



Inspiring Learners, Growing Together

Castlethorpe First School • North Crawley CE School • Sherington CE School • Stoke Goldington CE School
St Andrews CE Infant School • Newton Blossomville CE School

The Village Schools Federation aspires to nurture and inspire every child to experience life in all its fullness. Our schools are rooted in inclusive Christian values to enable all to flourish by building knowledge, confidence and resilience for the future. We strive to be the best we can be.

“Whatever we do, we work at it with all our heart”

Colossians 3:23

Village Schools Federation - Child protection statement

The Village Schools Federation is committed to the protection and safety of the children in our schools and their staff. We believe that it is always unacceptable for a child to experience abuse of any kind and recognises its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children by a commitment to practices which protect them. We understand that Child Protection and Safeguarding is everyone’s business and are vigilant at all times understanding that ‘it could happen here’.

We recognise that:

- the welfare of the child is paramount as is the welfare of all staff and members of the school community
- all children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm, abuse or exploitation
- working in partnership with children, their parent/carers and agencies is essential in promoting young people’s welfare.

The purpose of our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and Procedures, as well as linked policies is:

- To provide protection for the children and school members who attend our schools and to ensure children learn and develop in a safe environment in school and at home.
- To provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt when they suspect a child may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

Our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and linked policies apply to all staff, including The Senior Leadership Team and Governors, paid staff, volunteers and sessional workers, agency staff, students or anyone working on behalf of our schools.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children means:

- Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- Protecting children from maltreatment, **whether this is within or outside the home, including online**
- Preventing impairment of children’s mental and physical health or development
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

We are also committed to reviewing our policy and good practice at least annually and in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education, Working Together to Safeguard Children and the governance handbook.

Reviewed September 2025

Approved by Governors October 2024