



Safeguarding at Kinson Academy

Issue 18

Autumn Term
2026

A very warm welcome back to all our children, parents and carers as we begin another exciting academic year at Kinson Academy. We hope you have enjoyed a happy and restful summer break.

We would also like to extend a special welcome to all our new starters and their families who are joining our school community for the first time. We look forward to working with you and supporting your child as they settle into school life.

At Kinson Academy, the safety and wellbeing of children is at the heart of everything we do.

Effective safeguarding relies on everyone working together, including staff, parents, carers and the wider community. Through open communication, shared responsibility and early action when concerns arise, we can help ensure that every child is protected, supported and given the opportunity to succeed and thrive.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated Safeguarding Team who are committed to promoting the wellbeing of all our pupils. Whether you have a concern about a child's safety, wellbeing, attendance, mental health, online activity, or simply need some advice and support, our team is here to help. No concern is ever too small, and we encourage parents and carers to speak to us whenever they need guidance or reassurance.

The Safeguarding Team



**Designated Safeguarding Lead
Prevent Lead**

**Mrs Lawson
Principal**



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

**Mrs Pollock
Inclusion Lead**



**Deputy Safeguarding Lead
E-Safety Champion**

**Mr. Dighton
SENCO**



**Deputy Safeguarding Lead
EYFS**

**Mr. Richards
Lower School Lead**



**Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Anti-Bullying Champion**

**Miss Sargent
Upper School Lead**



Safeguarding@ka.weareauthentic.education



01202 572713

As always, members of the Safeguarding Team are available on the main gate each day.

Alternatively, you can call the school office and ask to speak to a member of the safeguarding team on **01202 572713**, or send an email directly to [**safeguarding@ka.weareauthentic.education**](mailto:safeguarding@ka.weareauthentic.education)

Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse is a pattern of behaviour used by one person to control, intimidate, threaten, or harm another person within a family or intimate relationship. While many people think of domestic abuse as physical violence, it can take many different forms and often involves a combination of behaviours designed to gain power and control over someone else.

Domestic abuse can happen to anyone, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, religion, or background. It can occur between partners, ex-partners, family members, or carers, and it affects both adults and children. Domestic abuse may be ongoing or escalate over time.

Domestic abuse may include:

- **Physical abuse** such as hitting, pushing, kicking, or causing injury.
- **Emotional or psychological abuse** including name-calling, humiliation, threats, manipulation, or making someone feel frightened.
- **Coercive and controlling behaviour** where one person seeks to dominate another by monitoring their movements, restricting contact with friends and family, or controlling everyday decisions.
- **Financial abuse** such as controlling access to money, preventing someone from working, or taking their income.
- **Digital abuse** through excessive monitoring of phones, social media, emails, or online activity.
- **Sexual abuse** involving any unwanted sexual activity or pressure.
- **Online or digital abuse** such as someone using technology devices, or social media to control, monitor, threaten, harass, or intimidate another person
- **Stalking and harassment** often linked to controlling behaviour – this form of abuse can have a significant impact on a person's safety, wellbeing and mental health.

How Domestic Abuse Affects Children

Children do not need to witness abuse directly to be affected by it. Living in a household where domestic abuse occurs can have a significant impact on a child's emotional wellbeing, behaviour, relationships, and ability to learn.

Children may experience:

- Anxiety, fear, or low self-esteem.
- Difficulty concentrating at school.
- Changes in behaviour or mood.
- Sleep disturbances and worries about family members.
- Feelings of guilt or responsibility for what is happening at home.

Long-term effects of domestic abuse for children can include:

- Mental health problems, including anxiety and depression – this can lead to big impacts on physical health, including self-harm or developing an eating disorder
- Using drugs and alcohol as unhealthy coping mechanisms
- Repeating behaviours seen in their domestic settings

How We Can Help

At school, we are committed to supporting the safety and wellbeing of all children and families. If you are experiencing domestic abuse, or are worried about someone else, help is available. Speaking to a trusted professional can be the first step towards getting support.

If you would like to talk confidentially, please contact a member of our safeguarding team. We can listen, offer support, and help you access appropriate services.

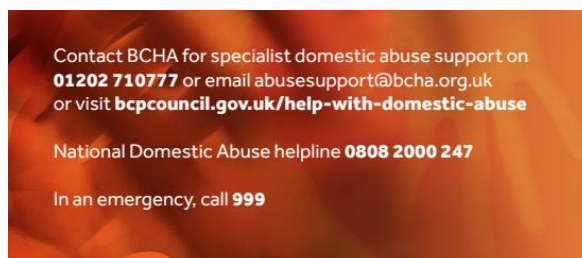
Where to Find Support

If you are in immediate danger, always call **999**.

For advice and support:

- **National Domestic Abuse Helpline:** 0808 2000 247
- **Refuge:** www.refuge.org.uk
- **Victim Support:** www.victimsupport.org.uk

Domestic abuse is not acceptable, and support is available locally in BCP.



We are an Operation Encompass School



Kinson Academy continue to take part in a project that runs jointly between schools and Dorset Police.

Operation Encompass is the notification to schools when a child or young person has experienced any domestic abuse, this information will be shared with the schools.

Operation Encompass will ensure that senior safeguarding members of the school staff, (DSL/DDSLs) known as Key Adults, are trained to allow them to receive information from the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have been involved in a domestic abuse incident.



If you are concerned about domestic abuse, please speak to a member of the safeguarding team for further support and signposting.

Celebrating Our Young Carers

At Kinson Academy, we are proud to recognise and celebrate the incredible contribution made by our **Young Carers**.

A young carer is a child or young person who helps to look after a family member who may have a disability, long-term illness, mental health condition, or substance misuse issue. The support they provide can include practical tasks around the home, helping with siblings, offering emotional support, or assisting with daily routines.

Young carers often take on responsibilities beyond their years and show remarkable kindness, resilience and maturity. While caring for others can be rewarding, it can also bring additional challenges, including worries about family members, reduced time for themselves, and difficulties balancing home responsibilities with school life.

At **Kinson Academy**, we are committed to ensuring that young carers receive the support they need to thrive both academically and emotionally. We understand that every young carer's situation is unique, and we work closely with families to provide additional pastoral support where needed.

Our aim is to ensure that young carers are able to achieve their full potential, participate fully in school life, and enjoy the opportunities that every child deserves.

We are fortunate to have **Mrs Pollock** and **Miss Tuck** as our dedicated **Young Carer Champions**. They are available to offer support, guidance and a listening ear to young carers and their families, as well as helping pupils access additional resources and opportunities.

If you believe your child may be a young carer, or if your family circumstances have changed and your child is helping to care for a loved one, please speak to **Mrs Pollock** or **Miss Tuck**. By working together, we can ensure that young carers receive the recognition, understanding and support they deserve.

Being a young carer is something to be proud of, and we are committed to helping our young carers succeed, flourish and enjoy their childhood.

Support is also available from the My Time Young Carer charity.

<https://www.mytimeyoungcarers.org/contact-us/>



Benedict's Law: Helping to Keep Children with Allergies Safe

Many families will be aware that allergies are becoming increasingly common among children. In September 2026, new allergy safety measures known as **Benedict's Law** were introduced to help make schools safer for children with allergies and to ensure staff are better prepared to respond in an emergency.

The law is named in memory of **Benedict Blythe**, a young boy who sadly lost his life following a severe allergic reaction at school. The changes aim to improve allergy awareness, strengthen safety procedures and provide greater reassurance for children, families and schools.

Under Benedict's Law, schools will have clear allergy management procedures in place, staff will receive training to recognise and respond to allergic reactions, and emergency adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs) will be available on site. Schools will also work closely with families to ensure that children with serious allergies have appropriate healthcare plans and support.

How Parents and Carers Can Help

Parents and carers play an important role in keeping children safe. Please ensure that:

- The school is informed of any allergies your child has.
- Medical information is kept up to date.
- Any prescribed medication is provided to school and replaced before it expires.
- Changes to your child's condition or treatment are shared with the school promptly.

Understanding Allergic Reactions

Allergic reactions can range from mild symptoms, such as itching or rashes, to a severe reaction known as **anaphylaxis**, which requires immediate medical attention. Knowing the signs and ensuring staff have the right training and equipment can save lives.

Working Together

The introduction of Benedict's Law is a positive step towards creating safer, more inclusive environments for children with allergies. By working together, schools and families can help ensure that every child feels safe, supported and able to fully participate in all aspects of school life.

If your child has an allergy and you would like to discuss their support arrangements, please contact the school office and request a meeting with Mr Dighton who is our Allergy Lead.



ANAPHYLAXIS IS A MEDICAL EMERGENCY



Breathing Difficulties

- ✓ Noisy breathing
- ✓ Wheezing or persistent cough
- ✓ Shortness of breath
- ✓ Difficulty speaking or swallowing

Swelling

- ✓ Swollen tongue
- ✓ Swollen throat
- ✓ Tightness in the throat
- ✓ Difficulty swallowing

Skin Changes

- ✓ Hives or raised rash
- ✓ Red, itchy skin
- ✓ Swelling of the lips, face or eyes

Circulation Problems

- ✓ Pale or floppy appearance (especially in children)
- ✓ Dizziness or collapse
- ✓ Loss of consciousness