting you, they might also be hurting someone else so it is important that you tell someone to make it stop

Abuse is never ok and you must always tell someone and they will help it to stop. You can talk to any member of staff, but you should know that there are a number of staff who are responsible for making sure you are safe and well cared for, People in school who can help you are: -

- Mrs Horsfield or Ms Kershaw in the POD
- Mr Dean (DSL)
- Your Heads of Year/ Progress Leaders
- Any of the Behaviour mentors
- Any of your teachers