All Saints CE VC Primary School

Bishops Caundle

Sherborne

Dorset

DT9 5NQ

Headteacher
Mrs A. Crumpler BEd, NPQH

Tel/Fax: 01963 23450

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: ChildLine Schools Service

I am writing to tell you about the ChildLine Schools Service – a programme delivered by ChildLine staff and volunteers for every child in the UK in Years 5 /6 (in England & Wales) and Primary 6/7 (in Scotland & Northern Ireland).

Over the coming weeks they will be holding an assembly in our school followed by a class-based workshop about keeping safe.

The ChildLine Schools Service aims to give children:

- An understanding of abuse in all its forms including bullying, and an ability to recognise the signs of abuse
- Knowledge of how to protect themselves from all forms of abuse
- An awareness of how to get help and sources of help, including ChildLine.

The ChildLine Schools Service has discussed with us the content of the assembly and workshop.

We are confident that they are appropriate for primary school aged children. All presentations will be delivered in a child-friendly and sensitive style.

After taking part in the programme, children will be asked to give their feedback online with school staff present.

The ChildLine Schools Service would also very much welcome your feedback. If you would like to share your thoughts, please go to www.nspcc.org.uk/parentsfeedback when your child has completed the programme.

If I **do not** hear from you I will assume you are happy for your child(ren) to participate.

Yours sincerely,

Headteacher

If you do **not** want your child(ren) to participate in the schools service programme please complete and return the consent form below.

I do **not** consent to my child(ren) participating in the ChildLine Schools Service programme

Name of child: _____ Class: _____

Parent/carer name: _____ Parent/carer signature:_____

Date: _____

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Questions & Answers for Parents/Carers

Why is the ChildLine Schools Service doing this work?
Research has shown that the majority of children who contact ChildLine for information, help and support are over 11 years old. As a result, the ChildLine Schools Service wants to reach out to younger children.

Who will deliver the programme to children?
ChildLine Schools Service staff and/or trained volunteers from the NSPCC. They will hold a CRB/DBS Enhanced Disclosure (England and Wales), Access NI (Northern Ireland) or a Protection of Vulnerable Groups Scheme Disclosure (Scotland). The school will know who the volunteers are before they come into school.

Will school staff be there during the programme?
School staff will be with the children throughout, so they are familiar with the key messages, can work with the children afterwards and continue to talk about these messages.

My child has special needs. How will you cater for them?
We want to ensure that all children in the year group are included in the programme. Before the programme we will talk to the school about pupils' individual needs and we will consider any advice provided by the school so that your child can be included.

What if my child is particularly sensitive to the subjects discussed in the programme?
We recognise that some children may be more sensitive to the subjects discussed than others. The ChildLine staff and volunteers will be able to respond sensitively and appropriately to any issues that may arise during the programme. If you think it is helpful, please speak to your child's teacher about the programme.

Is there any information to help me discuss keeping safe with my child?
The NSPCC has produced guidance on the Underwear Rule to help parents and carers have simple conversations to help keep their children safe from sexual abuse – visit www.nspcc.org.uk/underwear for more information. For advice or to request a hard copy of the guide for parents and carers, please phone 0808 800 5000. You can also visit www.nspcc.org.uk/parents for other advice on keeping your child safe.

Will the ChildLine Schools Service/NSPCC keep information about my child?
We will **not** routinely keep records about individual children. We will need to keep information such as names of the staff we spoke to and the number of pupils involved. Where, as a result of our involvement with a school, a child protection concern arises about a child, we will keep records relating to the child protection concern on an NSPCC database. If this happens, the school will, of course, let you know.

Can I see information that the ChildLine Schools Service/NSPCC holds about my child?
Under the Data Protection Act 1998, everyone has the right to see personal information that an organisation holds about them, subject to certain exemptions. You can request access to your child's personal information; this is subject to certain exemptions. If you want to request access to information held by the ChildLine Schools Service, please put your request in writing to the ChildLine Schools Service, NSPCC Data Protection Manager, Legal Department, Weston House, 42 Curtain Road, London EC2A 3NH.

What should I do if I, or another adult, have concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child?
We would urge you to seek advice or take action without delay. You can do this by contacting your local social services department, police or alternatively you can contact the NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000, by email at help@nspcc.org.uk or via our online reporting service at www.nspcc.org.uk . The NSPCC Helpline operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year and can offer you important advice, guidance and support or take action on your behalf. People contacting the NSPCC Helpline can remain anonymous..

What should I do if I want to make a complaint?
The NSPCC has a complaints procedure. The school has copies of our *How to make Yourself Heard* leaflet that explains what you should do if you want to make a complaint or comment. Please let the school know if you would like a copy of this.

I am interested in volunteering for the ChildLine Schools Service. How do I apply? We welcome volunteer applications from parents and carers. You can find out more about the role and apply online by going to www.nspcc.org.uk/schoolsservice

Nurturing Hearts; Inspiring Minds