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Ref: BXG/GSN

15th October 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Safeguarding

I am writing to you today to introduce myself and to share some important information regarding the safety and well-being of your children here at Yardleys.

My name is Mr Sohal, and I am the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for the school. My role, and that of the entire safeguarding team, is central to the school's commitment to creating a safe and supportive environment where every student can thrive, both academically and personally. The safety of your child is our absolute priority.

What is the Role of the DSL?

As the DSL, I oversee all matters of child protection and safeguarding within the school. This involves:

- Working closely with staff to ensure everyone understands and follows our safeguarding policies and procedures.
- **Liaising with external agencies**, such as social services and the police, when necessary to support a student.
- **Providing advice and support** to students, parents, and staff on a range of issues, including online safety, mental health, and emotional well-being.

Your support and cooperation are invaluable. If you ever have a worry—no matter how small it may seem—about your child or any other student's safety, I encourage you to reach out immediately. Our school is a community, and working together is the most effective way to protect our students.

Where to Find Resources

We understand that parenting in the digital age can present unique challenges. To support you, we have compiled a dedicated safeguarding and well-being resource hub on our school website.

You can find a wealth of information at: https://www.yardleys-vle.com

The website/Safeguarding page is updated regularly and includes:

- Our Safeguarding Policy
- Guides and tips for online safety (e.g., social media privacy settings, gaming risks)
- Information on key support services and mental health resources for teenagers
- Contact details for me and the Deputy DSLs

I strongly encourage you to take a few moments to bookmark this page and familiarise yourselves with the content, especially the advice on **online safety**.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, my details can be found on the safeguarding page on our website.

I look forward to a successful and safe school year ahead.

With best wishes,

Mr. S Sohal

<u>Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)</u>