HAZELWICK SCHOOL
SAFEGUARDING
STATEMENT

Our school values and ethos support the safety and well-being of the students. At the heart of the school is a strong, caring, cohesive community where all students are made to feel safe, happy and valued. These values are reinforced every day: for example, through Assemblies, in our classrooms, around the school site and through the work of our pastoral support teams.

We listen to our students and take seriously what they tell us. Our aim is that children will enjoy their time in our school. We want to work in partnership with parents and carers, to help children achieve their full potential, feel safe, and make a positive contribution.

We recognise that all of our staff, including temporary staff, volunteers and governors, have a full and active part to play in protecting our students from harm, and that each child's welfare is our paramount concern.

Our Behaviour Policy (available via the School website) both guides and reflects our school values. Good behaviour is encouraged and recognised through a well-structured achievement system and an equally well-structured system ensures that sanctions are applied as necessary where behaviour falls below expectations. Students are forbidden from bringing any article or substance into school which may present a risk of harm or threat of harm to members of the community. These 'prohibited' items are listed within the Behaviour Policy.

Our Health and Safety policy is implemented fully and reviewed regularly. Our Child Protection Policy is reviewed every year and is available to staff, parents and carers via the school website. All staff and volunteers receive regular and appropriate training in child protection. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Ms M Rao (Deputy Headteacher). The DSL is supported by seven senior members of the teaching staff: Mr M Chalmers (Deputy Headteacher and Deputy DSL), Mr G Salmon (Head of Lower School), Mr S Agnihotri (Head of Middle School), Mr J Hillier (Assistant Headteacher & Head of Sixth Form), Mr A Cahill (Assistant Headteacher), Mrs Checkland (SENDCo) and Mr D Leadbitter (Headteacher). Each of these undertake regular, multi-agency, enhanced, child protection training. All staff and volunteers receive appropriate child protection training in accordance with our responsibilities under Section 175 of the Education Act, 2002 and its most recent 2021 revision.

Whenever necessary, we consult with and support the work of external agencies in order to safeguard students. In normal circumstances, we would aim to achieve this with the consent of the parent or carer.

Hazelwick's Child Protection Policy and procedures take full account of DfE guidance and the expectations of the West Sussex Safeguarding Children's Board.

We ask that all visitors report to Reception to sign in and be issued with a visitor's badge, which should be worn at all times whilst on our school site. They are also issued with a Child Protection card.

Our Safer Recruitment Policy ensures that appropriate checks are made of staff and regular volunteers' suitability, including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks in accordance with current legislation and the guidance outlined in the DfE document 'Keeping Children Safe in Education (2026)'.