Ringwood Junior School PTA Charity number 1026023

**Safeguarding Policy Last reviewed September 2023**

**Introduction**

This policy sets out the principles for safeguarding within Ringwood Junior School PTA.

It is relevant to all within the association and is endorsed by the committee of Ringwood Junior School PTA

It will be reviewed yearly to ensure that it remains appropriate to the Organisation and its volunteers needs.

**Responsibility**

Ringwood Junior School Associations (PTA) have a duty of care to consider the safety of children and vulnerable adults. This should be taken into consideration when risk assessing a PTA event and the duration of such events.

As is best practice, the PTA to has a set of procedures in place and guidelines for volunteers to follow at events. These procedures were developed with guidance from the school.

All PTA members should be aware of the person(s) responsible for safeguarding within the school. The school’s Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are signposted at school and at least one Safeguarding Lead will be available at all PTA events which take place at school.

**What to do if you have concerns about a child**

You may have concerns about a child because of something you have seen or heard or a child may choose to disclose something to you.

If a child discloses information to you, you should:

* Listen to the child without displaying shock or disbelief
* Accept what is said and reassure the child, do not make promises that you may not be able to keep , e.g. ‘Everything will be alright now’
* Do not ask leading questions and do not interrogate the child – this is not your responsibility to investigate
* Explain to the child what you have to do next and who you have to talk to
* Take notes, if possible, or write up the conversation as soon as possible afterwards
* Contact the school safeguarding officer or a member of the school leadership team as soon as possible

**Guidance for Events:**

* All Events should be risk assessed
* Events where children are dropped off and collected – a register should be available and children should be checked in and out of the event. The PTA should have a list of any child being collected by another parent/carer or travelling home alone
* Contact details for the child’s parent/carer may be collated by the PTA for the event
* Exits should be monitored to ensure children cannot leave an event unattended
* If this is a regulated activity the volunteer will need an Enhanced DBS check.

This policy will be reviewed by the Ringwood Junior School PTA committee annually before the AGM.

**Useful Links**

[**https://www.ringwood-junior.hants.sch.uk/safeguarding**](https://www.ringwood-junior.hants.sch.uk/safeguarding)

<https://www.parentkind.org.uk/Info-sheets/Volunteer-checks>