



LET'S TALK ABOUT SAFEGUARDING

PARENTS VERSION

Read BSG
Safeguarding Policies:

www.britishschoolgeneva.ch/downloads



Our Safeguarding Team

Safeguarding: is EVERYTHING we do in school to keep children safe, healthy, happy and therefore learning.

If you need someone to talk to, we are here for you!

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead offers a safe and confidential space to connect and share concerns.



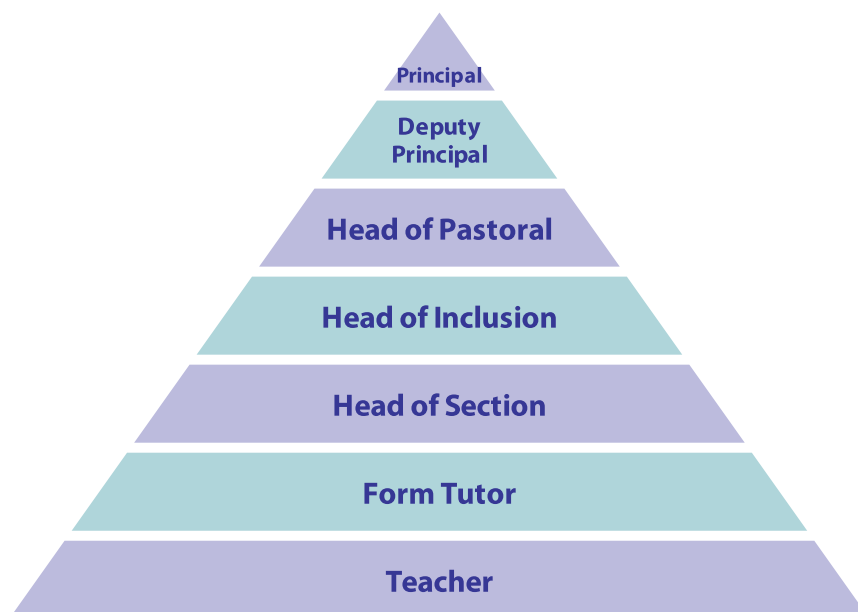
Head of Pastoral

**DESIGNATED
SAFEGUARDING LEAD
Ms Aisling Demaison**



Principal

**DEPUTY
SAFEGUARDING LEAD
Ms Sophie
Hatfield-Giroux**



CONTACT: pastoralcare@britishschoolgeneva.ch

Our Safeguarding Leadership Team



PRINCIPAL

**Ms Sophie
Hatfield-Giroux**



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL &
HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

Ms Alice Parker



HEAD OF
PRIMARY & EYFS

Ms Dara Evans



HEAD OF PASTORAL &
DESIGNATED
SAFEGUARDING LEAD

Ms Aisling Demaison



HEAD
OF INCLUSION

Ms Laura Dean

Secondary Heads of Sections



HEAD OF
KEY STAGE 3

Ms Rita Pires



HEAD OF
KEY STAGE 4

Mr Afonso Silveira

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding: is EVERYTHING we do in school to keep children safe, healthy, happy and therefore learning.

Safeguarding includes but is not limited to:

- attendance
- administering medicines
- anti-bullying
- behaviour for learning
- code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- clubs, trips, educational visits and extended school activities
- data protection
- drug and substance misuse
- disability objectives and accessibility
- equal opportunities
- emergency planning
- evacuation and lock-down procedures
- first aid
- intimate care
- on-line safety
- risk assessments
- safe recruitment practices
- managing allegations against staff and volunteers
- school and site security
- safeguarding advice for visitors
- special educational needs and disabilities
- taking and using photographs
- whistle-blowing
- CHILD PROTECTION

Safeguarding at BSG

At the British School of Geneva, our priority is to put children first.

Safeguarding is everything we do to keep children safe, healthy and happy, so that they can learn and thrive. We take a **whole-school approach**: every member of staff shares this responsibility, from teachers and form tutors to our Pastoral and Inclusion teams and the Senior Leadership Team. Families are valued partners in this work.

Students play an important role too. Our **Student Wellness Ambassadors (SWAP)** are a group of students aged 12 to 18 who make sure young people's voices shape how we care for one another. Throughout the year they lead initiatives such as Anti-Bullying Week, Children's Mental Health Week, Neurodiversity Week and the UN Children's Walk, helping to create a culture where every student feels safe, respected and confident to speak up, and knows who to turn to.

NEW THIS YEAR

MyConcern: a safe way for students to speak up

We are introducing **MyConcern**, a new reporting system that gives students a safe and private way to tell us about any worry, for themselves or for a friend.

Every student will receive a **QR code to keep in their agenda**, and QR codes are displayed around the school. Scanning it opens our MyConcern form, which goes directly to our safeguarding team.

Please talk to your child about MyConcern and encourage them to use it whenever something is worrying them.

Scan to submit a
student concern



British School of Geneva

Parents: if you have a concern about a child's safety or wellbeing, please contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead, **Ms Demaison**: aisling.demaison@britishschoolgeneva.ch

Safeguarding rules for visitors

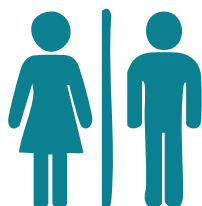
Welcome to BSG. We kindly ask that all visitors to BSG respect these rules to ensure the safety of our school



- All visitors must sign in at reception and wear a visitor badge while on school premises



- Photos and videos are not permitted



- No use of student restrooms



- Visitors must be accompanied by a staff member around the school building

Support for Families in Geneva

A guide for parents · October 2026



A guide for parents: where to turn when your child, or your family, needs help. Some services are free and confidential, and many speak English.

At school: if you are unsure where to start, or have any concern about a child's safety or wellbeing, contact the British School of Geneva – Designated Safeguarding Lead,

Ms Demaison: aisling.demaison@britishschoolgeneva.ch

In an emergency

If your child's life or safety is in danger, call first and explain later.

Number	Who	When to call
144	Ambulance	Medical emergency, serious injury, overdose
117	Police	Danger, violence, a child at risk
118	Fire brigade	Fire
145	Tox Info Suisse	Poisoning, or a child has swallowed something
112	European emergency number	Any emergency, also from a foreign mobile
022 372 45 55	HUG Paediatric Emergency Department, Av. de la Roseaie 47	24/7, birth to 16, including mental health crises
022 372 38 62	HUG Psychiatric Emergencies	24/7, from age 16

If you are worried about your child's mood or behaviour

Signs such as withdrawal, sadness that does not lift, self-harm or talk of not wanting to live always deserve a call. You do not need to be sure before you ask for advice.

Service	What they offer	Contact
Malatavie – Ligne Ados (HUG)	24/7 crisis line for young people up to 25 with suicidal thoughts or deep distress. Parents can call too. Fast appointments and crisis care	022 372 42 42 · preventionsuicide@hcuge.ch
Pro Juventute 147	Free, confidential help your child can contact directly, 24/7	Call or text 147 · WhatsApp · chat

Service	What they offer	Contact
La Main Tendue	Anonymous listening line for anyone, day and night	143
Office médico-pédagogique (OMP)	Cantonal psychological and educational support for children and teenagers	022 388 67 00 · Rue David-Dufour 1
HUG Maison de l'enfance et de l'adolescence	Hospital mental health care for children and teenagers up to 18	Bd de la Cluse 26 · HUG switchboard 022 372 33 11
Your paediatrician or family doctor	A good first step, and can refer you to a child psychologist or psychiatrist	—
ciao.ch	Anonymous online answers from professionals for ages 11–20	Online

English-speaking counselling for children and teenagers

Geneva has many psychologists and psychotherapists who work with children in English, mostly in private practice. The school counsellor can talk through options with you and suggest professionals the school has worked with.

How to find one

Where to look	What it is	Link
FSP PsyFinder	Free official search of qualified psychologists and psychotherapists who are members of the Swiss Federation of Psychologists. Filter by region (Geneva), language (English) and age group	psychologie.ch
Psychology Today (Switzerland)	Directory of therapists with profiles, many English-speaking; filter by Geneva, teens or children, and language	psychologytoday.com/en-ch
OneDoc	Book appointments online with child and adolescent psychotherapists in Geneva; profiles list languages spoken	onedoc.ch
ASK – All Special Kids	English-speaking association; offers assessments, CBT and social-skills groups for children with learning differences, and referrals to English-speaking specialists	Route de Ferney 150
Your paediatrician or family doctor	Can recommend English-speaking child psychologists and write the prescription needed for insurance cover	—

Assessments for ADHD, autism (ASD) and learning difficulties, in English

Professional	What they offer	Contact
Ms Alison Chowdhary, psychologist	Bilingual English–French psychologist (MSc Clinical and Developmental Psychology, University of Geneva), former primary teacher of the British curriculum. Psychoeducational assessments for children with academic, behavioural or emotional difficulties at school or at home, including ADHD and autism. Video consultations available	Cabinet de Mme Chowdhary, Avenue de la Gare 10, 1180 Rolle (Vaud) · Tue–Thu · book via OneDoc
CF Psychology	Online ADHD assessments (non-medical diagnosis) by HCPC-registered psychologists	Online, UK-based cfpsychology.co.uk

Assessments are often fully or partly reimbursed by complementary or international health insurance. Check with your insurer first.

English-speaking counsellors

Professional	What they offer	Contact
Ms Christina Grivea, Counsellor (MA)	English-speaking counselling in a safe, confidential and non-judgemental space, using an integrative approach adapted to each client. Experience includes trauma and self-harm	1206 Geneva · profile and contact via Psychology Today
Ms Pritha Mani, child, adolescent and young adult counsellor	Counselling for children, teenagers and young adults with low self-esteem, bullying, anxiety, depression, self-harm, suicidal thoughts, trauma and sexual violence. Advocate for LGBTQIA+ young people; runs free online support groups for LGBTQIA+ teens	Works between Tannay and Mies (Vaud, near Geneva) · see Hand in Hand Switzerland
Ms Anastasia Adamopoulou – Anastasia Therapy	For parents and adults. UK-trained counsellor and psychotherapist (Master's in Counselling and Psychotherapy, BACP member). Psychodynamic counselling for anxiety, depression, relationships, parenthood, work and life transitions. English and Greek; also Spanish	Ferney-Voltaire and Greater Geneva; online sessions available · contact form on anastasia-therapy.com

Tips

- Look for the title *psychologue spécialiste en psychothérapie FSP* or *psychothérapeute reconnu au niveau fédéral* (federally recognised psychotherapist).
- Basic health insurance can cover psychotherapy with a recognised psychologist-psychotherapist when a doctor prescribes it. Check the details with your insurer before starting.
- Ask for a first meeting: most families decide after one conversation whether a therapist is the right fit for their child.
- In a crisis, do not wait for a private appointment. Malatavie (022 372 42 42) and the HUG emergency services work 24/7; ask whether someone can speak with you in English.

Support for you as a parent

Service	What they offer	Contact
Pro Juventute – Conseils aux parents	Free, confidential advice on parenting, development and family life, 24/7	058 261 61 61 · WhatsApp 8:30–22:30
Service de protection des mineurs (SPMi)	Listens without judgement to parents who need help with their child or family situation, not only in cases of danger	022 546 10 00 · Mon–Fri 8:00–12:30, 13:30–17:00
Couple et famille	Couple and family counselling, family mediation, parent–teen mediation	022 736 14 55
HUG family and couple psychotherapy clinic	Family and couple therapy	022 305 48 48
Arcade Sages-Femmes	Midwives supporting parents from pregnancy to a baby's first steps	022 329 05 55
Association des familles monoparentales (AFM Genève)	Support, coaching and legal help for single-parent families	022 344 11 11
Action Innocence	Advice on keeping children safe online and on digital issues	022 735 50 02
MonAdo.ch	Practical help with setting limits around teenage drinking, cannabis and screens	Online

Raising children without violence

Since 1 July 2026, the Swiss Civil Code (article 302) states that parents must raise their children without violence, in particular without physical punishment or other degrading treatment. Smacking, slapping, insults and humiliation are no longer acceptable ways to discipline a child. Parents can and should still set rules and limits, and act when they are not respected.

The Canton of Geneva says so-called “educational” violence harms children’s development and wellbeing. Physical or psychological violence can lead to anxiety, low self-esteem, aggressive behaviour and relationship difficulties, and it has no educational benefit.

If you feel overwhelmed, or worry you might lose your temper, ask for help early. These services are free or low-cost, confidential and non-judgemental:

Service	What they offer	Contact
Pro Juventute – Conseils aux parents	Talk to a professional about discipline, behaviour or family stress, any time, anonymously	058 261 61 61 (24/7) · WhatsApp 8:30–22:30
Fondation 022 Familles	Parenting support: appointments, workshops and a family helpline	022 328 55 77 · Mon–Fri 8:30–12:00, 13:00–17:00

Service	What they offer	Contact
Association Jeunes Parents	Support for young parents balancing parenthood, youth and studies or work	077 474 73 37 (also WhatsApp)
Parent-child meeting places	Drop-in spaces where parents and young children meet others and talk with professionals. Run by Ville de Genève, Vernier, Lancy, Meyrin and Carouge	See ge.ch
Service de protection des mineurs (SPMi)	Listens without judgement to parents who need help with their child or family situation	022 546 10 00 (Mon–Fri)

Read more: [Canton of Geneva – Education sans violence](#).

Health

Service	What they offer	Contact
Paediatric line (Geneva paediatricians' network)	Advice and an urgent appointment with a paediatrician when yours is unavailable. Daily 8:00–22:00	0844 022 22
Centrale Santé Genève (CeSaGe)	Free 24/7 line: health professionals assess symptoms and direct you to the right care	0800 116 117
GenèveMédecins	Doctor home visits, 24/7	022 754 54 54
AlINEA (HUG)	Eating and feeding disorders, up to age 16. Parents can call directly; a worry is enough reason	022 372 24 28 · Bd de la Cluse 26
ESCAL (HUG)	Eating disorders from age 16	022 372 55 33 · escal@hug.ch
Consultation Santé Jeunes (HUG)	Health clinic for young people aged 12–25: general medicine, gynaecology, LGBTQI+-friendly	022 372 33 87 · Bd de la Cluse 87
HUG sexual health and family planning unit	Free, confidential advice on contraception, relationships and sexuality; emergency contraception	022 372 55 00 · Bd de la Cluse 47
Espace Jeune Consommateur (Carrefour addictionS)	Under-25s worried about alcohol or cannabis use; also supports parents	022 329 11 69

Safety, violence and child protection

If a child is in immediate danger, call **117**.

Service	What they offer	Contact
Victim support line	National line for any physical, psychological or sexual violence. Free, confidential, 24/7; family members can call too	142
Geneva domestic violence line	Anonymous, 24/7, for victims, witnesses and perpetrators	0840 110 110

Service	What they offer	Contact
Service de protection des mineurs (SPMi)	Where to report concerns that a child is in danger; anonymous reports are not accepted	022 546 10 00 (Mon–Fri)
Centre LAVI	Free help for victims of crime and their families: psychological, legal and practical	022 320 01 02 · calls Mon–Fri 14:00–17:00 (+ Mon, Wed, Fri 10:30–12:30)
Viol-Secours	Support after sexual violence, from age 16; also for relatives	022 345 20 20
Police – Brigade des mineurs	Offences involving minors	022 427 73 30

Learning, special needs and identity

Service	What they offer	Contact
ASK – All Special Kids	English-speaking association for families of children, teenagers and young adults with learning differences and special educational needs (e.g. autism, ADHD, dyslexia, Down syndrome). Parent consultations and referrals to schools and specialists, educational assessments, parent network, workshops, social-skills programmes and inclusive day camps	Route de Ferney 150, 1211 Genève 2 · allspecialkids.org
Service de pédagogie spécialisée (SPS)	Assesses special educational needs, then grants and funds support such as speech therapy and psychomotor therapy	Rue des Glacis-de-Rive 11 · phone line Mon–Fri 10:00–11:30
Cap Intégration	Online information for families of children with learning differences, disabilities, chronic illness or high potential	Online
Agnodice	Support for young people questioning their gender identity, and their families	079 855 78 42
Association 360	Groups for LGBTQ+ people and families, including a parents' group	022 741 00 70

[ASPEDAH](#)

French-speaking Swiss association for parents and adults affected by ADHD: coaching, parent programmes, discussion groups and talks (in French)

Contact form on aspedah.ch

Online directories

- [Click4Help](#): hundreds of Geneva services for young people aged 12–25 and their families, searchable by topic.
- [ge.ch – Parents: besoin d'aide ou de conseils?](#): the canton's list of parent support services.

Sources

Contact details checked on 28 October 2026 against: [HUG emergency services](#), [ge.ch – SPMi](#), [ge.ch – parent support](#), [ge.ch – domestic violence](#), [ge.ch – sexual health services](#), [ge.ch – paediatric line](#), [CHUV – the 142 line](#), [Malatavie \(HUG\)](#), [AliNEA leaflet](#), [ESCAL](#).