

ChattyMaths.co.uk Child Protection (Safeguarding) Policy

1. Introduction

At ChattyMaths.co.uk, we are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children and young people who engage with our programme. This policy outlines our commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in accordance with relevant legislation and best practices.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Protect children and young people who access ChattyMaths.co.uk services.
- Provide staff, volunteers, and tutors with clear guidelines for identifying and responding to child protection concerns.
- Ensure that all interactions and services comply with safeguarding legislation.

3. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All staff, tutors, volunteers, and anyone acting on behalf of ChattyMaths.co.uk.
- All children and young people (under 18 years old) using our programme.

4. Key Principles

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender identity, race, religion, or sexual orientation, have an equal right to protection from harm.
- We work in partnership with children, their parents/carers, and other organizations to promote children's safety and well-being.

5. Legal Framework

This policy aligns with UK safeguarding legislation, including:

- Children Act 1989 and 2004.
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2024.
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.
- GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

- The DSL is responsible for overseeing safeguarding practices and responding to concerns.
- Contact details: Martin Green (info@chattymaths.co.uk).

All Staff, Tutors, and Volunteers

- Must adhere to this policy and attend mandatory safeguarding training.
- Report any safeguarding concerns to the DSL promptly.

7. Code of Conduct

All staff and tutors must:

- Maintain professional boundaries in all communications with children.
- Use only official ChattyMaths.co.uk platforms for interaction.
- Avoid one-on-one private communication with children unless pre-approved and transparent.

8. Recognizing Signs of Abuse

Abuse may include physical, emotional, sexual abuse, or neglect. Staff and tutors should be aware of signs such as:

- Sudden changes in behaviour or academic performance.
- Unexplained injuries or frequent absence.
- Signs of fear or withdrawal during interactions.

9. Reporting Concerns

If a safeguarding concern arises:

1. Record the concern accurately, including dates, times, and descriptions of incidents.
2. Report the concern to the DSL immediately.
3. If a child is at immediate risk, contact the local safeguarding authority or the police.

10. Safer Recruitment

- All staff and tutors will undergo enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks.
- References will be thoroughly verified as part of the recruitment process.

11. Confidentiality and Data Protection

- Personal information about children will be stored securely and only shared on a need-to-know basis.
- Data protection protocols comply with GDPR.

12. Training

All staff and tutors must complete regular safeguarding training to stay updated on best practices and legal requirements.

13. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or whenever there are significant changes in safeguarding legislation or our services.

14. Contact Information

- **Designated Safeguarding Lead:** Martin Green, info@chattymaths.co.uk
- **Local Safeguarding Authority:** <https://www.gov.uk/report-child-abuse-to-local-council>
- **NSPCC Helpline:** 0808 800 5000
- **Childline:** 0800 1111