Safeguarding at Rhyddings

At Rhyddings, safeguarding is at the heart of our school culture. We want every pupil to feel safe, valued, listened to and supported to achieve their potential. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility: staff, pupils, parents, carers and visitors all play a part in helping us maintain a safe and respectful school community.

Professional curiosity is embedded in our daily safeguarding practice, informing observations, strengthening reporting and empowering staff to appropriately question and challenge safeguarding decisions to ensure the best possible outcomes for every child.

We promote a culture in which concerns are taken seriously, pupils know who they can talk to, and staff respond promptly and appropriately. Our approach is guided by the principles of early interventions, family help and support, professional curiosity, respectful relationships and working in partnership with families and external agencies.

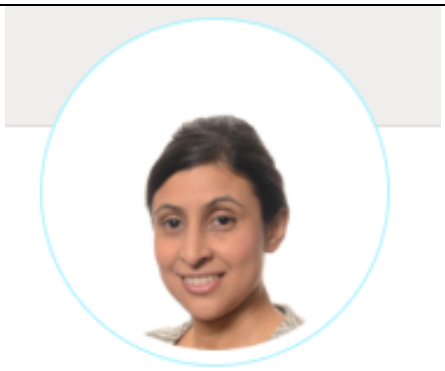
What Ofsted said:

"Safeguarding is effective. Pupils learn about age-appropriate topics through the personal, social, health and economic education curriculum. They know how to keep safe online and, in the community,". OFSTED 2025

Our Safeguarding Team

The Senior Safeguarding Team

Mrs. Ali **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).** Email - alii@rhyddings.co.uk	**Ms. Woodcock** **Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (Deputy DSL), Assistant Head** Email - woodcocka@rhyddings.co.uk

How to report a safeguarding concern about a child:

Pupils: If something is worrying you, speak to an adult at school, including your Form Tutor, Pastoral Year Leader or a member of the safeguarding team. You do not have to face a worry alone. Use WHISPER confidential school reporting system, or CEOP for reporting online abuse.



Parents and carers: Contact the school and ask to speak to Mrs Ali or Ms Woodcock if you are concerned about a child's safety or wellbeing.

Visitors: Report safeguarding concerns to the main reception desk so that they can be passed to the appropriate member of staff. Details of the DSL's can be found at the back of a visitor lanyard.

Staff: Report concerns promptly to the DSL using the school's safeguarding procedures, including CPOMS.

Reporting a safeguarding concern about a child at immediate risk of harm:

If a child is in immediate danger, call 999.

Lancashire Children's Social Care — during office hours: 0300 123 6720. Out-of-hours Emergency Duty Team: 0300 123 6722.

Report a concern online: https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/keeping-children-safe/tell-us-if-you-are-worried-about-a-child/

Reporting a safeguarding concern about an adult:

Visitors- Report to main reception

Staff- Report to the Headteacher

Report to Lancashire County Council LADO- To contact the LADO email: lado.admin@lancashire.gov.uk

https://lancashire.gov.uk/professionals/supporting-children-and-families/safeguarding-children/local-authority-designated-officer-lado/

Early help and Family Hub support

At Rhyddings we support all pupils through internal early help and family hub support services central to the pastoral support, YNOT, NEST, MHIST, school nurse, school counsellor, targeted youth support and other additional referrals through behaviour and 'hub' sessions offer early targeted interventions.

We recognise that families sometimes need additional support. Rhyddings works with Lancashire Family Hub services and other local partners to help pupils and families access appropriate early help. Depending on individual circumstances, this may include:

- Family and parenting support, advice and practical guidance.
- Emotional wellbeing and mental health support.
- Help with routines, attendance, behaviour and school life.
- Support with family relationships and access to wider community services.
- Signposting or referrals to specialist services when additional help is needed.

If you would like to discuss support for your family, please contact the school safeguarding team or our Family Support Worker. Mrs. Eaton will offer additional family support. If you would like any of the family help offers or referrals, please email us.

Family Support Worker

Mrs. Eaton

Email- eatona@rhyddings.co.uk



Rhyddings

SAFE KIND RESPECTFUL

FAMILY HELP OFFER

You are not alone

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

We all need a little help sometimes.
If you or your family are struggling with something, talk to someone you trust.
There are lots of people and services here to support you.

Barnardo's Young Carers
Support for young carers.
Someone to listen.
Someone to help.

YNot Aspire
Helping young people build confidence, skills and brighter futures.

MHiST Referrals to Alana
Mental health support in school.
Referrals can be made to Alana Eaton FSW.

School Nurse Debbie Braithwaite
Health advice and support.
Speak to the School Office to get in touch.

School Counsellor David Slattery
Confidential counselling support for students.
Speak to the School Office to get in touch.

Accrington Stanley Children's Champions – Millie
Support, activities and positive opportunities through football.
Speak to Millie or your tutor for more information.

We Are With You
Support for young people with substance use, mental health and wellbeing.

NEST
Support for families and young people in our community.
https://rhyddingsccuk-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/personal/hailg_rhyddings_cp_uk/EQ8-LJvf6lGcPQqwtiTRngRRYAamrW1Euf1rNhN07r-GpO68

Kooth
https://www.kooth.com/
Free, safe and anonymous online support for your mental wellbeing.

New Era Groups / Family Hubs
Support for families and children in your area.

TYS Groups
Groups and activities to build confidence, skills and community.

Nest
https://nestlancashire.org/further-help-and-support/domestic-abuse/
Support and advice if you are experiencing domestic abuse.

Kings Trust
Support with education, training, jobs and building confidence.

Hub Interventions
e.g. Appropriate Communication, Anger Management and more.
Talk to your tutor or a member of staff for more information.

Grief Support – Alana Eaton FSW
Support for anyone who is grieving or experiehcing loss.
Speak to Alana or a trusted member of staff.

We're here for you.

YOU MATTER.
TALK. SHARE. GET SUPPORT.

TALK TO SOMEONE YOU TRUST
A teacher, tutor, school counsellor, school nurse or any trusted adult.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP
Asking for help is a sign of strength, not weakness.

Rhyddings

SAFE KIND RESPECTFUL

PERSONAL SAFETY FOR PUPILS

Your voice matters. You deserve to feel safe.
Speak up, we will listen.

Key Messages

- Speak up if something worries you.
- Trust your feelings and know your boundaries.
- Be kind, stay connected and ask for help.
- You are never alone.

Useful Websites for Pupils

ChildLine
Free, confidential support for young people.
www.childline.org.uk
0800 1111 (24/7)

kooth
Online mental health support for young people.
www.kooth.com

NSPCC
Advice and support for young people.
www.nspcc.org.uk
0808 800 5000
(8am–10pm, 7 days)

THINK U KNOW
Stay safe online.
www.thinkuknow.co.uk

CEOP
Report online concerns about abuse or grooming.
www.ceop.police.uk

YOUNGMINDS
Mental health support and advice for young people.
www.youngminds.org.uk
0808 802 5544
(Mon–Fri, 9:30am–4pm)

SAFETY FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Talk. Listen. Support. Stay connected.

Key Messages

- Keep conversations open and positive.
- Explore apps, gaming and social media together.
- Use trusted online safety advice and parental controls.
- Reach out early for support if you're struggling.
- You are not alone — help is available.

Useful Websites for Parents and Carers

internet Matters
Advice on apps, gaming, screen time and more.
www.internetmatters.org
0808 800 5002
(Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm)

NSPCC
Online safety advice for parents and carers.
www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe
0808 803 5000 (8am–10pm, 7 days)

UK Safer Internet Centre
Practical online safety advice and resources.
www.saferinternet.org.uk

Parent Zone
Support with technology, wellbeing and behaviour.
www.parentzone.org.uk
020 7966 7222 (Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm)

mind
Mental health information and support for the whole family.
www.mind.org.uk
0300 123 3993 (Mon–Fri, 9am–6pm)

Lancashire Domestic Abuse Service
Support for adults, children and families affected by domestic abuse in Lancashire.
www.lancashiredas.org
0300 303 3581 (Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm)

SAFETY IN OUR COMMUNITY

Stronger families. Safer communities.
Help and support is available in Hyndburn.

Key Messages

- Look out for one another in our community.
- Access family, wellbeing and practical support.
- Reach out early — help is available.
- Together we can make Hyndburn a safer place.

Useful Services in Hyndburn and Lancashire

Lancashire Family Hubs NETWORK
Support for families, parenting, wellbeing and local activities.
www.lancashire.gov.uk/family-hubs
0300 123 6720 (Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm)

Hyndburn Borough Council
Community safety, support and local services.
www.hyndburnbc.gov.uk
01254 388111 (Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm)

Lancashire County Council
Children and Family Wellbeing Service.
www.lancashire.gov.uk
0300 123 6720 (Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm)

Lancashire Victim Services
Support for people affected by crime, including domestic abuse.
www.lancashirevictimservices.org
0300 323 0085 (Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm)

NHS
Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Mental Health Support.
www.lscft.nhs.uk
0800 323 0110 (24/7)

citizens advice
Free, independent advice on housing, money, benefits and family support.
www.citizensadvice.org.uk
0800 144 8848 (Mon–Fri, 9am–5pm)

IN AN EMERGENCY

If you or someone else is in immediate danger call **999**.

WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING?

You don't have to face it alone.
Speak to an adult at school, at home or in your community.

Lancashire County Council

REPORT A CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD
Lancashire Children's Social Care

During office hours (on duty):
0300 123 6720
(Mon–Fri, 8am–5pm)

Out of hours (emergency duty team):
0300 123 6722
(After 5pm, weekends and Bank Holidays)

If a child is in immediate danger call **999**.

Report a concern online: www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/keeping-children-safe/tell-us-if-you-are-worried-about-a-child/

KEY

	Rhyddings – Free for all pupils
	Pupil Safeguarding Toolkit
	Families Safeguarding Toolkit
	Community Services in Hyndburn and Lancashire **for parents and families**

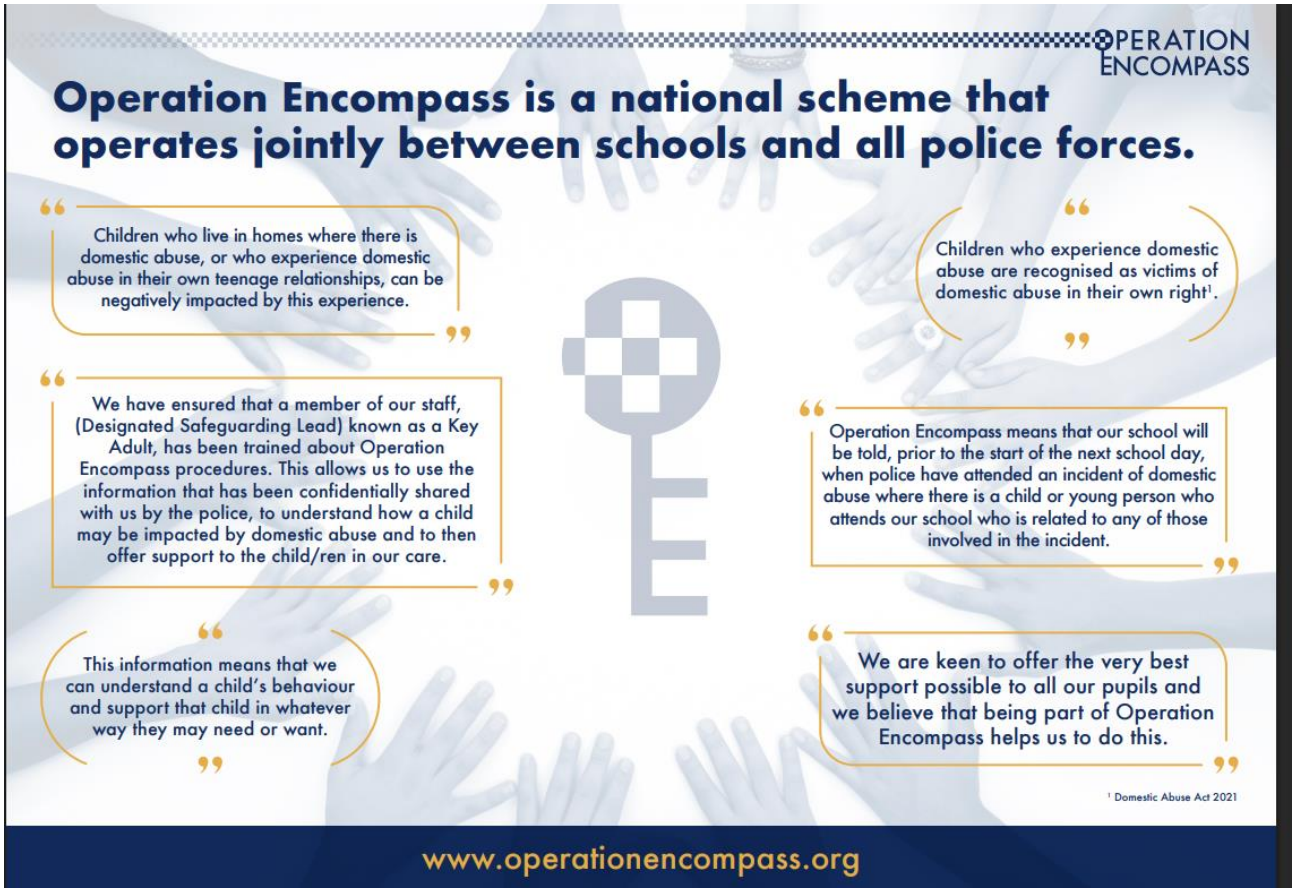
Operation Encompass

Rhyddings is an Operation Encompass school. Operation Encompass supports timely information-sharing between police and schools following incidents of domestic abuse involving children. This helps designated staff understand when a pupil may need additional care, reassurance or support during the school day. Information is handled sensitively and in accordance with safeguarding and data-protection requirements.



OPERATION ENCOMPASS
In every force. In every school. For every child.

Rhyddings


OPERATION ENCOMPASS
Operation Encompass is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and all police forces.
Children who live in homes where there is domestic abuse, or who experience domestic abuse in their own teenage relationships, can be negatively impacted by this experience.
Children who experience domestic abuse are recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right[1].
We have ensured that a member of our staff, (Designated Safeguarding Lead) known as a Key Adult, has been trained about Operation Encompass procedures. This allows us to use the information that has been confidentially shared with us by the police, to understand how a child may be impacted by domestic abuse and to then offer support to the child/ren in our care.
Operation Encompass means that our school will be told, prior to the start of the next school day, when police have attended an incident of domestic abuse where there is a child or young person who attends our school who is related to any of those involved in the incident.
This information means that we can understand a child's behaviour and support that child in whatever way they may need or want.
We are keen to offer the very best support possible to all our pupils and we believe that being part of Operation Encompass helps us to do this.
[1] Domestic Abuse Act 2021
www.operationencompass.org



Safer recruitment

We are committed to safer recruitment practices. Our recruitment and appointment processes include appropriate pre-employment checks, references, identity and qualification checks, Disclosure and Barring Service checks where required, and safeguarding expectations for employees and volunteers. We maintain required records and ensure that staff understand professional boundaries and their safeguarding responsibilities. Visitors will be notified of any relevant safeguarding documents they may need to present on arrival to school.

We use appropriate filtering and monitoring arrangements to help protect pupils when using school technology and the internet. These systems are supported by staff supervision, clear reporting routes, appropriate review and follow-up of alerts, and regular consideration of the risks associated with online access. Filtering and monitoring form part of our wider safeguarding approach and do not replace education, professional judgement or conversations with pupils.

Visitors can access a guest log-in please speak to staff at main reception. Personal mobiles should not be used on the school site.

Online safety

Online safety is an important part of our safeguarding curriculum and pastoral work. We help pupils understand issues such as cyberbullying, harmful content, grooming, exploitation, privacy, sharing images, social media and safe online relationships. We encourage pupils to speak to an adult at school if something online makes them uncomfortable or worried. We also work with parents and carers to promote informed, age-appropriate and safe use of technology.

Contextual safeguarding

We recognise that children can experience risks beyond the family home, including in peer groups, the local community and online spaces. Our contextual safeguarding approach considers the environments and relationships that may affect a pupil's safety, including child on child abuse, exploitation, bullying and harmful influences. We listen to pupils, work with families and partner agencies, and respond to concerns with the child's needs and lived experience at the centre.

The Prevent duty

We recognise our responsibility under the Prevent duty to help safeguard children from the risk of being drawn into terrorism or extremist ideologies. We promote respectful discussion, critical thinking, inclusion and the safe expression of views. Staff are trained to recognise and report concerns through our safeguarding procedures, and we work with relevant agencies when additional support is needed.

Our Safeguarding Responsibilities and Guidance:

Our safeguarding arrangements reflect current statutory national guidance, including Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE), Working Together to Safeguard Children and the Prevent duty. We also work in line with relevant Lancashire County Council and Lancashire Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures, alongside Rhyddings policies and procedures.

We regularly review our safeguarding arrangements and staff training to ensure that concerns are recognised, recorded, shared and escalated appropriately.

Useful guidance and support

- Department for Education — Keeping Children Safe in Education — https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2
- Department for Education — Working Together to Safeguard Children — https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2
- Lancashire Safeguarding Children Partnership — https://www.lancashirescp.org.uk/

- Lancashire County Council — Family Hubs — https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/family-hubs/
- Operation Encompass — https://www.operationencompass.org/
- Childline — 0800 1111 — https://www.childline.org.uk/

Trauma informed Approach

Rhyddings has achieved the Silver Award for being a Trauma Informed School. This recognition reflects our ongoing commitment to creating a safe, nurturing and inclusive environment where every young person feels valued, understood and supported. At Rhyddings, we recognise that every child has their own story and that their experiences can shape how they learn, behave and build relationships. Being trauma informed means looking beyond behaviour, responding with empathy and understanding, and placing positive relationships at the heart of everything we do. This is a celebration of the dedication of our staff and our whole-school approach to supporting wellbeing, building resilience and helping every pupils feel a sense of belonging. It reflects who we are, what we believe in and our commitment to ensuring every child has the opportunity to thrive.

A lot of children who experience trauma have difficulties building relationships with adults – building trust and maintaining a positive relationship with adults. The key to remember is BEHAVIOUR IS COMMUNICATION.

Strategies we use at Rhyddings are:

- **Seen**: smiling, eye contact, using names, meet and greet,
- **Safe**: an inclusive environment ensuring routines and predictability, safe space in school,
- **Soothed**: Staff modelling appropriate behaviour, talking calmly and quietly, appropriate physical contact, regular check-ins with key staff.
- **Secure**: Building positive relationships, develop a sense of belonging, supporting with friendship issues and availability of staff.
- **Connection before Correction** – Help the pupil regulate their brain, behaviour and choices in order to keep everyone safe.
- **Respond Don't React** - modelling of positive language towards pupils.
- **Use of PACE -** (Structured engagement- playfulness, acceptance, curiosity and empathy).

Often the children who are hardest to reach (as they push you away) need the most support.
Conscious Practice – Focus the best version of you and your best efforts on the most difficult children to reach.



Six core values of a trauma informed approach

Safety: ensuring physical and emotional safety.

Trustworthiness: creating respectful environments where personal boundaries are maintained.

Choice: creating environments where individuals have choice and control.

Collaboration: making decisions with the individual and sharing power.

Empowerment: prioritising empowerment and skill building.

Cultural consideration: moving past cultural stereotypes and biases

Adapted from Harris and Fallot, 2016

one small thing