



# The Ark Federation

Keeping your child safe



## Safeguarding Leads

The Ark Federation has **8 DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS (DSL)** across two schools. This team is led by a full time safeguarding officer, Mr Botwright, who has a wealth of experience in education and the police force.

All of our DSLs are trained regularly in a wide variety of safeguarding matters, including internet safety, domestic violence and child on child abuse.

The safeguarding team in each school meet regularly to make sure that all of the children are safe. This includes looking at their behaviour, attendance and safeguarding concerns.

## Green Hands

Children at The Ark know that they can always speak to an adult if they are worried about something. They can speak to their teacher, teaching assistant or a member of the pastoral staff. However, all of our DSLs wear **GREEN HANDS** on their lanyards so that children can easily identify a member of staff who is specially trained to help.

Posters around the school make it very clear to children and visitors which members of staff have a green hand.

## Attendance Support

Mr Ashley Mobbs is now the Attendance Officer for both Ark Schools. He will be working closely with the safeguarding and pastoral teams in both schools to monitor and improve attendance. Mr Mobbs has lots of ideas about how to improve attendance across the Federation, and he particularly wants to make sure that praise and reward those families who always do the right thing, or those that make significant improvements.

## Behaviour Pathways

The Ark Federation shares a **BEHAVIOUR POLICY** across both schools. Our policy has a very clear behaviour pathway that gives children the chance to improve their behaviour whilst keeping others safe from harm. Each school has a behaviour lead who reviews all behaviour incidents weekly and works with the teachers to nip any problems in the bud before they get worse. Where a child is having particular problems, we have behaviour trackers and contracts to help.

## Pastoral Support

We value pastoral support at The Ark and both schools have full time **PASTORAL STAFF**. The pastoral support teams offer a variety of groups and sessions. This includes working with children in small groups and on a 1:1 basis. This support allows children to build relationships with trusted adults. The pastoral team also works with children who find it difficult to regulate their emotions and for friendships.

## E-Safety

The Ark Federation has staff who have completed the **CEOPS** training. This means that they have had extra training to ensure that we can keep children safe online. Both schools also have secure filters in place to ensure that inappropriate content is less likely to slip through the net.

All of our classes have internet safety lessons and we have had visits from the local police force.

## Curriculum Content

Careful consideration has been given to teaching children about staying safe. Through their **RSHE** (Life Skills at Peterhouse) lessons, children learn skills that will keep them safe and healthy. This includes learning about relationships, internet safety, road safety and how their body changes over time.

Both of our schools also offer special safety themed days throughout the year.

Children are also taught key life skills that help to keep them safe such as cycling and swimming.

As our schools are close to the sea, we take part in the Crucial Crew initiative every year where our Year 6 children get expert advice on water safety and first aid.

## Adult Education

At the Ark Federation, we offer a variety of **ADULT EDUCATION** and information sessions throughout the year. We feel that it is very important to make sure that parents are as prepared as possible for all eventualities. We offer a variety of sessions completely free of charge, including basic first aid and internet safety.

We also have an open drop in session for parents every Friday morning at the Church opposite Peterhouse school. This session is open to parents from both schools and is run by Miss Gillett.

We regularly send out safety information electronically as well. This includes free online training and helpful internet safety fact sheets on our social media pages.