Weekly Word - 25/09/2026

Head of School Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another wonderful week at Fishburn. The children have continued to work hard, make progress and arrive at school on time with smiles on their faces. Thank you, as always, for your continued support with this – it makes such a positive difference to the start of each school day.

This Week in Nursery

Our Nursery children have been learning all about 'Me and My Family', enjoying the story *Peace at Last* as part of their learning. In maths, the children have been developing their matching skills using practical activities with buttons and towers.

In PSHE, the children have explored managing their feelings through *Ravi's Roar*, using a 'box of feelings' and music to help them think about how different experiences make us feel. Through Jigsaw, they have continued to explore their own feelings and those of others as they become increasingly confident with life in Nursery. In PE, the children have had lots of fun exploring different movements through games.

This Week in Reception

Reception have had another fantastic week of learning! In phonics, the children have been working hard to recognise and practise the sounds n, m, d and i, beginning to build their confidence with early reading and writing.

In maths, the children have been developing their counting skills with numbers to 10, using practical activities to support their understanding. In Drawing Club, the children have enjoyed exploring the traditional tale *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, using the story to inspire their ideas and creativity.

Through Jigsaw PSHE, the children have continued their *Being at School* topic, thinking about belonging, routines and being part of their new class. In PE, they have had lots of fun exploring different movements through games.

This Week in Class 2

Class 2 have been working incredibly hard on their phonics and applying their growing reading skills across the curriculum. In English, the children have produced some fantastic descriptive writing inspired by *The Enormous Turnip* and have used their imaginations to design their very own turnip-pulling machines!

In maths, they have been developing their understanding of one more and one less using number lines, while in science they have been sorting animals into different groups, including reptiles and amphibians. In history, the children have continued to discover more about the Great Fire of London and Samuel Pepys. They have also been busy in art, learning how to mix paint to create different tones and shades.

This Week in Class 3

Class 3 have continued their work on place value, exploring how numbers change when we find more or less and beginning to use number lines to support their understanding.

In English, the children have been developing their knowledge of grammar and prepositional phrases, before putting their learning into practice by constructing their own sentences. They have worked particularly hard with this!

In computing, the children have begun exploring online safety, including the importance of using reputable sources and recognising that not everything we see online is necessarily reliable. As part of Deaf Awareness Week, the class have also been practising signs, including how to say good morning and good afternoon. Through songs, books and discussion, the children have considered how we can all help to make our school an inclusive place for everyone.

This Week in Class 4

Class 4 have had another busy week across the curriculum. In maths, they have continued developing their understanding of place value and numbers up to 10,000. In English, the children have been creating setting descriptions inspired by *The Journey*, while their VIPERS reading work has focused on *The Iron Man*.

In science, the children have explored animals with and without skeletons, while history has taken them back in time to learn more about World War One. They have also been developing their artistic skills through self-portraits. In PSHE, the children have considered how they can help make our school an even better place to be, and in PE they have continued developing their skills through tag rugby.

This Week in Class 5

Class 5 have continued to challenge themselves across the curriculum this week. In maths, they have been strengthening their understanding of place value, while in English they have been developing the features and skills needed to write an informal letter.

Their history learning has focused on Anglo-Saxon settlements, complemented by their VIPERS reading work through *Anglo-Saxon Boy*. In art, the children have been developing their observational and creative skills through self-portraits, while PE has seen them continue to develop their teamwork and sporting skills through tag rugby.

Thank You for Your Support

Finally, a huge thank you for the continued support we receive from our parents and families. One of our fantastic parent helpers has recently raised over £600 for our school funds. This money will go directly towards improving our outdoor provision for break and lunchtimes, as well as supporting future events and trips for our children.

We are extremely grateful for the time, effort and generosity shown in supporting our school and our children.

Have a wonderful weekend, everyone!

We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday for another fantastic week at Fishburn.

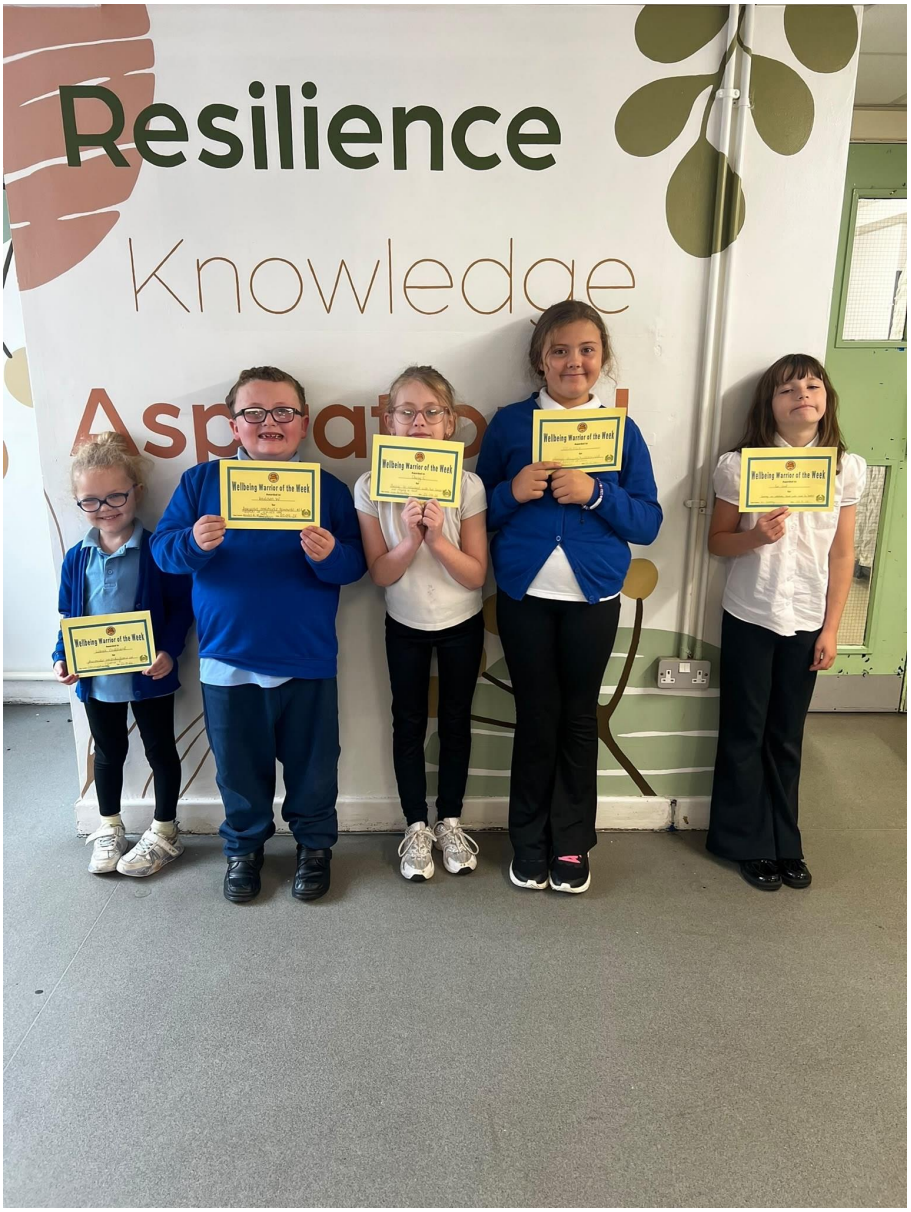
Kind regards,

Mr Parkin

Confidence
ndependenc
Belief
Star of the Week

Resilience
Knowledge
Aspirational
Book Worm!
WELL DONE

esilience
Knowledge
aspiration
Star of the Week
Star of the Week
Star of the Week


Resilience
Knowledge
Wellbeing Warrior of the Week
Wellbeing Warrior of the Week
Wellbeing Warrior of the Week
Wellbeing Warrior of the Week
Wellbeing Warrior of the Week

Attendance Update

OUR ATTENDANCE TARGET FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR IS 96 %.

We are currently on 95.4 %

🎲 **Fishburn Attendance-opoly Update!** 🎉

Nursery have claimed victory in this week's **Attendance Award with 97.9 %.**

Monitoring of Nursery Attendance

In line with Government guidelines we now need to closely monitor the attendance of all our nursery children. Our nursery children are included on our automated email notification system which goes out on a weekly basis. This is for information only and is to simply make you aware of your child's current attendance levels.

We appreciate that our nursery children are of non statutory school age but their attendance and punctuality does need to be monitored carefully and in line with the rest of the school. As always if you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us, we are here to support you. If your child is absent from school without a reason being provided, our office staff will contact parents / carers to ascertain the reasons for any absences.

Please note, if your child is absent without a reason being provided, school staff and/or the local authority attendance team will carry out a welfare visit to the home address or request that the police carry out a welfare visit.

School doors open as follows:

Nursery AM = 8:40 am - 8.50 am

Nursery PM = 12.25 pm - 12.30 pm

Reception = 8.40 am - 8.50 am

KS1 = 8.40 am - 8.50 am

KS2 = 8.40 am - 8.50 am

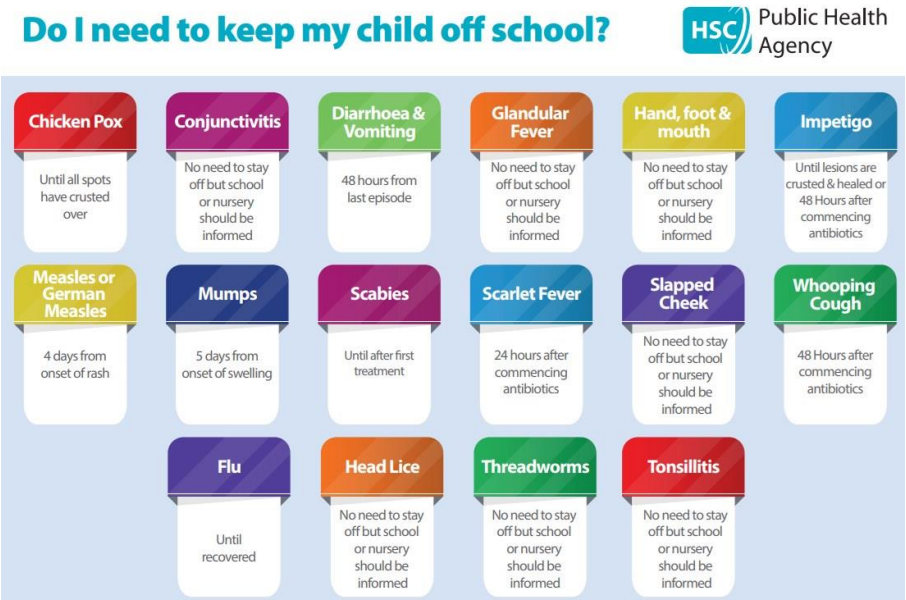
Please try and get your child into school on time to make sure that they get their full education entitlement and have a settled start to the day.

Please note, if your child arrives more than 30 minutes late they will be marked in as 'arrived after registration has closed'. This goes down as an unauthorised absence and will affect attendance (this is a legal requirement for all schools).

Attendance Absence Reporting: if your child is absent from school can you please ring or email the school office before 9.00 am to report your child's absence. If you do leave a message on our school answerphone out of school hours Mrs Leddy may ring you back to discuss your child's absence with you in further detail.

Class Name	Weekly Percentage
Nursery	97.9%
Class 4	97.5%
Class 2	96.8%
Class 5	93.5%
Class 3	93.1%
Class 1	92.0%

Do I need to keep my child off school?



Community Hub

FareShare
fighting hunger, tackling food waste

We are pleased to let you know that our **Uniform Bank** is now up and running in school.

We have a wide range of pre-loved uniform items available, completely free of charge, for families to come and collect. If you require any support with school uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the school office — we are always happy to help.

Thank you for working with us to ensure every child feels comfortable, confident and ready to learn.

Nursery Places available - Childcare for Children aged 3 & 4

Please find below the latest information on childcare for children aged three and four.

* 15 hours free education and childcare for all 3 and 4-year olds (universal entitlement)

* 30 hours free education and childcare for eligible 3 and 4-year olds (working parents)

15 hours free childcare for 3 and 4-year-olds (universal entitlement)

This scheme is universal and open to all 3 and 4-year olds.

There are no earnings or work requirements and you don't need to be claiming any benefits to get the free childcare.

30 hours free childcare for 3 and 4-year olds (working parents)

If you are working you may be entitled to free childcare.

The amount of free childcare you can get depends on the age of your child. If your child is 3 to 4 you can get 30 hours of free childcare. To be eligible for 30 hours free childcare you and your partner must each expect to earn (on average) the equivalent of working 16 hours a week at your national minimum wage.

To receive 30 hours free childcare, you will need to apply online through gov.uk. After registering for an account, you will get a code that you can take to your childcare provider. You need to apply before the term starts or you will have wait until the beginning of the next term.

For further information on our nursery provision, please contact the school office.

Rag Bag - Help raise funds for free!

The 'Rag Bag' recycling scheme has been developed to provide regular fundraising for schools in the UK.

Will you be having a clear out of old clothing, shoes, handbags and belts, if so you can help us raise some funds for our school. We have a metal outdoor bank box which is adjacent to the main school office, any items of clothing, shoes, handbags and belts can be placed into this box, once the box is full it is emptied and the school will receive a monetary payment.

Key Dates

Friday 23rd October 2026 - Break up from school

Thursday 5th November 2026 - School Flu Immunisations

Wednesday 18th November 2026 - School Photos

Friday 4th December 2026 - Teacher Training Day

Friday 11th December 2026 - Crafts and Carols

Wednesday 16th December 2026 - School Christmas Dinner

Thursday 17th December 2026 - School Christmas Parties

Friday 18th December 2026 - Break up from School

Cauliflower Christmas Cards

Fishburn Primary School will be taking part in the Cauliflower Christmas Card Project. The Cauliflower Christmas Card Project is where your child will be creating a piece of Christmas artwork in class which can then be used to print onto a mug, playing cards, wrapping paper, gift labels, spiral bound book and Christmas cards.

The artwork which your child creates will be sent home attached to an order form later this month.

Orders and payment must be made online using the unique code located at the top of the pupil order form. Please refer to your order form for further details. **Once you have placed**

your order online, you must return your artwork to Fishburn Primary School by 9.30 am on Wednesday 7th October 2026.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or the school office. Thank you

PE at Fishburn

PE Timetable (from September 2026)

Monday - Class 2

Tuesday - Class 3, Class 4

Wednesday - Nursery, Class 1

Friday - Nursery, Class 1, Class2, Class 3, Class 4 & Class 5.

Class 5 - Swimming on a Wednesday

We ask that all children come to school in their full school uniform every day. On PE days, children should bring their PE kit in a named bag, and they will get changed in school.

Our PE Kit

- White round-neck t-shirt (no vest tops)
- Plain blue or black shorts
- Black tracksuit bottoms for colder weather
- Trainers or plimsolls

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring children are fully equipped and ready for PE each week.

Wraparound Care - bookings must be made via Arbor

Afterschool Care Club:

Our Afterschool Care Club is also available to all years from Reception to Year 6. The club runs Monday – Friday from 3:15 pm until 5:30 pm. The cost is £6.00 from 3:15 pm – 4:30 pm and £7.00 from 3:15 pm until 5:30 pm per day.

If you wish for your child to attend our Afterschool Care Club, **you MUST pre-book them onto the relevant After School Care Club session using Arbor**, at the time of making the booking(s) you will be required to pay for the session(s) upfront. **Your child /children will not be allowed to attend the After School Care Club without being booked onto the session via Arbor.** Bookings can be made up until 2.00 pm on the day.

Children who attend our Afterschool Care Club need to be collected by a nominated adult from the KS1 yard.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

School Meals - Hutchison Catering

Hutchison
CATERING

Our school meals are provided by Hutchison Catering. The price of a school meal is £2.81 per day (ie. £14.05 per week). If you wish for your child to have a school meal and they are

not entitled to free school meals, you will need to pay for your child's dinners **one week in advance at all times**, via Arbor.

Can parents / carers who pay for school meals please ensure that your Abor account is always in credit as meals need to be paid for in advance, thank you.

If you do not pay in time and you accrue arrears of more than one week's worth of meals, your child will not be able to have a school meal and you will be asked to provide a packed lunch for your child.

Reminder: If your child wishes to **change** their **meal pattern** from school meal to a packed lunch or vice versa **you must** inform the school office, who require at least one weeks' notice for the change to be made.

FROM MONDAY (28.09.2026) WE WILL BE ON WEEK 1 OF OUR MEAL MENU. Our latest meal menus are below.

MENU WEEK 1 — **SERVED W/C:** 4th May, 15th June, 6th July — Hutchison

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal Option 1	Margherita pizza & oven baked wedges	Mixed bean bolognaise with penne pasta	Vegetable sausages with roast potatoes & gravy	Pea-powered vegetable stir fry with carrot rice	Vegetable nuggets, chips & tomato ketchup
Main Meal Option 2	Pepperoni pizza & oven baked wedges	Creamy coconut chicken & chickpea curry with carrot rice	Roast gammon with roast potatoes & gravy	Beef & lentil bolognaise with penne pasta	Fish fingers, chips & tomato ketchup
HALAL	Halal pepperoni pizza & oven baked wedges	Halal creamy coconut chicken & chickpea curry with carrot rice	Halal roast chicken breast with roast potatoes & gravy	Halal beef & lentil bolognaise with penne pasta	Halal fish fingers, chips & tomato ketchup
Veggies	Broccoli	Carrots & peas	Carrot & cabbage	Broccoli & Cauliflower	Baked Beans
Sandwiches	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Cheese Tuna mayo
Sweet Treats	Lemon shortbread biscuit	Chocolate & banana brownie sponge	Apple Strudel & Custard	Baked apple & cinnamon sponge	Chocolate Shortbread

Available Every Day – Crunchy Colourful Salad Bar & Jacket Potatoes with Cheese, Beans, Tuna Mayonnaise & Cheese & Beans

MENU WEEK 2 — **SERVED W/C:** 11th May, 1st June, 22nd June, 13th July — Hutchison

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal Option 1	Margherita pizza & oven baked wedges	Cheesy cauliflower pasta bake	Pea-powered vegetable pie & new potatoes	Veggie all day breakfast	Quorn dippers, chips & tomato ketchup
Main Meal Option 2	Tomato, spinach & salmon pasta	Chicken & vegetable pie with new potatoes	Roast turkey breast, roast potatoes & gravy	All day breakfast, with pork sausages (beef casings)	Fish & chips with tomato ketchup
HALAL	Halal Tomato, spinach & salmon pasta	Halal chicken & vegetable pie with new potatoes	Halal Roast turkey breast, roast potatoes & gravy	Halal All day breakfast, with chicken sausages (beef casings)	Halal Fish & chips with tomato ketchup
Veggies	Broccoli	Peas	Carrots & cauliflower	Baked beans	Peas
Sandwiches	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Cheese Tuna mayo
Sweet Treats	Traditional Flapjack	Oaty apple crumble & custard	Chocolate Mousse	Carrot cake with orange glaze	Chocolate fruit crispie cake

Available Every Day – Crunchy Colourful Salad Bar & Jacket Potatoes with Cheese, Beans, Tuna Mayonnaise & Cheese & Beans

MENU WEEK 3 SERVED W/C: 18th May, 8th June, 29th June — Hutchison

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal OPTION 1	Vegetable sausages & mashed potatoes with gravy	Pea-powered mild chilli with rice	Pea-powered cottage pie with gravy	Baked creamy mac 'n' cheese	Vegan Sausage roll, chips & tomato ketchup
Main Meal OPTION 2	Mild beef & lentil chilli con carne with rice	Pork sausages (beef casing) with mashed potatoes & gravy	Roast chicken breast, roast potatoes & gravy	BBQ chicken loaded mac 'n' cheese	Fish fingers, chips & tomato ketchup
Main Meal HALAL	Halal mild beef & lentil chilli con carne with rice	Halal chicken sausages (beef casing) with mashed potatoes & gravy	Halal roast chicken breast, roast potatoes & gravy	Halal BBQ chicken loaded mac 'n' cheese	Halal fish fingers, chips & tomato ketchup
Veggies	Sweetcorn	Peas & carrots	Broccoli & carrots	Selection from the salad bar	Baked Beans
Sandwiches	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Ham Cheese Tuna mayo	Cheese Tuna mayo
Sweet Treats	Chocolate Shortbread	Apple & summer berry crumble with custard	Lemon Sponge & Custard	Garden Brownie	Strawberry Mousse

Available Every Day – Crunchy Colourful Salad Bar & Jacket Potatoes with Cheese, Beans, Tuna Mayonnaise & Cheese & Beans

School Uniform

Friendly Reminder

A polite reminder that children are expected to wear full school uniform every day. Our uniform helps to promote a sense of pride, belonging and high standards across the school.

PE kits should be brought into school on your child's allocated PE day. Children will change into their PE kit in school rather than arriving wearing it.

Please see uniform section below for expectations.

Thank you for your continued support in maintaining our high expectations.

Uniform Policy

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our school uniform policy.

We believe that wearing a uniform helps children to feel part of something important and creates a sense of belonging. From September, members of the Senior Leadership Team will be monitoring uniform daily and will be contacting parents where children are not in the correct attire.

Please note that there is **no expectation** for your child's uniform to have the school badge embroidered. We also have a **Uniform Bank** in school, which has plenty of good-quality uniform items available, including shoes. Please make use of this if needed.

Our School Uniform

- Grey or black skirts
- Grey or black trousers or shorts (no joggers or tracksuits)
- White polo shirt
- Royal blue jumper or cardigan
- Year 6 students may wear a white shirt and tie
- Blue gingham dresses may be worn in the summer
- Flat black shoes or plain black trainers (no inappropriate styles or heels)

PE Kit

- White round-neck t-shirt (no vest tops)
- Plain blue or black shorts
- Trainers or plimsolls
- Black tracksuit bottoms may be worn in colder weather

Thank you for your support in helping all children come to school smart, proud, and ready to learn.

Our School Uniform - please note there is no expectation at all that your child's school uniform needs to include the school logo on it.

OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM

EXAMPLES– **please note there is no expectation at all that your child's school uniform needs to include the school logo on it.**

 Royal Blue Round Neck Jumper	 Royal Blue Cardigan
 Royal Blue V Neck Jumper	 White Polo Neck T-shirt
 White Shirt for Year 6 children (Long or short sleeves)	 Grey or Black School Skirt (pleated or non- pleated)

 Grey or Black School Trousers (no leggings)	 Blue Gingham Dress (during summer months)
 Blue or Black PE Shorts	 White Round Neck T-shirt for PE

Term Time Dates for 2026 -2027

Eden Academy Trust
Together for better

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2026/2027		
Summer 2026	Friday 17th July 2026	Wednesday 2nd September 2026
Autumn Half Term 2026	Friday 23rd October 2026	Monday 2nd November 2026
Christmas 2026	Friday 18th December 2026	Monday 4th January 2027
Spring Half Term 2027	Friday 12th February 2027	Monday 22nd February 2027
Easter 2027	Thursday 25th March 2027	Monday 5th April 2027
May Bank Holiday 2027	Friday 30th April 2027	Tuesday 4th May 2027
Summer Half Term 2027	Friday 28th May 2027	Monday 14th June 2027
Summer 2027	Friday 16th July 2027	
Teacher Training days 2026 / 2027 - Tuesday 1st September 2026, Friday 4th December 2026, Monday 19th July 2027, Tuesday 20th July 2027, Wednesday 21st July 2027.		

Safeguarding - is everyone's responsibility

At Fishburn we take the safety of our children incredibly seriously.

If you have any concerns at all regarding a child please speak with our Designated Safeguarding Leads who will be happy to advise.

Mr Parkin - Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Sinclair - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Key Safeguarding Information and contacts.

Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership (DSCP) - responsible for co-ordinating local agencies, in the 'statutory' and 'non statutory' sectors, with a collective responsibility for ensuring that all agencies working with children in Durham undertake their safeguarding duties and responsibilities.

Durham Safeguarding Children Partnership: 03000 265 770 / dscpsecure@durham.gov.uk

First Contact: 03000 267979 / firstcontact@durham.gov.uk

Safeguarding Referral Form

Https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fdurham-scp.org.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F07%2FSafeguarding-Referral-

Early Help: EarlyHelpAdvisorSupport@durham.gov.uk ; strongerfamilies@durham.gov.uk

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Sharon Lewis03000 268835
CYPSLADOSECURE@durham.gov.uk

Key Documents

Keeping Children safe In Education 2024 -
Https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2

Working Together To Safeguard Children in Education; Https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2