

CSS 7

Parent/Carer Review of the Child Safeguarding Statement – suggested approach

As part of your annual review of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment, the parents in your school should have an opportunity to have a voice and participate in the process. This could be done through email, questionnaire, meetings, engagement by the parents' association with the wider parent body, or another appropriate approach.

Schools will need to ensure all parents have access to a copy of the school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment to participate in this review process. Raising awareness of a school's Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment, the role of DLP/trusted adults and regular reviews of risks of harm during school activities is part of the process of keeping children safe.

Below are some questions a school could use to help ensure the participation of parents in the annual review of the child safeguarding statement (including its risk assessment). This is not intended to be a directive or exhaustive list, and the questions and the approach should be adapted to suit the context of the school community.

Awareness of the Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Did you know that our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment (which includes a list of potential risks) is clearly displayed near the school's main entrance? > Have you received a copy of this statement by email? Or have you looked at it on our school website?
Awareness of the DLP/Trusted Adults
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Do you know that the person you can talk to at the school if you have any concerns about a child's safety is called the Designated Liaison Person (DLP)? In our school, that person is [insert DLP's name]. You can also ask them any questions about our Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment. > In school, we've talked to the children in SPHE class about trusted adults – people they can talk to if they're ever worried about anything. Have you had a similar conversation with your child about who they can talk to if they feel unsafe or upset?
Review of Risks in the School
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Our school does many different activities during the year. We want to make sure every child is safe while taking part. We've looked at all our activities and listed the possible risks, along with the steps we take to keep children safe. This is all included in our Risk Assessment, which is part of the Child Safeguarding Statement. > Do you have any ideas or suggestions about how we can make our school activities even safer? If so, we'd love to hear them.
Final Thoughts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Is there anything else you'd like to share or suggest as we review our Child Safeguarding Statement this year?