

ST ANDREW'S METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOL



Pastoral Support Policy

Reviewed January 2026

Headteacher Anne Barker

Chair Of Governing Board Margaret Hughes

Date of Next Review January 2028

This policy has been scrutinized to ensure it meets the requirements of the single equality duties. The school will make every reasonable adjustment to comply with the duties and actively avoid discrimination.

INTRODUCTION

At St Andrew's we want our school ethos to promote a positive, supportive and secure Christian environment where pupils have a sense of being valued, and feel safe and cared for. We recognise that school is a stable, secure and predictable element in the lives of vulnerable children.

Our school's Christian vision, '**Striving for excellence, together as one with God**' recognises that children need to be nurtured and supported both academically and spiritually if they are to develop and succeed. We aim to create an environment where all pupils, whatever their background, can flourish because all are treated with dignity and respect. This Christian vision and its associated values helps ensure the protection of all members of the school community. Leaders at St Andrew's are fully committed to providing a high level of pastoral support for both pupils and adults.

AIMS

- To provide a structure of support for all pupils.
- Establish and maintain an environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk and are listened to.
- Ensure children know there are adults in school whom they can approach if they are worried.
- Provide a safe environment for children to learn in.

WE SUPPORT CHILDREN BY

- Support and mentoring for children by the Family Support Worker.
- Including opportunities in the RHE, PSE and computing curriculum for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse. E.g.; online safety.
- Liaison with other agencies who can support children
- Strict adherence to our Safeguarding Policy.
- Self-referral systems including 'post boxes'.
- Allocating time and space for children to talk privately
- An anti-bullying policy, written in consultation with pupils.
- Care, guidance and support from all staff in school

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

The Headteacher is the designated safeguarding lead and all concerns of this nature are referred to her.

Deputy Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)

The deputy headteacher is the deputy designated safeguarding lead and, in the absence of the DSL, all concerns of this nature are referred to her.

Teaching Staff

All teachers are aware of children who may be vulnerable in their classes and offer a high quality of care, guidance and support.

Family Support Worker

The Family Support Worker is employed by the school for five days per week. She has a wide experience of working with families and children who require support for various reasons. She will provide support for children and families as need arises and work with other agencies as deemed necessary.

Teaching Assistants

All our teaching assistants have attended a variety of pastoral training and are available as and when needed.

Pupil Right's Group

Children's views are gathered via the Pupil Right's Group and the Worship Committee.

Walkden Methodist Church

The minister and lay preachers will offer pastoral support on request for staff and families at our school.

Extended Services in Little Hulton

Early help services are deployed by the locality team and 0-19 team for vulnerable children and families according to need.

Additional Counselling Services

Sometimes the needs of our children are such that they need a specialised type of counselling or pastoral support. We are able to refer children, with parental consent, to Salford CAMHS and bereavement services such as 'Once Upon a Smile', and the Gaddam Centre. Salford Children's Services has an approved register of counselling services that we are able to access. The Harbour project can support pupils who have experienced domestic violence.

CONCLUSION

The welfare of our children and staff is central and paramount to everything we do at St Andrew's and the pastoral support we provide helps to keep children safe and happy. This, in turn, ensures they are able to learn and develop effectively.

Read this policy in conjunction with;

- Work life balance policy
- Staff mental health and wellbeing policy
- Relationships and health education (RHE) policy