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**CHILD PROTECTION POLICY**

**And Safeguarding Handbook**

**Glazebury CE Primary**

**2023-2024**

**OUR TRUST PRAYER**

Heavenly Father,

Let peace, friendship and love grow in our schools.

Send the Holy Spirit to give excellence to our learning,

love to our actions and joy to our worship.

Guide us to help others so that we may all

*Learn, Love and Achieve,*

*Together with Jesus*

Amen

**The HEART of our school and curriculum:**

**H – Helping children prepare for life, growing with God.**

**E – Embracing Christian Values.**

**A - Achievement for all.**

**R - Reading at the heart of our school**

**T – Teaching a knowledge rich curriculum.**

*cc*

School Details

Head teacher: **Mrs K Mowbray**

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs K Mowbray

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead(s): Mrs K Wall

Designated Teacher for Looked-after Children: Mrs K Mowbray

Link Governor for Safeguarding: Mrs S Makepeace Taylor

Chair of Governors: Mr D Beechey

Policy Date: September 2023-2024

Policy Status: **Statutory**

Policy Review Cycle: Annual

Next Review Date: September 2024

This policy provides guidance to all adults working within the school whether paid or voluntary or directly employed by the school or by a third party.

***This policy should be read alongside Part 1 and Annex B of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023, and in conjunction with Section 1 of the School Improvement Liverpool Schools Safeguarding Handbook, which is made available to all staff and volunteers.***

1. Introduction

Glazebury CE Primary and its governing body recognises its duty towards safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children as set out in Section 175 / 157 of the Education Act 2002 / Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014. Glazebury CE Primary is a Church of England Primary school.

Our school will prevent and respond to abuse and neglect by ensuring that the ethos and atmosphere of the school is conducive to a safe environment. Pupils and parents/carers will feel supported and able to report safeguarding concerns to any member of staff or volunteer. Staff and volunteers will feel they are supported by colleagues and the senior management team, including the governing body, and are able to report and seek advice and guidance on any safeguarding concerns, including those regarding colleagues or themselves. We will protect children at risk of abuse or neglect by having procedures in place that reflect current legislation, guidance and best practice.

As part of our safeguarding ethos, we encourage children to respect the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. We will ensure that partisan political views are not promoted in the teaching of any subject in the school and where political issues are brought to the attention of the pupils, reasonably practicable steps will be taken to offer a balanced presentation of opposing views to pupils. We will ensure that reasonable steps are taken to ensure visitors to the school do not share messages with the school community which are contrary to our school ethos and beliefs.

**Safeguarding is everybody’s responsibility** and, as such, this policy applies to all staff and volunteers working in the school. An allegation, disclosure or suspicion of abuse, or an expression of concern about abuse, could be made to any member of staff, not just those with a teaching or welfare-related role. Similarly, any member of staff may observe or suspect an incident of abuse.

1. Child Protection Statement

Our school is committed to safeguarding children and promoting children’s welfare and expects all staff, governors, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment and maintain a vigilant and safe environment. Everyone has a responsibility to act, without delay, to protect children by reporting anything that might suggest a child is being abused or neglected. It is our willingness to work safely and challenge inappropriate behaviours that underpins this commitment. The school seeks to work in partnership with families and other agencies to improve the outcomes for children who are vulnerable or in need.

‘*Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is* ***everyone’s*** *responsibility.* ***Everyone*** *who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all professionals should make sure their approach is child centred. This means that they should consider, at all times, what is in the* ***best interests*** *of the child*.’ (DFE **2023**)

1. Definitions

**Child:**

A child includes everyone under the age of 18. The fact that a child has reached 16 years of age, is living independently or is in further education, is a member of the armed forces, is in hospital or in custody in the secure estate, does not change their status or entitlements to services or protection.

**Child Protection:**

Part of safeguarding and promoting welfare. This refers to the activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering, or are likely to suffer, significant harm.

*Where a child is suffering significant harm, or is likely to do so, action should be taken to protect that child****.***

**Safeguarding Children:**

Action should be taken to promote the welfare of a child in need of additional support, even if they are not suffering harm or are at immediate risk.

*‘Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children’s mental and physical health or development; ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.’* (DfE **2023**)

**Abuse:**

Abuse is a form of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others. Abuse can take place wholly online, or technology may be used to facilitate offline abuse. Children may be abused by an adult or adults, or another child or children.

**Physical Abuse:**

A form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

**Emotional Abuse:**

The *persistent* emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child’s emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or ‘making fun’ of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond a child’s developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone

**Neglect:**

The persistent failure to meet a child’s basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child’s health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

* provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment)
* protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
* ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers)
* ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child’s basic emotional needs.

**Sexual Abuse:**

Involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse. Sexual abuse can take place online, and technology can be used to facilitate offline abuse. Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

Further information regarding the signs and indicators of abuse are set out in the DFE guidance [**Keeping Children Safe in Education**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2) and can be found within the School Improvement Liverpool Schools Safeguarding Handbook. This includes amongst others, the definitions and indicators of Child Sexual Exploitation, Child Criminal Exploitation (including County Lines), Serious Violence, Female Genital Mutilation, Forced Marriage, Honour Based Abuse, child on child abuse, Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment (including sexting and other related issues), Vulnerabilities to Extremism and Children Missing Education.

1. Policy Aims

* To ensure school takes appropriate action, in a timely manner, to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children
* To ensure responsibilities and procedures are fully understood and that everyone can recognise signs and indicators of abuse or neglect and respond to them appropriately.
* To ensure that the school’s practice meets local and national guidance and all statutory requirements are in place.

1. Key Principles

* The child’s needs and welfare are paramount. All children have a right to be protected from abuse and neglect and have their welfare safeguarded.
* Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE **2023**) reminds us that all staff should maintain an attitude of “*it could happen here*” where safeguarding is concerned.
* Children should be listened to and their views and wishes should inform any assessment and provision for them. Staff should always act in the interests of the child, in order to protect them.
* The school recognises that scrutiny, challenge and supervision are key to safeguarding children.
* The school is committed to working with other agencies to provide early help for children before they become at risk of harm or require a ‘child in need’ statutory assessment. ‘*Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child’s life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years*.’ (DfE **2023**)
* All staff should be aware of the early help process and understand their role in it. This includes identifying emerging problems, liaising with the designated safeguarding lead, sharing information with other professionals to support early identification and assessment and, in some cases, acting as the lead professional in undertaking an early help assessment.
* ‘*All staff should be aware of the process for making referrals to children’s social care and for statutory assessments under the Children Act 1989, especially section 17 (children in need) and section 47 (a child suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm) that may follow a referral, along with the role they might be expected to play in such assessments*.’ (DFE **2023**)
* All staff have responsibility to report their concerns about a child **without delay** to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, or in their absence the deputy designated safeguarding lead(s) or other senior member of staff. This should be done both verbally and in writing, using the agreed format. Whilst the Designated Safeguarding Lead will normally make referrals to Children’s Services, **anyone** can refer their concerns to children’s social care directly in emergencies or if they feel they need to do so. [**Safeguarding-Mate**](https://www.schoolimprovementliverpool.co.uk/safeguarding-mate/) can support any member of staff through the process of making a referral.
* Everyone has responsibility to escalate their concerns and ‘press for reconsideration’ if they believe a child’s needs remain unmet or if the child is failing to thrive and in need or if the child is at risk of harm. Concerns about a child should always lead to help for a child at some point and the child’s situation should improve.
* The school will work in partnership with other agencies to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm, including the need to share information about a child in order to safeguard them. *‘Fears about sharing information cannot be allowed to stand in the way of the need to promote the welfare and protect the safety of children*.’ Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2018)
* The school will work with other agencies to ensure any actions that are part of a multi-agency coordinated plan are completed in a timely way.
* The school will follow the Local Authority and the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures and provide them with information as required.
* Staff, children and families will need support following child protection processes being followed.
* Children have a right to learn ways to keep themselves safe from harm and exploitation.

1. Legislation and Guidance

Schools and colleges must have regard for the DfE statutory guidance ‘[**Keeping Children Safe in Education**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2) (DfE **2023**). **This child protection policy should be read alongside this statutory guidance and all staff must read and understand at least Part 1 and Annex B of this guidance.**

Local authorities have a duty to make enquiries under [**section 47**](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/41/section/47) of the **Children Act 1989** if they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm, to enable them to decide whether they should take any action to safeguard and promote the child's welfare. There may be a need for immediate protection whilst the assessment is carried out.

A ‘child in need’ is defined under the **Children Act 1989** as a child who is unlikely to achieve or maintain a satisfactory level of health or development, or their health and development will be significantly impaired, without the provision of services; or a child who is disabled. A social worker will lead and co-ordinate any assessment under [**section 17**](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/41/section/17) of the Children Act 1989.

[**Section 175**](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/32/section/175) of the **Education Act 2002** places a duty on local authorities (in relation to their education functions, and governing bodies of maintained schools and further education institutions, which include sixth-form colleges) to exercise their functions with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children who are pupils at a school, or who are students under 18 years of age attending further education institutions. The same duty applies to independent schools (which include Academies and free schools) by virtue of regulations made under [**section 157**](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/32/section/157/2015-01-05) of the same Act.

[**Working Together to Safeguard Children**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2) (DfE 2018) provides additional guidance which makes it clear that protecting children from harm and promoting their welfare depends upon a shared responsibility and effective joint working between different agencies:

Everyone who works with children has a responsibility for keeping them safe. No single practitioner can have a full picture of a child’s needs and circumstances and, if children and families are to receive the right help at the right time, **everyone** who comes into contact with them has a role to play in identifying concerns, sharing information and taking prompt action.

In addition, Working Together to Safeguard Children also reinforces the need to take action to provide early help before statutory services are required:

‘*Providing early help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later. Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child’s life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years*.’ DFE 2018

The school therefore understands its responsibility to engage with other professionals in Early Help Assessments when a child’s needs according to the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership’s Responding to Need and Level of Needs framework sit below the requirement for a statutory assessment.

**The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act** **2015** places a duty upon local authorities and educational providers to ‘have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism’. The DfE has provided statutory guidance for schools and child care providers: ‘[**The Prevent Duty**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance)’ (June 2015). The guidance summarises the requirements of schools and child care providers in terms of four general themes: risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training and IT policies. Our school will ensure that staff are aware of the indicators of extremism and radicalisation and know how to respond in keeping with local and national guidance by completing regular training in relation to Prevent. Staff will use their judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include making a referral via Children’s Services to the Channel programme. Equally children will be made aware of the risks and support available to them. We will ensure that children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in schools. The Government has developed an ‘educate against hate’ website providing information and resources for schools and parents to support them to recognise and address extremism and radicalisation in young people.

**‘Section 5B of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 (as inserted by section 74 of the Serious Crime Act 2015)** places a **statutory duty upon** **teachers** along with regulated health and social care professionals in England and Wales, to report to the police where they discover (either through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence) that FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18. Those failing to report such cases will face disciplinary sanctions. It will be rare for teachers to see visual evidence, and they should not be examining pupils, but the same definition of what is meant by “to discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out” is used for all professionals to whom this mandatory reporting duty applies. Information on when and how to make a report can be found at:

[**www.gov.uk/government/publications/mandatory-reporting-of-female-genital-mutilation-procedural-information**](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mandatory-reporting-of-female-genital-mutilation-procedural-information)

*Teachers* ***must*** *personally report to the police cases where they discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out. Unless the teacher has a good reason not to, they should also still consider and discuss any such case with the school or college’s designated safeguarding lead and involve children’s social care as appropriate. The duty does not apply in relation to at risk or suspected cases (i.e. where the teacher does not discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out, either through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence) or in cases where the woman is 18 or over. In these cases, teachers should follow local safeguarding procedures*. DFE **2023**

The school will also consult the government guidance [**Multi-agency statutory guidance on female genital mutilation**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multi-agency-statutory-guidance-on-female-genital-mutilation)(revised 2016) and will have reference to guidance provided by the National FGM Centre [**FGM Schools Guidance - National FGM Centre**](http://nationalfgmcentre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/FGM-Schools-Guidance-National-FGM-Centre.pdf).

In addition, the school recognises the important role schools have in safeguarding children from [**Forced Marriage**](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/forced-marriage). The Forced Marriage Unit has published [**Multi-agency statutory guidance**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-right-to-choose-government-guidance-on-forced-marriage), with pages 79-84 focusing on the role of schools and colleges. The school is clear that when it comes to the marriage of a child, the distinction between a forced marriage and an arranged marriage does not exist. Following the [**Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act 2022**](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2022/28/enacted), which came into force in February 2023, it is an offence to engage in any conduct for the purpose of causing a child to marry before their eighteenth birthday, even if violence, threats or another form of coercion are not used. Such a marriage is deemed a forced marriage. (The same legislation also provides that the minimum age at which one can legally marry or enter into a civil partnership in England and Wales is 18.) School and college staff can contact the Forced Marriage Unit if they need advice or information. Contact: 020 7008 0151 or email: [fmu@fco.gov.uk](mailto:fmu@fco.gov.uk).

Early years providers have a duty under section 40 of the **Childcare Act 2006** to comply with the welfare requirements of the [**Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-years-foundation-stage-framework--2).

The [**Teachers’ Standards**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teachers-standards)(DfE 2013, **updated 2021**) also requires all teachers to ‘uphold public trust in the profession and maintain high standards of ethics and behaviour, within and outside school, including:

* treating pupils with dignity, building relationships rooted in mutual respect, and at all times observing proper boundaries appropriate to a teacher’s professional position
* having regard for the need to safeguard pupils’ well-being, in accordance with statutory provisions
* showing tolerance of and respect for the rights of others
* not undermining fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect, and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs
* ensuring that personal beliefs are not expressed in ways which exploit pupils’ vulnerability or might lead them to break the law.

In addition, the **Sexual Offences Act 2003** makes it clear that all members of staff are in a position of trust and would therefore be committing a criminal offence to have a sexual relationship with a young person below the age of 18, even if that pupil is over the age of consent. In addition, it would be a breach of trust to have a relationship with any school student over the age of 18.

The **Human Rights Act 1998** sets out fundamental rights and freedoms that everyone is entitled to and contains the Articles and protocols of the **European Convention on Human Rights** that are deemed to apply within the UK. It compels public organisations to protect and respect an individual’s human rights when they make decisions about them. Under the human Rights Act it is unlawful for schools and colleges to act in a way that is incompatible with the Convention. The specific convention rights applying to schools and colleges are:

* Article 3: the right to freedom from inhuman and degrading treatment (an absolute right)
* Article 8: the right to respect for private and family life (a qualified right) includes a duty to protect individuals’ physical and psychological integrity
* Article 14: requires that all of the rights and freedoms set out in the Act must be protected and applied without discrimination.
* Protocol 1, Article 2: protects the right to education

We recognise that being subjected to harassment, violence and or abuse, including that of a sexual nature, may breach any or all of these rights, depending on the nature of the conduct and the circumstances.

Schools and colleges also have obligations under the **Equality Act 2010** whereby schools and colleges must not unlawfully discriminate against pupils because of their sex, race, disability, religion or belief, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, or sexual orientation (protected characteristics). Whilst all of the above protections are important, in the context of safeguarding, Keeping Children Safe in Education, and the legal duties placed on schools and colleges in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, governing bodies and proprietors should carefully consider how they are supporting their pupils and students with regard to particular protected characteristics - including disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment and race. Guidance to help schools understand how the Equality Act affects them and how to fulfil their duties under the act can be found at [**Equality Act 2010: advice for schools**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/equality-act-2010-advice-for-schools).

In addition, the **Public Sector Equality Duty** places a general duty on schools and colleges to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, to advance the equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not. The duty applies to all protected characteristics and specific consideration must be given to equality implications such as, for example, the need to eliminate unlawful behaviours that relate to them such as sexual violence and sexual harassment, misogyny/misandry and racism. Further information can be found in the document [**Technical Guidance on Public Sector Equality Duty: England**](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/technical-guidance-public-sector-equality-duty-england).

**The school and this policy also takes account of additional guidance including:**

* [**CSE Definition and guidance for practitioners**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-sexual-exploitation-definition-and-guide-for-practitioners) DFE 2017
* [**Criminal Exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: County Lines Guidance**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criminal-exploitation-of-children-and-vulnerable-adults-county-lines) DFE 2017
* [**Disqualification under the Childcare Act**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/disqualification-under-the-childcare-act-2006/disqualification-under-the-childcare-act-2006) DFE 2006
* [**Information sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-practitioners-information-sharing-advice) HMG 2018
* [**The Prevent Duty - Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-children-from-radicalisation-the-prevent-duty) DFE 2015
* [**How social media is used to encourage travel to Syria and Iraq**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-use-of-social-media-for-online-radicalisation) DFE 2015 (Briefing note for schools)
* The [**Ofsted School Inspection Handbook**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-inspection-handbook-eif) and Ofsted guidance: [**Inspecting safeguarding in early years, education and skills**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/inspecting-safeguarding-in-early-years-education-and-skills)
* [**What to do if you are worried a child is being abused: Advice for practitioners**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused--2)DFE 2015
* [**Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sharing-nudes-and-semi-nudes-advice-for-education-settings-working-with-children-and-young-people) DDCMS / UKCIS 2020
* [**Serious Violence Duty: statutory guidance**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/serious-violence-duty) Home Office 2022
* [**Domestic Abuse: statutory guidance**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-abuse-act-2021) Home Office 2022
* [**Working together to improve school attendance**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance) DFE 2022
* [**Searching, screening and confiscation: advice for schools**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/searching-screening-and-confiscation) 2022 DFE 2022
* Other DFE statutory guidance including: online safety and children who go missing from home or care is found here: [**https://www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/safeguarding-children**](https://www.gov.uk/topic/schools-colleges-childrens-services/safeguarding-children)

1. Communicating with parents and visitors

The school is committed to the principles of Working Together to Safeguard Children which states that a ‘*child centred approach is fundamental to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of every child. A child centred approach means keeping the child in focus when making decisions about their lives and working in partnership with them and their families*.’

The following statement is provided to parents/carers so they are aware of the school’s responsibilities:

***‘The school ensures children learn in a safe, caring and enriching environment. Children are taught how to identify risky, unsafe or problematic situations, how and when to seek help, how to develop positive and healthy relationships and how to avoid situations where they might be at risk including by being exploited.***

***The school also has a statutory responsibility to share any concerns it might have about a child in need of protection with other agencies and in particular police, health and children’s services. Schools are not able to investigate child protection concerns but have a legal duty to refer them. In most instances the school will be able to inform the parents/carers of its need to make a referral. However, sometimes the school can in certain circumstances share information without the consent of the family and may be advised by children’s services or police that the parent/carer cannot be informed whilst they investigate the matter or make enquires. We understand the anxiety parents/carers understandably feel when they are not told about any concerns from the outset. The school follows legislation that aims to act in the interests of the child****.*

*The school will always seek to work in partnership with parents and other agencies to ensure the best possible outcomes for the child and family.’*

The following notice is made available to all visitors in reception. In addition, all visitors are provided with additional safeguarding guidance.

*Our school is committed to safeguarding children and promoting children’s welfare and expects all staff, governors, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment and maintain a vigilant and safe environment. Everyone has a responsibility to act without delay to protect children by reporting anything that might suggest a child is being abused or neglected. We would expect you to also report to the headteacher or Designated Safeguarding Lead any behaviours of any adults working in the school that may concern you. By signing our visitors book you are agreeing to follow the school’s safeguarding advice to visitors and where appropriate the code of conduct for staff and volunteers.*

The names and photographs of the Designated Safeguarding Lead and those who deputise for them are displayed in reception and the staffroom, in each class room and hall under the banner of people who help us :Safeguarding team.

Roles and responsibilities

**The Head Teacher is**: Mrs Karen Mowbray

**The Chair of Governors is**: Mr David Beechey

**The Designated Safeguarding Lead for Child Protection is**: Mrs Karen Mowbray

**Those trained to provide cover for the role of Designated Safeguarding Lead are**: Mrs Karen Wall.

**The Designated Teacher for Looked-after Children is:** Mrs Kareen Mowbray

**The nominated Link Safeguarding / Child Protection Governor is**: Mrs Sarah Makepeace Taylor

**The nominated governor for dealing with allegations against the Head Teacher is**: Mr David Beechey COG

**Mental Health Lead: Mrs Karen Mowbray**

**Young Carers Champion : Mrs Karen Mowbray**

**Safeguarding team:** SBM: Mrs K Holcroft, TA: Mrs A Jones, Admin: Mrs L Porter

**All staff (and volunteers) should:**

* Contribute to ensuring students learn in a safe environment.
* Maintain the belief that ‘*it could happen here’*.
* Read and understand as a minimum Part 1 and Annex B of the DFE (**2023**) guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education and engage in training which enables them to identify children who may need additional help or who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm and take appropriate action. Staff should have an understanding of the specific safeguarding issues outlined in Part 1 and Annex B of the DFE (**2023**) guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education e.g. fabricated or induced illnesses, faith abuse. Staff should be aware that behaviours linked to drug taking, alcohol abuse, truanting and sexting can put children in danger. Staff should be alert to the signs of child on child abuse and take appropriate action.
* Have access to Section 1 of the Schools Safeguarding Handbook which will further support knowledge and understanding of key issues to enable them to identify and respond to children who need additional help. Staff will ensure that they have read and understood this document.
* Recognise that any child may benefit from early help, but all school and college staff should be particularly alert to the potential need for early help for a child who:
* is disabled or has certain health conditions and has specific additional needs
* has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory education, health and care plan)
* has a mental health need
* is a young carer
* is showing signs of being drawn in to anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups or county lines
* is frequently missing/goes missing from care or from home
* is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking, sexual or criminal exploitation
* is at risk of being radicalised or exploited
* has a family member in prison, or is affected by parental offending
* is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for the child, such as drug and alcohol misuse, adult mental health problems and domestic abuse
* is misusing alcohol or other drugs themselves
* has returned home to their family from care
* is at risk of ‘honour’-based abuse such as Female Genital Mutilation or Forced Marriage
* is showing early signs of abuse and/or neglect
* is a privately fostered child
* is persistently absent from education, including persistent absences for part of the school day
* Be aware that safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours can be associated with factors outside of the school and/or can occur between children outside of these environments. All staff should consider whether children are at risk of abuse of exploitation in situations outside of their family home. Extra-familial harms take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple harms including (but not limited to) sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation and serious youth violence.
* Be aware that mental health problems can, in some cases, be an indicator that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation. Staff are well placed to observe children day to day and identify those whose behaviour suggests that they may be experiencing a mental health problem or be at risk of developing one.
* Understand that where children have suffered abuse or neglect, or other potentially traumatic adverse childhood experiences, this can have a lasting impact throughout childhood, adolescence and into adulthood. All staff should be aware of how these experiences can impact on a child’s mental health, behaviour and education.
* Understand that all staff play an important part in working to prevent sexual harassment, online sexual abuse and sexual violence between children. Staff will assume that these behaviours are happening in our school and will work as part of a whole school approach to address such issues, including via the curriculum. Staff will understand how to handle reports of sexual violence or harassment.
* Staff must ensure that they appropriately challenge any form of derogatory and sexualised language or behaviour to ensure that everyone is respectful at all times.

*All staff should be able to reassure victims that they are being taken seriously and that they will be supported and kept safe. A victim should never be given the impression that they are creating a problem by reporting abuse, sexual violence or sexual harassment. Nor should a victim ever be made to feel ashamed for making a report.*

* **Report any concerns about a child’s welfare without delay to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead or in their absence a senior member of staff.**
* Ensure that they record their concerns using the school’s agreed reporting procedure in a contemporaneous fashion. Records will note the difference between fact and opinion. The child’s voice will be made clearly evident.
* Ensure that concerns relating to children remain confidential and are only shared with the appropriate safeguarding staff.
* Understand that any member of staff can make a referral to children’s services should that be required, informing the Designated Safeguarding Lead of any action taken.
* Understand their responsibility to escalate their concerns and ‘press for reconsideration’ if a child remains at risk or their needs are not met or if it appears that the school is not taking effective action in line with expected procedures. This includes the understanding that any member of staff can make a referral to Children’s Services if required to do.
* Teachers and those providing teaching **must** personally report to the police cases where they discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out.
* Be aware safeguarding issues can manifest themselves via child on child abuse.
* Understand that it may be appropriate to discuss with the Head teacher matters outside of work, which may have implications for the safeguarding of children in the workplace. This includes information about themselves. Staff will ensure that they are aware of the circumstances where this would be applicable.
* Report any concerns (including those which might be considered to be low level concerns) about the behaviour of an adult towards a child without delay to the Head Teacher, Designated Safeguarding Lead, Chair of Governors or if required the Local Authority Designated Officer for Allegations against Staff.
* Follow the school’s policies including this child protection policy and the school’s code of conduct for adults and the [**Guidance for safer working practice for those working with children and young people in education settings**](https://c-cluster-110.uploads.documents.cimpress.io/v1/uploads/d71d6fd8-b99e-4327-b8fd-1ac968b768a4~110/original?tenant=vbu-digital) (2022)
* Understand the circumstances where it may be necessary to ‘self-report’ incidents where they could have found themselves in a situation which could be misinterpreted, or may appear compromising to others, or if they have behaved in a manner which, on reflection, they consider to fall below the standards set out within the code of conduct for staff.
* Be aware that behaviour by themselves, those with whom they have a relationship or association, or others in their personal lives (in or out of school or online), may impact on their work with children.
* Be aware that if their role is within the scope of the Childcare Act 2006 and they commit a relevant offence that would appear on their DBS certificate or they become disqualified under the Childcare Act 2006, then they must inform their head teacher.
* Be aware that they should inform their head teacher of any cautions, convictions or relevant order accrued during their employment, and/or if they are charged with a criminal offence.
* Understand that some children, including those with Special Educational Needs or Looked After, may be more vulnerable to abuse.

*‘Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) or certain health conditions can face additional safeguarding challenges. This can include:*

* *assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to the child’s disability without further exploration;*
* *these children being more prone to peer group isolation or bullying (including prejudice-based bullying) than other children;*
* *the potential for children with SEND or certain medical conditions being disproportionally impacted by behaviours such as bullying, without outwardly showing any signs; and*
* *communication barriers and difficulties in overcoming these barriers*.’ (DFE **2023**)

The DFE has provided additional practice guidance ‘[**Safeguarding Disabled Children**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-disabled-children-practice-guidance)’ DFE 2009.

* Have access to the school’s managing allegations against adults procedures and whistle blowing policy. In addition, the NSPCC whistleblowing helpline is available for staff who do not feel able to raise concerns regarding child protection failures internally. Staff can call: 0800 028 0285 – line is available from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Monday to Friday and Email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk).
* Have access to [**What to do if you are worried a child is being abused 2015: Advice for practitioners**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused--2)DFE 2015
* Understand that any indication of failure to follow any of the procedures set out within this policy will lead to a formal investigation by the school.
* Ensure they are easily identifiable by wearing the staff LDST lanyard, or if a volunteer, the school volunteer lanyard provided on signing in.

**The Governing Body should ensure that:**

* The school meets the statutory responsibilities set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education (DFE **2023**) and Working Together to Safeguard Children (DFE 2018).
* The school has a strategy for providing early help together with other agencies and supporting children and families by carrying out early help assessments, drawing upon the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) ‘Responding to Needs Framework.’
* The child protection policy is reviewed at least annually by the full governing body and available to parents, normally via the school’s website.
* All adults working within the school are aware of the school’s code of conduct and this guidance is in keeping with the Guidance for safer working practice for those working with children and young people in education settings (Safer Recruitment Consortium 2022)
* The school’s practice is reviewed in line with Local Authority guidance, Local Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) priorities and procedures and any actions identified in the Local Authority 175 Audit are completed.
* There is a named Designated Safeguarding Lead who is a member of the school leadership team. Governors will ensure that this person has the appropriate status and authority within the school to carry out the duties of the post. They will be given the time, funding, training, resources and support to provide advice and support to other staff on child welfare and child protection matters, to take part in strategy discussions and inter-agency meetings, and/or to support other staff to do so, and to contribute to the assessment of children. There are colleagues trained to provide cover for the role. Governors will ensure that all staff undertaking the role of Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy will have this role explicitly described within their job description.
* The school has procedures in keeping with the LSCP for dealing with any allegations made against any adult working within or on behalf of the school.
* There is a nominated governor, usually the chair, who is the case manager for managing any allegations against the Head Teacher.
* There is an additional nominated safeguarding governor to liaise with the Designated Safeguarding Lead and champion child protection/safeguarding on behalf of the safeguarding body.
* The school follows safer recruitment procedures, including the statutory pre-employment checks on all staff working with young people. The Chair of Governors and safeguarding governor together with the headteacher review the school’s single central record.
* The school itself is a safe environment where the views of children and families are listened to and where children are taught about safeguarding and how to keep themselves safe, including on the internet or when using new technology. Any complaints about services lead to improvements in practice.
* Ensure the school audits the health and safety of the school environment and any actions arising from the audit are addressed.
* The school ensures there are appropriate filters and monitoring systems in place in respect of internet use and encourage safe and responsible use of ~~new~~ digital technologies.
* It scrutinises the impact of the school’s training strategy so that all staff, including temporary staff and volunteers, are aware of the school’s child protection procedures. All staff must have child protection training which is regularly updated and forms part of an integrated, aligned training programme which is considered as part of the whole school safeguarding approach and wider staff training and curriculum planning. The Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads undertake training in keeping with statutory training.
* Ensure that all governors and trustees receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection (including online safety) training at the point of induction. This training will equip them with the knowledge to provide strategic challenge to test and assure themselves that policies and procedures are effective, and will support the delivery of a robust whole school approach to safeguarding. This training should then be regularly updated. Governors who also undertake a child facing role in school (either in a paid or voluntary capacity) will in addition, complete the school’s safeguarding training for staff and volunteers.
* There is effective analysis of safeguarding data including bullying, attendance, exclusions, behaviour logs, incidents of sexual violence or harassment, pupils taken off roll, the views and progress and participation of vulnerable students.
* All safeguarding practices are quality assured by the leadership team, including the auditing of safeguarding records and the supervision of the Designated Safeguarding Lead and other members of the safeguarding team.
* The governing body will appoint an appropriately trained designated teacher to promote the educational achievement of children who are looked after, or have been previously looked after.
* There are clear systems and processes in place for identifying possible mental health problems, including routes to escalate and clear referral and accountability systems.
* There are clear systems and processes in place to identify and respond to issues of sexual violence, sexual harassment or harmful sexualised behaviours between children, including a sequenced curriculum designed to specifically address sexual harassment, online abuse, sexual violence and issues of consent in an age and stage appropriate way.

Governing bodies are accountable for ensuring the school has effective policies and procedures in place in line with local and national guidance, and for monitoring the school’s compliance with them. Neither the Governing Body nor individual governors have a role in dealing with individual child protection cases or the right to know the detail of cases (except when exercising their disciplinary functions in respect of allegations against a member of staff or investigating a complaint brought to their attention).

**The Head Teacher will ensure that:**

* The Single Central Record is up to date and the safer recruitment practices set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education (DFE 2023) are followed in line with the school’s Safer Recruitment Policy and Procedures. At least one member of every recruitment panel has attended safer recruitment training.
* Job descriptions and person specifications for all roles make specific reference to child protection and safeguarding.
* There is a listening culture within the school where both staff and children are able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practices.
* Referrals are made to the Disclosure and Barring Service and/or the Teaching Regulation Agency as appropriate.
* They liaise with the Local Authority Designated Officer where an allegation is made against a member of staff.
* They liaise with the designated safeguarding lead in respect of any concerns raised about staff or volunteers which do not meet the harm threshold and are dealt with by means of the low level concerns policy or procedure.
* The Designated Safeguarding Lead has a job description in keeping with the requirements of Keeping Children Safe in Education (DFE 2023) and that sufficient time, training and support are allocated to this role, including the appointment of colleagues able to deputise for the Designated Safeguarding Lead who have undertaken the same training and who also have the role explicitly referenced within their job description.
* The curriculum provides opportunities to help students stay safe including when online. Children should be aware of the support available to them.
* The RSHE / PSHE / safeguarding curriculum is appropriately sequenced to ensure children are taught about key issues in a planned and age/stage appropriate way, building on previous knowledge as they move through the school.
* They quality assure the school’s child protection practices including the auditing of safeguarding records and the supervision of the Designated Safeguarding Lead and other members of the safeguarding team to ensure that actions and decisions are reviewed appropriately and that staff’s emotional needs are met.
* The school meets its responsibilities under the Prevent Duty including ensuring there are reasonable checks made on visiting speakers and monitoring and filtering is in place across the school’s IT systems. All staff have had opportunity for Prevent training either through face to face training or access to online resources:

[**https://www.support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk/**](https://www.support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk/)

**The Designated Safeguarding Lead:**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will be a senior member of staff from the school’s leadership team and the role will be explicit within their job description. The school will also appoint a deputy designated safeguarding lead who will be trained to the same level as the designated safeguarding lead and the role will also be explicit within their job description, however the lead responsibility remains with the designated safeguarding lead. The designated safeguarding lead will take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety and understanding the filtering and monitoring systems and processes in place).

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023 sets out the broad areas of responsibility for the Designated Safeguarding Lead within Annex C. These are detailed below.

**Manage referrals**

The designated safeguarding lead is expected to:

* refer cases of suspected abuse to the local authority children’s social care as required;
* support staff who make referrals to local authority children’s social care;
* refer cases to the Channel programme where there is a radicalisation concern as required;
* support staff who make referrals to the Channel programme;
* refer cases where a person is dismissed or left due to risk/harm to a child to the Disclosure and Barring Service as required; and
* refer cases where a crime may have been committed to the Police as required. The NPCC document [**When to call the Police: Guidance for schools and colleges**](https://www.npcc.police.uk/documents/Children%20and%20Young%20people/When%20to%20call%20the%20police%20guidance%20for%20schools%20and%20colleges.pdf) can support with this.

**Work with others**

The designated safeguarding lead is expected to:

* act as a point of contact with the safeguarding partners;
* liaise with the headteacher or principal to inform him or her of issues- especially ongoing enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police investigations. This should include being aware of the requirement for children to have an Appropriate Adult when in contact with Police Officers who suspect them of an offence. The DSL (or deputy) will communicate any vulnerabilities known to the school to a police officer who wishes to speak to a pupil about an offence and this communication will be recorded in the child’s CP file and in 2023-24 in the CPoms file concurrently until fully integrated with staff ( CPOMS action Plan 2023/23) Further information can be found in the Statutory guidance - [**PACE Code C 2019**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pace-code-c-2019/pace-code-c-2019-accessible);.
* as required, liaise with the “case manager” (as per Part four of KCSIE) and the designated officer(s) at the local authority for child protection concerns in cases which concern a staff member;
* liaise with staff (especially pastoral support staff, school nurses, IT Technicians, and SENCOs or the named person with oversight for SEN in a college and Senior Mental Health Leads) on matters of safety and safeguarding (including online and digital safety) and when deciding whether to make a referral by liaising with relevant agencies so that children’s needs are considered holistically;
* liaise with the school’s senior mental health lead and where available, the Mental Health Support Team, where safeguarding concerns are linked to mental health;
* promote supportive engagement with parents and/or carers in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, including where families may be facing challenging circumstances;
* work with the headteacher and relevant strategic leads, taking lead responsibility for promoting educational outcomes by knowing the welfare, safeguarding and child protection issues that children in need are experiencing, or have experienced, and identifying the impact that these issues might be having on children’s attendance, engagement and achievement at school or college. This includes:
* ensure that the school or college knows who its cohort of children who have or have had a social worker are, understanding their academic progress and attainment, and maintaining a culture of high aspirations for this cohort; and,
* support teaching staff to provide additional academic support or reasonable adjustments to help children who have or have had a social worker reach their potential, recognising that even when statutory social care intervention has ended, there is still a lasting impact on children’s educational outcomes.
* work with the Virtual School Headteacher who retains a non-statutory responsibility for the strategic oversight of the educational attendance, attainment and progress of children with a social worker;
* act as a source of support, advice and expertise for all staff.

**Undertake training**

The designated safeguarding lead (and any deputies) should undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role. This training should be updated annually. The designated safeguarding lead should undertake Prevent awareness training. Training should provide designated safeguarding leads with a good understanding of their own role, how to identify, understand and respond to specific needs that can increase the vulnerability of children, as well as specific harms that can put children at risk, and the processes, procedures and responsibilities of other agencies, particularly children’s social care, so they:

* understand the assessment process for providing early help and statutory intervention, including local criteria for action and local authority children’s social care referral arrangements.
* have a working knowledge of how local authorities conduct a child protection case conference and a child protection review conference and be able to attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so;
* understand the importance of the role the designated safeguarding lead has in providing information and support to children social care in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children;
* understand the lasting impact that adversity and trauma can have, including on children’s behaviour, mental health and wellbeing, and what is needed in responding to this in promoting educational outcomes;
* are alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and young carers;
* understand the importance of information sharing, both within the school and college, and with the safeguarding partners, other agencies, organisations and practitioners.
* are able to keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of concerns and referrals;
* understand and support the school or college with regards to the requirements of the Prevent duty and are able to provide advice and support to staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation;
* are able to understand the unique risks associated with online safety and be confident that they have the relevant knowledge and up to date capability required to keep children safe whilst they are online at school or college;
* can recognise the additional risks that children with SEN and disabilities (SEND) face online, for example, from online bullying, grooming and radicalisation and are confident they have the capability to support SEND children to stay safe online;
* obtain access to resources and attend any relevant or refresher training courses; and
* encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings, among all staff, in any measures the school or college may put in place to protect them.

In addition to the formal training set out above, their knowledge and skills should be refreshed (this might be via e-bulletins, meeting other designated safeguarding leads, or simply taking time to read and digest safeguarding developments) at regular intervals, as required, and at least annually, to allow them to understand and keep up with any developments relevant to their role. This includes attendance at relevant multi agency training provided by the LSCP.

**Raise Awareness**

The designated safeguarding lead should:

* ensure each member of staff has access to, and understands, the school’s or college’s child protection policy and procedures, especially new and part-time staff;
* ensure the school’s or college’s child protection policy is reviewed annually (as a minimum) and the procedures and implementation are updated and reviewed regularly, and work with governing bodies or proprietors regarding this;
* ensure the child protection policy is available publicly and parents are aware of the fact that referrals about suspected abuse or neglect may be made and the role of the school or college in this; and
* link with the safeguarding partner arrangements to make sure staff are aware of any training opportunities and the latest local policies on local safeguarding arrangements.
* help promote educational outcomes by sharing the information about the welfare, safeguarding and child protection issues that children, including children with a social worker, are experiencing, or have experienced, with teachers and school and college leadership staff. Their role could include ensuring that the school or college, and their staff, know who these children are, understand their academic progress and attainment and maintain a culture of high aspirations for this cohort; supporting teaching staff to identify the challenges that children in this group might face and the additional academic support and adjustments that they could make to best support these children.

**Providing support to staff**

Training will support the designated safeguarding lead in developing expertise so that they can support and advise staff and help them feel confident on welfare, safeguarding and child protection matters. This includes specifically to:

* ensure staff are supported during the referrals processes; and
* support staff to consider how safeguarding, welfare and educational outcomes are linked, including to inform the provision of academic and pastoral support.

**Understanding the views of children**

Understanding the views of children is essential to respond appropriately to their needs. It is important that children feel heard and understood. The designated safeguarding lead will be supported in developing knowledge and skills to:

* encourage a culture of listening and taking account of children’s wishes and feelings, among all staff, and in any measures the school may put in place to protect them; and
* understand the difficulties that children may have in approaching staff about their circumstances and consider how to build trusting relationships which facilitate communication.

**Holding and sharing information**

The designated safeguarding lead should be equipped to:

* understand the importance of information sharing, both within the school and college, and with other schools and colleges on transfer including in-year and between primary and secondary education, and with the safeguarding partners, other agencies, organisations and practitioners;
* understand relevant data protection legislation and regulations, especially the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR); and
* be able to keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of concerns and referrals and understand the purpose of this record-keeping.

**Child protection file**

The designated safeguarding lead is responsible for ensuring that child protection files are kept up to date. Information is kept confidential and stored securely. Records include a clear and comprehensive summary of the concern; details of how the concern was followed up and resolved; and a note of any action taken, decisions reached and the outcome. Files are only accessed by those who need to see it and any sharing of information happens in line with information sharing advice set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education.

Where children leave the school or college (including for in year transfers) the designated safeguarding lead should ensure their child protection file is transferred to the new school or college as soon as possible, and within 5 days for an in-year transfer or within the first 5 days of the start of a new term. This should be transferred separately from the main pupil file, ensuring secure transit, and confirmation of receipt should be obtained. Receiving schools and colleges should ensure key staff such as designated safeguarding leads and SENCOs or the named person with oversight for SEN in colleges, are aware as required.

In addition to the child protection file, the designated safeguarding lead should also consider if it would be appropriate to share any information with the new school or college in advance of a child leaving to help them put in place the right support to safeguard the child and help the child thrive in the new setting. A lack of information about a child’s circumstances can impact on the child’s safety, welfare and educational outcomes. For example, information that would allow the new school or college to continue supporting victims of abuse and have that support in place for when the child arrives.

**Availability**

During term time the designated safeguarding lead (or a deputy) should always be available (during school or college hours) for staff in the school or college to discuss any safeguarding concerns. Whilst generally speaking the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) would be expected to be available in person, it is a matter for individual schools and colleges, working with the designated safeguarding lead, to define what “available” means and whether in exceptional circumstances availability via phone and or Skype or other such media is acceptable.

It is a matter for individual schools and colleges and the designated safeguarding lead to arrange adequate and appropriate cover arrangements for any out of hours/out of term activities

According to Local Guidance it is expected that the Head Teacher will be the case manager for any allegations against staff and make referrals to the Disclosure and Barring Service and/or Teaching Regulation Agency.

**In addition to the role outlined in Keeping Children Safe the Designated Safeguarding Lead is also expected to ensure that:**

* The school has a specific safeguarding email account which is accessible by all members of the safeguarding team, and ensures that all communication of a safeguarding nature is seen and responded to by the school.
* The social worker is notified if a child subject to a child protection plan is absent without explanation.
* The social worker is informed when a child subject to a child protection plan or a child in need plan moves to a new setting.
* A training log is kept of all child protection training including the names of those attending. All staff must have regular training and updates. Staff or volunteers who are unable to attend training will be offered the chance to receive missed training at the earliest opportunity.
* Child protection records are kept securely and separately from the child’s normal file. Records will be transferred and/or retained in keeping with the Local Authority and NSPCC guidance.
* The school attends and contributes to child protection case conferences and child in need meetings, ensuring actions are completed in a timely manner. The school will complete the LSCP agency report ahead of each child protection conference.
* The school escalates its concerns with other agencies when a child’s needs are not being met following the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership Escalation and Resolution Policy.
* All members of the safeguarding team have received appropriate training; that all referrals made are quality assured and that regular safeguarding supervision is provided to the safeguarding team to monitor all decisions and actions taken alongside the well-being of each team member.
* All staff read and understand part 1 and Annex B of the DfE (**2023**) guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education and make available to them other key documents and guidance.
* School has an appropriately trained member of staff to in order to fulfil its obligations under Operation Encompass, and that the school’s commitment to Operation Encompass is known throughout the school community via the means of staff training, parental letters, posters and the school website.

1. Safeguarding Framework

In addition to this child protection policy the school has procedures or policies in relation to other areas for safeguarding children including:

* attendance
* administering medicines
* anti-bulling including cyber bullying
* alternative and off-site provision
* behaviour for learning
* code of conduct for staff, governors and volunteers (guidance on safer working practices)
* children in care (Looked After Children)
* clubs, trips, educational visits and extended school activities
* data protection
* drug and substance misuse
* disability objectives and accessibility plan
* equal opportunities
* emergency planning
* evacuation and lock-down procedures
* first aid
* intimate care
* managing allegations against staff and volunteers
* mental health and wellbeing
* on-line safety
* risk assessments
* safeguarding advice for visitors
* safer recruitment practices
* school and site security
* sex and relationships education
* special educational needs and disabilities
* taking and using photographs
* whistle-blowing

1. Training and Induction

All staff and volunteers working in the school must be given a copy of the Child Protection policy immediately upon starting work at the school as part of their induction. All staff and volunteers working in the school must complete safeguarding training appropriate to their role as part of their induction and at a minimum of annually thereafter. As part of the requirement for all staff to undergo regular updated safeguarding training (including online safety which, amongst other things, includes an understanding of the expectations, applicable roles and responsibilities in relation to filtering and monitoring), safeguarding training will be integrated, aligned and considered as part of the whole school safeguarding approach and wider staff training and curriculum planning. The school’s safeguarding training plan will build upon existing staff knowledge, in addition to refreshing key knowledge, and will be pertinent to the needs of the school community. The school draws upon School Improvement Liverpool’s induction template and Safeguarding Induction Booklet (Schools’ Safeguarding Handbook) to ensure all appropriate policies and guidance are shared. Glazebury CE Primary undertakes annual safeguarding training every September as an Inset day, all staff and Governors are requested to attend, should any staff or governor not attend they are provided with training as soon as possible. This is logged and recorded. DSL and DDSL also attend School improvement Liverpool specific training annually. Safeguarding questionnaires are completed termly, based on current safeguarding information and the Child protection policy. ALL new members of staff access all the training resources from the inset day and must complete them before commencing work at Glazebury CE Primary.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead and deputies must complete safeguarding training relevant to their role. This level of training must be refreshed annually with further safeguarding training to be accessed on a minimum of an annual basis as best practice. This is to ensure designated staff have appropriate, up to date knowledge and skills which will enable them to identify concerns and make decisions that support the safety of the school community.

The governing body should receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection (including online safety) training at the point of induction. This training should equip them with the knowledge to provide strategic challenge to test and assure themselves that policies and procedures are effective, and will support the delivery of a robust whole school approach to safeguarding. This training should be regularly updated. Governors who also undertake a child facing role in school (either in a paid or voluntary capacity) will in addition, complete the school’s safeguarding training for staff and volunteers. The Link Governor for Safeguarding should attend appropriate training to enable them to fulfil the expectations of the role.

All staff have had opportunity for Prevent training either through face to face training or access to online resources: [**https://www.support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk/**](https://www.support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk/)

The school will keep a safeguarding training log evidencing the training attended by the different groups of staff/governors and will seek to evidence the ongoing impact of this training.

1. Procedures for reporting child protection or child welfare concerns:

* All members of the school community have a statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. Staff and governors should not investigate possible abuse or neglect themselves.
* School Improvement Liverpool provide an online resource ‘Safeguarding-Mate’ to support colleagues decision making: [**www.schoolimprovementliverpool.co.uk/safeguarding-mate/**](http://www.schoolimprovementliverpool.co.uk/safeguarding-mate/)
* All concerns should be reported **without delay** directly to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Designated Safeguarding Deputies, Head Teacher or any member of the School Leadership Team. This should be followed by a written account of the concerns completed on the school’s agreed Child Protection/Child Welfare Incident Form (yellow)

This is ten recorded onto CPOMS in line with CPOMS action plan for newly acquired system – Glazebury CE Primary will be running con currently with existing recording during implementation ( 2023/23)

* Consideration will need to be given to immediately protecting the child and contacting the police and/or ringing for an ambulance if the child is injured.
* The Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead will take immediate action without delay and will make a referral to children’s services by telephone if a child is believed to be suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. This referral will always be followed up in writing.
* Children’s Services contact details are as follows:

**Liverpool** Careline Hub0151 233 3700

**Knowsley** MASH 0151 443 2600

**Sefton** 0345 140 0845 (Out of hours 0151 934 3555)

**St Helens** Contact Centre01744 676 600

**Warrington** 01925 443322 (Out of hours 01925 444400)

**Wigan** Duty Team01942 828300 (Emergency out of hours duty 0161 834 2436)

* The Designated Safeguarding Lead or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead will follow the LSCP and Local Authority multi-agency procedures and consider the child’s needs alongside the LSCP’s Levels of Needs/Responding to Needs Framework (Threshold document) and consider whether an early help assessment or referral to children’s services is needed.

**Liverpool** <https://liverpoolscp.proceduresonline.com/>

**Knowsley** <https://knowsleyscb.proceduresonline.com/index.htm>

**Sefton** https://seftonlscb.safeguardingpolicies.org.uk/scp/procedures-manual/1-introductionlevel-of-need

**St Helens** https://sthelensscb.proceduresonline.com/index.htm

**Warrington** www.proceduresonline.com/pancheshire/warrington/index.html

**Wigan** https://greatermanchesterscb.proceduresonline.com/

* [**https://liverpool.gov.uk/referrals/childrens-social-care-referrals/make-an-urgent-marf-referral/**](https://liverpool.gov.uk/referrals/childrens-social-care-referrals/make-an-urgent-marf-referral/)Schools can also make a Level 3 Early Help referral using the following link: [**https://liverpool.gov.uk/referrals/childrens-social-care-referrals/access-early-help-support/**](https://liverpool.gov.uk/referrals/childrens-social-care-referrals/access-early-help-support/)
* Concerns about a child should always lead to help for a child. The school may need to escalate its concerns with Children’s Services to ensure a referral is accepted or work with other agencies to ensure an Early Help Assessment is completed.
* The school will always seek to follow the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures which can be found on their website.
* If school does not receive feedback within one working day regarding the outcome of a referral made to Children’s Services, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will contact Children’s Services immediately to determine the outcome of the referral.
* If school disagrees with the outcome of a referral, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will ask to speak to the social worker and/or manager who made the decision. Following this conversation, if they remain dissatisfied they will follow the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership Escalation and Resolution Procedures.

‘School Improvement Liverpool Schools’ Safeguarding Handbook’ and Part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education (DFE 2023) provides key flowcharts and guidance to support staff and volunteers’ understanding and decision making. This will support staff to make a referral themselves should that become necessary. The Designated Safeguarding Lead should be informed, as soon as possible, following the need for another member of staff to make a referral.

‘School Improvement Liverpool Schools’ Safeguarding Handbook’ will provide additional guidance about indicators of abuse and harm and how to respond to a disclosure. Guidance is also available on the NSPCC website: [**www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/**](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/)

If a teacher in the course of their work in the profession, discovers that an act of Female Genital Mutilation appears to have been carried out on a girl under the age of 18 the teacher must report this to the police. Keeping Children Safe in Education provides additional guidance.

Concerns that a child is being radicalised should follow the normal safeguarding referral mechanism with an additional Channel or Prevent referral being made to the Local Authority’s Prevent and Channel team. Contact details can be found in the School’s Safeguarding Handbook.

1. Process to follow if a child makes a disclosure

If a child makes a disclosure of abuse, staff should:

* Listen and keep calm. Do not interrupt
* Not promise the child that they will keep the matter confidential. Explain to the child who they will need to tell and why
* Observe visible bruises and marks, but should not ask a child to remove or adjust their clothing to view them
* Keep questions to a minimum as their role is not to investigate. If staff need to ask questions in order to ascertain whether this is a safeguarding concern, they should ensure they are open questions
* Use the “TED” model for asking open ended questions: “Tell me about that”, “Explain that to me”, “Describe that”
* Make a record of what has been said immediately afterwards in words used by the child and the member of staff to the best of their memory. Use capital letters for the child’s words to help distinguish between the two.
* Note anything about the child which is connected i.e. any visible injuries including the position and description, the demeanour of the child i.e. crying, withdrawn etc.
* Clearly indicate whether fact, opinion or third party information
* Report the matter immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead
* Seek advice from the Designated Safeguarding Lead if in doubt

Staff should not:

* Ask leading questions, put words into the child’s mouth or press for details
* Rush the child
* Examine the child
* Investigate
* Promise confidentiality
* Summarise or use your own words to describe events
* Delay sharing the information with the Designated Safeguarding Lead

Further information can be found in part 1 of the School Improvement Liverpool Schools Safeguarding Handbook.

All staff should also be aware that children may not feel ready or know how to tell someone that they are being abused, exploited, or neglected, and/or they may not recognise their experiences as harmful. For example, children may feel embarrassed, humiliated, or being threatened. This could be due to their vulnerability, disability and/or sexual orientation or language barriers. This should not prevent staff from having a professional curiosity and speaking to the DSL if they have concerns about a child. It is also important that staff determine how best to build trusted relationships with children and young people which facilitate communication.

1. Confidentiality, information sharing, record transfer and record keeping and retention

Information sharing is vital in identifying and tacking all forms of abuse and neglect, and in promoting children’s welfare, including their education outcomes. Schools have clear powers to share, hold and use information for these purposes.

The school recognises that all matters relating to child protection are confidential. The Head teacher, Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or Deputy will disclose any information about a child to other members of staff on a ‘need to know basis’ only. Guidance about sharing information can be found in the 2018 document [**Information Sharing: Advice for Practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers 2018**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-practitioners-information-sharing-advice) and the [**Data protection: toolkit for schools**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/data-protection-toolkit-for-schools). The school understands the need to keep child protection and safeguarding records securely. School records are kept in lockable drawer in Head teachers office which is also locked when head teacher not in situ. We also have 2 step factor authentication in regards to recently acquired CPOMs safeguarding and behavioural software system.

Staff cannot promise children confidentiality but must always act in the best interests of the child and share disclosures made by the child or others with the Designated Safeguarding Lead. All staff are aware that they have a professional responsibility to share information with other agencies in order to safeguard children.

The school will aim to seek consent of parents before sharing information with other agencies, however legislation states that schools and other agencies can share information without the consent of a parent/carer in particular circumstances.

The school pays due regard to the relevant data protection principles which allow us to share personal information, as provided for in the [**Data Protection Act 2018**](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted) and the [**General Data Protection Regulation**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation)(GDPR). The school is aware of the processing conditions under the Data Protection Act 2018 and the GDPR which allow school to store and share information for safeguarding purposes, including information which is sensitive and personal, and this is treated as ‘*special category personal data*’. Where school would need to share special category personal data, we are aware that the Data Protection Act 2018 contains ‘*safeguarding of children and individuals at risk*’ as a processing condition that allows us to share information. This includes allowing school to share information without consent, if it is not possible to gain consent, it cannot be reasonably expected that we can gain consent, or if to gain consent would place a child at risk.

*‘The Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR* ***do not*** *prevent the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe and promoting their welfare...*

*…Fears about sharing information* ***must not*** *be allowed to stand in the way of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children’* *(DfE 2023)*

The school will transfer records securely to the next setting and discuss the child’s needs before the child starts at the next setting. The Designated Safeguarding Lead will speak to their counterpart in the school to which the child is transferring in order to ensure that they are aware that the file is to be transferred. Upon confirmation of the child starting on roll the file should be transferred as soon as possible (within 5 school days), but separately to the main school file. The file should be signed upon receipt, and delivered by hand wherever possible. School will follow the transfer of records protocol detailed within the Schools’ Safeguarding handbook.

The school will retain records in keeping with Local Authority guidance and NSPCC guidelines: **https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/briefings/child-protection-records-retention-storage-guidance**. This in turn references the Information and Records Management Society (IRMS) [**Information management toolkit for schools 2019**](https://irms.org.uk/page/SchoolsToolkit).

School Improvement Liverpool’s Safeguarding Handbook provides further key guidance for transferring records including a ‘Transfer of CP records Template’.

1. Additional child protection guidance will be provided to all adults working with young people which will include:

* The school’s child protection policy which includes the role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
* Part 1 and Annex B of Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE 2023)
* The School’s Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers
* The school’s behaviour policy for children
* Guidance for safer working practices for those working with children and young people in education settings (Safer Recruitment Consortium 2022)
* A flowchart summarising the child protection procedures
* Definitions of abuse or neglect and possible indicators
* Identified groups of children more vulnerable to abuse
* Specific guidance related to safeguarding issues including Female Genital Mutilation, Forced Marriage, Child Exploitation including sexual and criminal, Extremism and Radicalisation, Neglect, Sexual violence and harassment and online-safety
* Dealing with allegations against staff and volunteers procedures
* Whistleblowing procedures
* ‘What to do if you are worried a child is being abused: Advice for practitioners’ DFE 2015

1. Managing allegations against adults (including all staff, supply teachers and volunteers) working at or on behalf of the school

All school staff and other adults working at or on behalf of the school will be aware of and work within the school’s Code of Conduct and other relevant policies and procedures. The Staff Code of Conduct includes guidance for staff regarding the school expectations of the use of mobile phones, electronic equipment and social media.

All staff and volunteers must report any concerns about a member of staff’s behaviour towards children (including supply staff and volunteers) to the Headteacher who will act as the case manager. Concerns can also be discussed with the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Concerns about the headteacher should be raised with the Chair of Governors or nominated governor.

Local Safeguarding Children Partnership multi-agency procedures will be followed in all cases where it is alleged that a member of staff has:

* + behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child;
  + possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child;
  + behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children; or
  + behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children

The school’s managing allegations against staff and volunteers policy and procedures will support everyone to take appropriate action. This includes a flowchart to guide colleagues thinking.

In some circumstances, the school will have to consider an allegation against an individual who is not directly employed by the organisation and where our disciplinary procedures do not fully apply (for example supply teachers). Whilst the school is not the employer of the individual, we still have responsibility to ensure allegations are dealt with properly and will liaise where appropriate with relevant parties. The school will not cease to use the services of a supply teacher as a result of safeguarding concerns, without finding out the facts and liaising with the LADO to determine a suitable outcome.

In addition, School Improvement Liverpool provide an online resource ‘Safeguarding-Mate’ to support colleagues decision making: [**https://www.schoolimprovementliverpool.co.uk/safeguarding-mate/**](https://www.schoolimprovementliverpool.co.uk/safeguarding-mate/)

Concerns can also be taken directly to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), if needed, via Children’s Services.

Part 4 of the DFE guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education provides further guidance. In addition to the school’s own procedures, multi-agency procedures can be found on the school’s website.

There are occasions when a person who works with children behaves in a way that is concerning and raises questions about their ability to recognise and take steps to safeguard children in their care that may not always meet the threshold of LADO. As an employer the school has a duty to consider whether the issue indicates that they are unsuitable to continue in their role for the immediate future or indefinitely. These are known as issues of suitability and if they do not meet the harm threshold for allegations they, would be dealt with via the school’s disciplinary and low level concerns procedures. Issues of suitability can include:

* Where an employee is being investigated for an offence against an adult, or
* Their behaviour in their personal lives brings into question their suitability to work with children

However if an adult who works with children has involvement from Children’s Services in respect of their own child, or a child that they live with or have contact with, it is the responsibility of Children’s Services to assess the immediate concern and inform the LADO of whether the adult poses a risk to children. Examples of this may include:

* Allegations of assault, physical or emotional, on their own child or on a child they live with or have contact with
* Domestic abuse
* Substance misuse
* Lives with or is in a relationship with a person who is identified as a risk to children

The situation would meet the threshold of LADO should the child in question be made subject to a Child Protection plan. This is because Children’s Services has determined that the adult presents a risk to the associated child either directly or due to a failure to protect.

If school are made aware of any of the circumstances detailed above, they will have a consultation with the LADO in order to determine whether the threshold is met for a referral under the managing allegations process.

All staff should ensure that they disclose information about themselves relating to the above to the Head teacher as soon as possible. School will create an environment and culture where staff are supported and empowered to be able to do this.

If the school receives an allegation relating to an incident that happened when an individual or organisation was using their school premises for the purpose of running activities for children (for example community groups, sports associations, or service providers that run extra-curricular activities), the school will follow its own policies and procedures, including informing the LADO.

1. Low Level Concerns

Our Trust recognises that there may be times when there are concerns about a professional’s behaviour which do not meet the harm threshold as set out in section 15 of this policy. This includes third party staff and volunteers. Concerns such as this may arise in several ways and from a number of sources. Examples of this may be:

* suspicion, complaint or disclosure made by a child, parent or other adult within or outside of our School; or
* as a result of vetting checks undertaken during recruitment

Our Trust promotes an open and transparent culture in which all concerns about adults working in or on behalf of the Trust are dealt with promptly and appropriately. Creating this culture in which all concerns are shared responsibly, in a timely way with the right person, and are recorded and dealt with appropriately is critical to effective safeguarding practice. This culture enables the Trust to identify concerning, problematic or inappropriate behaviour at the earliest possible stage, minimises the risk of abuse and ensures that all adults working in or on behalf of the Trust are clear about professional boundaries and act within these, in accordance with our ethos and values. This culture also empowers individuals to share concerns with key staff about their own behaviour at the earliest possible opportunity.

The term ‘low level concern’ does not mean that the behaviour is insignificant. It means a behaviour towards a child which does not meet the threshold set out in section 15 of this policy and part 4 of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023. A low level concern is any concern (no matter how small, and even if no more than causing a sense of unease) that an adult working in or on behalf of the Trust may have acted in a way that:

* is not consistent with the staff safeguarding code of conduct, including conduct outside of the workplace, and/or
* does not meet the allegations threshold or is otherwise not considered serious enough for a referral to the LADO.

Examples of such behaviour could include, but are not limited to:

* being over friendly with children;
* having favourites;
* taking photographs of children on their mobile phone;
* engaging with a child on a one-to-one basis in a secluded area or behind a closed door; or,

Behaviours which are not consistent with the standards and values of our Trust, and which do not meet the expectations set out in our safeguarding code of conduct for staff, must be addressed. Behaviours such as this, can exist on a spectrum from inadvertent or thoughtless, or behaviour that may look to be inappropriate, but might not be in specific circumstances, through to that which is ultimately intended to enable abuse.

It is essential that concerns such as this are shared responsibly and with the right person, and that they are recorded and dealt with appropriately. Effective reporting and management of such concerns also protects staff from potential false allegations of misunderstandings. Concerns should be shared as soon as is reasonably possible, and ideally within 24 hours of becoming aware of a problem, however it is never too late to share a concern.

Occasionally a member of staff may find themselves in a situation which could be misinterpreted, or may appear compromising to others. Equally, a member of staff may have behaved in a manner which, on reflection, they consider to fall below the standards set out within our code of conduct for staff. Self-reporting such circumstances is actively encouraged as it allows issues to be dealt with at the earliest opportunity and it is an important means of maintaining our culture of everyone aspiring to have the highest standards of conduct and behaviour.

Staff do not need to be able to determine whether their concern is a low level concern, or if it would be dealt with under our managing allegations policy. Staff must simply by empowered to share their concern. The determination regarding process will be made by the Trust designated safeguarding lead and headteacher

Low level concerns should be reported in writing to the Headteacher. Where a low level concern is in relation to the Headteacher, it should be shared with the Chair of Governors.

If a report of a low level concern is received, it will be dealt with responsively, sensitively, and proportionately. Where a concern is reported, the Headteacher should collect as much evidence as possible by speaking directly with the person who raised the concern (unless it has been raised anonymously), and by speaking to the individual involved along with any witnesses. The information collected will help to categorise the behaviour and determine what further action may needed to be taken. Support and advice will be provided to ensure any identified behaviours can be corrected at an early stage. Where it is determined that the behaviour is a conduct or capability issue, the relevant procedure should be followed and HR advice must be sought. Colleagues must be made aware of which procedure is being followed at all times.

All low level concerns will be recorded in writing and this record should include the details of the concern, the context and the action taken, including the rationale for any decisions. Records must be kept confidential and held securely in line with the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulation. Records will be kept in individual personnel files and will be retained for the duration of the individual’s employment.

Records should be reviewed so that potential patterns of concerning, problematic or inappropriate behaviour can be identified. Where a pattern of such behaviour is identified, School will decide on a course of action either through our disciplinary procedures or where a pattern of behaviour moves from a concern to meeting the harms threshold, referral to LADO.

The Headteacher will regularly review all low level concerns reported to them, along with the outcome of the concern. This is to ensure there is appropriate scrutiny and analysis of information in order to agree at what point a series of low level concerns or a pattern of behaviour would escalate and meet the threshold set out in section 15 of this policy and part 4 of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023. These review meetings will take place fortnightly

Low level concerns will not be included in references unless they relate to an issue which would normally be included in a reference. Paragraph 441 of Keeping Children Safe in Education specifies: *Schools and colleges should only provide substantiated safeguarding concerns/allegations (including a group of low-level concerns about the same individual) that meet the harm threshold in references*.”

1. Allegations of abuse against another pupil (child on child abuse), including issues of sexual violence and harassment

Staff should recognise that children are capable of abusing other children, and that not all children will find it easy to tell staff about their abuse verbally. Children can show signs or act in ways that they hope adults will notice and react to. In some cases, the victim may not make a direct report, for example a friend may make a report or a member of staff may overhear a conversation. It is essential that all victims are reassured that they are being taken seriously, regardless of how long it has taken them to come forward, and that they will be supported and kept safe. Victims will never be given the impression that they are creating a problem by reporting an incident and they will never be made to feel ashamed or their experience minimised.

The DFE states *‘The initial response by a school or college to a report from a child is incredibly important. How the school or college responds to a report can encourage or undermine the confidence of future victims of sexual violence and sexual harassment to report or come forward.’*

Staff must act on the assumption that children may be experiencing sexual violence or harassment, even if there are no specific reports of such behaviour. Staff must ensure that they challenge any form of derogatory and sexualised language or behaviour. Staff should be vigilant to sexualised/aggressive touching/grabbing, particularly towards girls or other vulnerable groups of children. Behaviours by children should never be passed off as ‘banter’, ‘having a laugh’ or ‘part of growing up’ as this can lead to an unsafe culture which normalises abuse and inappropriate behaviours and can lead to children accepting it as normal and therefore not reporting such issues. Our school will prevent sexual harassment, online sexual abuse and sexual violence through a carefully planned and sequenced relationships, sex and health education curriculum alongside effective challenge and response to specific issues when they arise. All staff will reassure victims that they are being taken seriously and that they will be supported and kept safe.

All concerns must be reported and discussed with the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead or senior member of staff. Behaviours can happen in school, online or in the community and are most likely to include, but not limited to:

* abuse within intimate personal relationships between peers;
* bullying (including cyber bullying, prejudice-based and discriminatory bullying);
* serious violence;
* sexual violence such as rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault (this may include an online element which facilitates, threatens and/or encourages sexual violence);
* sexual harassment such as sexual comments, remarks, “jokes”, taunting and online sexual harassment which may be standalone or part of a broader pattern of abuse;
* sexual comments, such as: telling sexual stories, making lewd comments, making sexual remarks about clothes and appearance and calling someone sexualised names;
* physical behaviour, such as: deliberately brushing against someone, interfering with someone’s clothes;
* displaying pictures, photos or drawings of a sexual nature;
* causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent;
* online sexual harassment including consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nudes images and/or videos, sharing of unwanted explicit content, sexualised online bullying, unwanted sexual comments and messages including on social media, sexual exploitation, coercion and threats and coercing others into sharing images of themselves or performing acts they are not comfortable with online;
* upskirting, which typically involves taking a picture under a person’s clothing without their permission (this is a criminal offence);
* physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm; and
* initiation/hazing type violence and rituals (this could include activities involving harassment, abuse or humiliation used as a way of initiating a person into a group and many also include an online element).

When responding to reports of child on child abuse, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will respond to each report on a case-by-case basis. If an allegation is potentially criminal in nature, a report will be made to the Police. This will generally be in parallel to a referral to children’s services. School can refer to the NPCC guidance [**When to call the Police**](https://www.npcc.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/media/downloads/publications/publications-log/2020/when-to-call-the-police--guidance-for-schools-and-colleges.pdf) for additional support.

The school will also handle reports which include an online element carefully. This includes being aware of [**Searching, screening and confiscation: advice for schools**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/searching-screening-and-confiscation)and [**UKCIS Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sharing-nudes-and-semi-nudes-advice-for-education-settings-working-with-children-and-young-people).

Children with special educational needs and disabilities are more vulnerable to sexual violence and harassment and staff should be aware that additional barriers can exist when recognising abuse in these children. The fact that a child or a young person may be LGBT is not in itself an inherent risk factor for harm however children who are LGBT+ or perceived to be, may also be targeted by their peers and harassed or assaulted. Risks can be compounded where children who are LGBT lack a trusted adult with whom they can be open. It is therefore vital that all staff endeavour to reduce the additional barriers faced, and provide a safe space for children to speak out or share their concerns.

Being subjected to harassment, violence and or abuse, including that of a sexual nature, may breach any or all of the protections set out under the **Human Rights Act 1998**, depending on the nature of the conduct and the circumstances. In addition, the **Public Sector Equality Duty** places a general duty on schools and colleges to have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, to advance the equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not. The duty applies to all protected characteristics and specific consideration must be given to equality implications such as, for example, the need to eliminate unlawful behaviours that relate to them such as sexual violence and sexual harassment, misogyny/misandry and racism.

Victims of child on child sexual harm will be supported by the school’s pastoral system and referred to specialist agencies including, for example, ‘CAMHS’, ‘Brook’ and ‘Barnardo’s’. When there has been a report of sexual violence, the designated safeguarding lead (or a deputy) will make an immediate risk and needs assessment. Where there has been a report of sexual harassment, the need for a risk assessment will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Risk assessments will be recorded (paper or electronic) and will be kept under regular review. The school curriculum will support young people to become more resilient to inappropriate behaviours towards them, risk taking behaviours and behaviours that children may be coerced into including ‘sexting’ or ‘initiation/hazing’ behaviours.

Additional guidance is available on the NSPCC website:

**https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/online-abuse**

1. Children at risk of Serious Violence and/or Child Criminal or Sexual Exploitation

All staff should be aware of the indicators which may suggest a child is at risk from, or is involved with serious violent crime. These may include:

* Increased absence from school;
* A change in friendships or relationships with older individuals or groups;
* A significant decline in performance;
* Signs of self harm or a significant change in wellbeing; or
* Signs of assault or unexplained injuries

Unexplained gifts or new possessions could also indicate that children have been approached by, or are involved with, individuals associated with criminal networks or gangs and may be at risk of criminal exploitation.

All staff should be aware of the range of risk factors which increase the likelihood of involvement in serious violence, such as being male, having been frequently absent or permanently excluded from school, having experienced abuse or neglect and having been involved in offending such as theft or robbery. Additional information and advice can be found in the Home Office’s [**Serious Violence Duty; Preventing and reducing serious violence**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/serious-violence-duty)**,** [**Preventing youth violence and gang involvement**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advice-to-schools-and-colleges-on-gangs-and-youth-violence)and [**Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criminal-exploitation-of-children-and-vulnerable-adults-county-lines) guidance.

Engagement in education is a strong protective factor against children and young people’s risk of involvement in serious violence. Through engaging in good quality education, children and young people feel a sense of belonging, achievement and are equipped with skills and resilience they need to be safe and to succeed in life. Our school recognises that we play a vital role in preventing and reducing serious violence by facilitating early interventions, prevention and safeguarding children.

Both child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation are forms of abuse that occur where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance in power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into taking part in sexual or criminal activity, in exchange for something the victims needs or wants, and/or for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator and/or through violence or the threat of violence. Child sexual exploitation and child criminal exploitation can affect children, both male and female, and can include children who have been moved (commonly referred to as trafficking) for the purpose of exploitation.

Staff will understand that whilst the age of the child may be a contributing factor for an imbalance of power, there are a range of other factors that could make a child more vulnerable to exploitation, including gender, sexual identity, cognitive ability, learning difficulties, communication ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources.

All staff should be aware of the indicators which may suggest a child is at risk from or experiencing child criminal or sexual exploitation. These may include:

* appear with unexplained gifts, money or new possessions;
* associate with other children involved in exploitation;
* have been the victim or perpetrator of serious violence (e.g. knife crime);
* suffer from changes in emotional well-being;
* misuse drugs and alcohol;
* go missing for periods of time or regularly come home late and are found in areas away from their home;
* are found in accommodation that they have no connection with; and
* regularly miss school or education or do not take part in education.

All staff will be aware that children who are involved in criminal exploitation often commit crimes themselves, therefore their vulnerability as victims is not always recognised by adults and professionals. They may still have been exploited even if the activity appears to be something they have agreed or consented to. Staff will also have an understanding of the fact that the experience of girls who are criminally exploited can be very different to that of boys. The indicators may not be the same, however professionals should be aware that girls are at risk of criminal exploitation too. It is also important to note that both boys and girls being criminally exploited may be at higher risk of sexual exploitation.

All staff will be aware that child sexual exploitation is child sexual abuse. Exploitation of this nature can be a one off occurrence and may happen without the child’s immediate knowledge e.g. through the sharing of videos or images. It can also affect any child who has been coerced into engaging in sexual activities. This includes 16 and 17 year olds who can legally consent to have sex. Some children may not realise they are being exploited e.g. because they believe they are in a genuine relationship.

Our school understands that children who have been exploited or are at risk of serious violence, will need additional support to help maintain them in education. Further guidance is provided to staff in Section 1 of the Schools’ Safeguarding Handbook.

1. Domestic Abuse and Operation Encompass

All staff and volunteers are aware that domestic abuse can encompass a wide range of behaviours and may be a single incident or a pattern of incidents. That abuse can be, but is not limited to, psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional. Children can be victims of domestic abuse. They may see, hear, or experience the effects of abuse at home and/or suffer domestic abuse in their own intimate relationships (teenage relationship abuse). All of which can have a detrimental and long-term impact on their health, well-being, development, and ability to learn.

The [**Domestic Abuse Act 2021**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-abuse-act-2021) recognises children as victims of Domestic Abuse in their own right and sets out statutory multi-agency responsibilities, including specific responsibilities on education providers. Amongst other things, these include how school deliver an effective PSHE / RSHE curriculum which supports children to recognise and report feelings of being unsafe, and covers the concepts of, and laws relating to, sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, rape, domestic abuse, forced marriage, ‘honour’-based abuse and FGM, and how these can affect current and future relationships.

Glazebury CE Primary is part of [**Operation Encompass**](https://www.operationencompass.org/). Operation Encompass is a national police and education early intervention safeguarding partnership which supports children and young people who experience Domestic Violence and Abuse. Operation Encompass enables every child to receive support, regardless of whether the incident has been recorded as a crime and regardless of whether there is involvement with children’s services. Operation Encompass means that the police will share information with our school about all police attended Domestic Abuse incidents which involve any of our children prior to the start of the next school day.

In order to support the school’s response, key members of staff have undertaken specific training related to Operation Encompass.

Our DSL undertook training on 24.9.23

Our deputy DSL(s) undertook training on: October 2023

Key information about the principles of Operation Encompass is been cascaded to all other school staff and Governors. This includes discussing with staff how we can support children who are experiencing Domestic Abuse on a day-to-day basis, and particularly following an Operation Encompass notification. No actions taken by school will put the child/ren or adult victim at risk.

Glazebury CE Primary ensures that parents are fully aware of Operation Encompass and when a new child joins our school we ensure that the parents/carers are informed about Operation Encompass.

Operation Encompass notifications are stored in line with all other confidential safeguarding and child protection information. Records are found in Safeguarding logs and recorded in CPOMS securely.

Operation Encompass data will form part of the termly safeguarding report to Governors. All information is anonymised for these reports.

The school has used the Operation Encompass Key Adult Responsibilities checklist to ensure that all appropriate actions have been taken.

Should the Head Teacher, DSL or DDSLs leave the school and other staff are appointed, Glazebury CE Primary will ensure that all key information shared with the new Head Teacher/Key Adults and that the new member of staff will undertake the Operation Encompass online training.

1. Online safety, data protection and the use of mobile phones and digital photographic equipment

It is essential that children are safeguarded from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material. Our school implements a whole school approach to online safety that sets out to protect and educate both children and staff in their use of digital technologies alongside establishing mechanisms to identify, intervene in and escalate any concerns, recognising that many children and young people have unlimited and unrestricted access to the internet via mobile phones and other digital devices.

Reference with : Online policy

Staff should also report any concerns about sexting (youth produced sexual imagery or ‘nudes’) to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead or senior member of staff who will follow the guidance in [**Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sharing-nudes-and-semi-nudes-advice-for-education-settings-working-with-children-and-young-people) (UK Council for Child Internet Safety, December 2020). This document provides clarity as to how staff should respond to these incidents.

The school’s Online/E-safety/Acceptable Use policies clearly outlines the way in which the school uses digital technologies and there are measures in place to ensure safe, responsible and respectful use by all. This policy also includes appropriate filtering and monitoring on school devices and school networks. There is a clear code of conduct for staff and volunteers which sets out the use of digital technologies, mobile phones and personal photographic equipment around children. The school will consider, in particular, Looked after Children (Children in Care) who might be put at risk by being included in publicity materials or school photographs.

The DfE highlights the risks of new technologies:

‘*An effective approach to online safety empowers a school or college to protect and educate pupils, students, and staff in their use of technology and establishes mechanisms to identify, intervene in, and escalate any concerns where appropriate. The breadth of issues classified within online safety is considerable and ever evolving, but can be categorised into four areas of risk:*

* + ***content****: being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful content, for example: pornography, fake news, racism, misogyny, self-harm, suicide, anti-Semitism, radicalisation, and extremism*
  + ***contact****: being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users; for example: peer to peer pressure, commercial advertising and adults posing as children or young adults with the intention to groom or exploit them for sexual, criminal, financial or other purposes*
  + ***conduct****: personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm; for example, making, sending and receiving explicit images (e.g. consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi-nudes and/or pornography, sharing other explicit images and online bullying.*
  + ***commerce****: risks such as online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and or financial scams’*

The use of technology has become a significant component of many safeguarding issues such as child sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, radicalisation and sexual abuse. Technology often provides the platform that facilitates harm.

Schools and colleges should ensure online safety is a running and interrelated theme whilst devising and implementing policies and procedures. This will include considering how online safety is reflected as required in all relevant policies and considering online safety whilst planning the curriculum, any teacher training, the role and responsibilities of the designated safeguarding lead and any parental engagement.

Staff should bring immediately to the attention of the Headteacher, Designated Safeguarding Lead or senior leadership team any behaviours by adults or children themselves that may be risky or harmful.

Our Governing Body will ensure that our school has appropriate filters and monitoring systems in place and will regularly review their effectiveness. (KCSIE paragraph 141, September 2023). The school will adhere to the DFE [**Meeting digital and technology standards in schools and colleges**](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-digital-and-technology-standards-in-schools-and-colleges/filtering-and-monitoring-standards-for-schools-and-colleges) which sets out that schools should:

* identify and assign roles and responsibilities to manage filtering and monitoring systems.
* review filtering and monitoring provision at least annually.
* block harmful and inappropriate content without unreasonably impacting teaching and learning.
* have effective monitoring strategies in place that meet their safeguarding needs

Our school recognises that technology, and risks and harms related to it, evolve and change rapidly. The school will carry out an annual review of our approach to online safety and will conduct a risk assessment which considers and reflects the risks our children face.

Glazebury CE Primary also use the LGfL online safety audit as part of the self review process.

The DfE guidance [**Teaching Online Safety in Schools**](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teaching-online-safety-in-schools) (2023) also outlines how schools can ensure their pupils understand how to stay safe and behave online as part of forthcoming and existing curriculum requirements.

Where children are asked to learn online at home, our school ensures this is done safely by referencing key guidance such as [**Providing remote education: guidance for schools**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/providing-remote-education-guidance-for-schools)**,** [**Safeguarding and remote education**](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-and-remote-education) and advice from the [**London Grid for Learning**](https://coronavirus.lgfl.net/safeguarding).

1. Children requiring mental health support

Our school recognises that it has an important role to play in supporting the mental health and wellbeing of our students. We also recognise that in some cases, mental health problems can be an indicator that a child has suffered, or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation. The designated safeguarding lead will regularly liaise with the senior mental health lead where safeguarding concerns are linked to mental health to ensure there is an effective and appropriate response by school. Within our school we adopt a whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing, which includes promoting positive mental health, wellbeing and resilience across the whole school community.

(Refer to Mental Health and well-being policy)At Glazebury CE Primary this includes mental Health and Well being Lead : Mrs K Mowbray. We ensure all children have access to emotional well being charts in class which include “Check-in” option and emotional keyrings for all in key stage 2 to help monitor and support emotions.

1. Monitoring attendance

A child missing from an education setting is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect, including exploitation. Local Authority guidance and procedures will be followed for dealing with a child who is missing from education, particularly on repeated occasions or if a child suddenly stops attending. The school will follow the pan-Cheshire missing children protocol. For those children and families who have chronic poor attendance or severe or persistent absenteeism, school will consider whether educational neglect is present and whether a referral to children’s services is required, or whether the school should seek consent to begin an Early Help Assessment in order to coordinate a multi-agency plan of support for the child and family. School will ensure that our response is in line with [**Working together to improve school attendance**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance)DFE 2022.

Attendance will be closely monitored. In line with the school’s attendance policy, the attendance of children with known welfare and attendance concerns will be monitored closely, particularly those with chronic poor attendance or severe or persistent absentees, or if a child suddenly stops attending. Schools should also scrutinise the attendance of off-site provision to ensure children are attending and are safe. Similarly, the attendance of children who are vulnerable or with known welfare and safeguarding concerns such as children who have a child protection plan, a child in need, are Children Looked After and/or SEN will be rigorously monitored on a daily and weekly basis. The child’s social worker will be informed immediately when there are unexplained absences or attendance concerns.

It is important that the school’s attendance team, including the EWO, school nurse and Safer Schools Officer, are aware of any safeguarding concerns. It is critical that when a child is not attending school their welfare is confirmed and expected practice would be for an appropriate professional to visit the home and speak to the child alone, particularly if there are any safeguarding concerns. The timing for this home visit will be determined on a case by case basis. The school will seek to ensure it has at least three emergency contacts for each family and consider what urgent action it may need to take when a vulnerable child and family are not contactable and the child has not attended school. Where necessary, this may include reporting the child missing to the police. The school will ensure it is aware, in advance, of any difficulties in accessing the premises of a child’s family home.

Due to the clear link between attendance and safeguarding, the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Designated Attendance Lead will meet regularly in order to analyse and discuss data and agree future action in respect of vulnerable children.

It is essential that all staff are alert to signs to look out for and the individual triggers to be aware of when considering the risks of potential safeguarding concerns such as travelling to conflict zones, Female Genital Mutilation and forced marriage.

Where children are experiencing social, emotional or mental health issues and this is impacting on their attendance, school will refer to DFE guidance [**Mental health issues affecting a pupil’s attendance: guidance for schools**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mental-health-issues-affecting-a-pupils-attendance-guidance-for-schools).

Children Missing Education (CME) are children of compulsory school age who are not registered pupils at a school and are not receiving suitable education otherwise than at a school. All staff should be aware that children missing education are at significant risk of underachieving, being victims of harm, exploitation or radicalisation, and becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) later in life. Children going missing can also be an indicator of mental health problems, risk of substance abuse, risk of travelling to conflict zones, risk of female genital mutilation or risk of forced marriage. Effective information sharing between parents, schools and local authorities is critical to ensuring that all children of compulsory school age are safe and receiving suitable education. Maintained schools have a safeguarding duty in respect of their pupils, and as part of this should investigate any unexplained absences. Academies and independent schools have a similar safeguarding duty for their pupils. When a child is deemed to be missing from education, school will make reasonable enquiries to establish the whereabouts of the child jointly with the local authority, before deleting the pupil’s name from the register. Once these enquiries have been undertaken, our school will follow the local protocol for Children Missing Education and make a CME referral to the Local Authority Officer for CME.

Some parents will decide to remove their child from the school role in order to educate them at home. For the majority of children, this choice will be with the child’s best education at the heart of their decision and it will be a positive learning experience. However, this is not the case for all, and home education can mean that some children become less visible to services who are there to keep them safe and supported in line with their individual needs. Where a parent or carer has expressed their intention to remove their child from the school roll with a view to educating at home, the school will work together with other key professionals and will, where possible, attempt to facilitate a meeting with the family to ensure that all parties have considered what is in the best interests of the child. This is particularly important for those children who have SEND, are vulnerable, and/or who have a social worker. The school will also link with the named officer for Elective Home Education within the Local Authority.

1. Private fostering

The Children Act 1989, 2004 and Children (Private Arrangements for Fostering) Regulations 2005 set out that Private Fostering occurs when a child under the age of 16 (under 18, if disabled) is provided with care and accommodation by a person who is not a parent, person with parental responsibility for them or a relative in their own home. A child is not privately fostered if the person caring for and accommodating them has done so for less than 28 days and does not intend to do so for longer.

Our school has a mandatory duty to report to the local authority if they believe a child is subject to a private fostering arrangement. (This does not include close family relatives e.g. grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or auntie.) This means making a referral to children’s services. A private fostering arrangement is made without the knowledge of the local authority for the care of a child under the age of 16 years (under 18 for children with disabilities) whereby the child is in the care of someone other than their parent or close relative. Further guidance is available in Keeping Children Safe in Education (DFE, 2023) and in [**Children Act 1989 private fostering**](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/274414/Children_Act_1989_private_fostering.pdf). When a child is privately fostered a social worker must carry out an assessment to ensure the placement is appropriate and consider any support needed.

1. Safer recruitment

The school will ensure that all appointments follow its recruitment policy and the guidance set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education (DFE 2023). At least one member of the appointments panel will have undertaken safer recruitment training. The school will undertake all the required DFE pre-employments checks and where appropriate will record these checks on the single central record and retain evidence in personnel files. The school will seek written confirmation that third-party organisations including contractor and alternative education providers have undertaken appropriate checks. The school’s Safer Recruitment Policy and Procedures set out the processes in more detail and are drawn from School Improvement Liverpool’s Safeguarding Handbook.

The school is required to inform relevant staff who fall within the scope of [**Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/disqualification-under-the-childcare-act-2006/disqualification-under-the-childcare-act-2006#contents) and establish they are not disqualified. The criteria for disqualification under the 2006 Act and the 2018 Regulations includes inclusion on the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Children’s Barred List or committing a relevant offence.

1. The Safeguarding Curriculum

Glazebury CE Primary will ensure it has a curriculum map which sets out how to help children keep themselves safe from harm. This will include messages which are taught through the [**Relationships education, relationships and sex education (RSE) and health education**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education) and PSHE curriculums, alongside standalone pieces of work and messages delivered through other curriculum areas, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum. Children will be provided with age appropriate skills, knowledge and understanding to help them recognise and respond to issues such as consent and healthy relationships. Children will be supported to develop their understanding, at the appropriate age, of risks including: when using technology, the internet, and risks associated with grooming and radicalisation, gang and criminal exploitation and misusing drugs and alcohol. The curriculum will include specific sequenced lessons to address sexual harassment, online abuse, sexual violence and issues of consent in an age and stage appropriate way. Our school recognises that a one size fits all approach may not be appropriate for all children, and a more personalised approach for more vulnerable children, victims of abuse and some SEND children may be necessary. Children will also learn about the wider safeguarding curriculum which for children would include road safety, anti-bullying and know how to seek support when needed. The school will ensure the curriculum promotes an understanding of the values needed to live within a democratic society including the rule of law, and individual liberty. It will promote tolerance and respect for all faiths (and those of no faith), races, genders, ages, disability and sexual orientations.

1. Safeguarding children who attend off-site alternative provision

When identifying that a child would benefit from attending off site provision, our school will undertake an assessment to determine that this placement is in the best interests of the child. We will ensure that the provision identified is suitable to meet the needs of that child. The school will retain responsibility for the safeguarding of any pupils we place in off-site provision. The school will undertake appropriate quality assurance checks to ensure that it is a safe place for the child to attend and will draw upon the specific guidance in the Schools’ Safeguarding Handbook relating to this. The school will obtain written confirmation from the provider that the appropriate safeguarding checks have been carried out in respect of individuals working at the establishment. The school will have a formal agreement with the alternative provision and parent/carer regarding when the pupil should attend and what procedures that will be followed should the child not attend the placement. The school will ensure it seeks the views of the young people at off-site provision to ensure they feel happy and safe. When commissioning places at alternative provision, the school will pay due regard to [**Working together to improve school attendance**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance), [**Alternative provision – DfE Statutory Guidance**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/alternative-provision) and [**Education for children with health needs who cannot attend school – DfE Statutory Guidance**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school).

Our school is responsible for the safeguarding and welfare of pupils who are educated off site. We will ensure that the appropriate coding is used within attendance registers. If we use the B code, we have confirmed that the child is attending an education provision that is supervised, and measures have been taken to safeguard the pupil. We will ensure that we have arrangements in place where the provider of the provision will notify the school of any absences. Our attendance policy will be followed in these circumstances.

1. Complaints and Whistleblowing

Complaints about safeguarding should follow the school’s complaints policy.

The school recognises that children cannot be expected to raise concerns in an environment where staff fail to do so.

All staff should be aware of their duty to raise concerns, where they exist, which may include the attitude or actions of colleagues. The school’s Whistleblowing Policy is there to support and aid them in these circumstances. The Local Authority also has whistleblowing procedures.

Whistleblowing regarding the Head teacher should be made to the Chair of the Governing Body, whose contact details should be readily available to staff.

The DFE states *‘peer on peer abuse should be taken as seriously as abuse by adults and should be subject to the same child protection procedures. Professionals should not dismiss abusive behaviour as normal between young people and should not develop high thresholds before taking action.’*

The NSPCC whistleblowing helpline is available for staff who do not feel able to raise concerns regarding child protection failures internally. Staff can call: 0800 028 0285.

1. Escalation

If any member of staff is unhappy with the response they have received in relation to a safeguarding concern they have raised, it is their responsibility to ensure they escalate their concern within the organisation. All members of staff are aware of their responsibility to escalate and refer concerns on to Children’s Services when it is appropriate to do so.

Where professional disagreement occurs and the Designated Safeguarding Lead and/or Deputy are unhappy with the actions or decisions of another agency, they will escalate their concern in line with the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership’s formal escalation policy to ensure a timely resolution.

The first step of any escalation process with another agency is to raise any concerns directly with the other professional and their line manager. A professionals meeting is always a positive way of resolving differences and remaining focussed on the outcomes for the child.

1. Proactive Safeguarding

Our school recognises that school plays a significant part in the prevention of harm to our children by providing them with opportunities to learn, good lines of communication with trusted adults, supportive peers and an ethos of protection. As a result, safeguarding and child protection is at the heart of everything and underpins all policy and procedures within our school.

Our school recognises that we may provide the only stability in the lives of children who have been abused or who are at risk of harm.

Our school recognises that safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours can be associated with factors outside the school or can occur between children outside the school. All staff, but especially the Designated Safeguarding Lead and deputy should consider the context within which such incidents or behaviours occur. This is known as contextual safeguarding, or extra-familial harm, which means assessments of children should consider whether wider environmental factors are present in a child’s life that are a threat to their safety and/or welfare.

In order to maintain a whole school approach to safeguarding, our school community will:

* Work to establish and maintain an ethos where children feel secure and are encouraged to talk and are always listened to. This ethos will be modelled and replicated by staff and governors.
* Promote a caring, safe and positive environment within the school.
* Ensure that the school site is a safe, secure and welcoming place to learn and grow.
* Encourage self-esteem and self-assertiveness through the curriculum as well as through personal relationships, whilst not condoning aggression or bullying.
* Include regular consultation with children e.g. through safety questionnaires, participation in anti-bullying week, etc.
* Ensure that all children know there is an adult in the school whom they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty.
* Include safeguarding messages across the full curriculum, including RSHE/PSHE, to ensure that the children are equipped with the skills they need to recognise risky behaviours, stay safe from harm and to know to whom they should turn for help. In particular this will e.g. staying safe online, anti-bullying, e-safety, road safety, pedestrian and cycle training, focused work in Year 6 to prepare for transition to Secondary school and more personal safety/independent travel, issues around consent, sexting, positive mental health, etc.
* Offer a positive school experience.
* Ensure all staff are aware of school guidance for their use of mobile technology and have discussed safeguarding issues around the use of mobile technologies and their associated risks
* Ensure that all staff, volunteers, governors, policies and procedures operate with the best interests of the child at their heart.

1. Monitoring and Quality Assurance

Policies and procedures only remain effective if they are regularly monitored and reviewed to ensure that they are still applicable and relevant. Our school and its governors recognise the importance of monitoring and quality assuring the effectiveness of our child protection policy and the procedures set out within it. The aim of monitoring and evaluating the child protection policy is to learn from practical experience, which will contribute to inform policy reviews and future changes to the policy and procedures. The process of monitoring and quality assurance will help the school and governors to identify the policy strengths and weaknesses, and will help to provide an understanding of the reasons for these, so that decisions can be made to resolve any limitations with immediate effect.

Monitoring and evaluation will be done by checking whether the standards from the child protection policy are implemented and whether safeguards are working and will be undertaken throughout the year by the Designated Safeguarding Lead, the Head teacher and the Chair of Governors. Activities which form part of the ongoing monitoring of effectiveness are:

* Trust and LGB Scrutiny of the Single Central Record and personnel files to ensure pre-employment checks are robust and up-to-date, and that job descriptions for new positions include reference to child protection, etc.
* Trust and LGB Scrutiny of the School’s annual 175 safeguarding audit by the Chair of Governors and Link Governor for Safeguarding, alongside the full Board of Directors having oversight of any actions arising from the audits.
* Confirmation that training has been undertaken according to planned schedule and that all relevant staff and volunteers have participated
* There is effective analysis of safeguarding data including bullying, attendance, exclusions, behaviour logs, pupils taken off roll, the views and progress and participation of vulnerable students. In particular, the School will monitor the link between attendance and safeguarding and those persistently absent, frequently late, missing School (including part of the School day) or those who suddenly stop attending.
* Methods such as regular ‘safeguarding training questionnaires’ used to evidence the effectiveness of staff training and their understanding of Part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education.
* Regular meetings with staff, volunteers and children which include the opportunity to discuss safeguarding and child protection, or use of questionnaires to evidence this
* Safeguarding learning walks designed to evidence and test out key safeguarding standards
* Adapting and amending the policy and procedures outside of their annual review date to reflect current issues which may have recently arisen in order to ensure that all children are protected at all times.

Our Schools will also draw upon additional quality assurance activities and templates referenced within the School Improvement Liverpool Schools Safeguarding Handbook e.g. Single Central Record Checklist, Personnel Record Checklist and the Headteacher’s Quality Assurance Checklist.

**Review Schedule**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Policy Author | CEO/School Improvement Liverpool |
| Policy Approver | Board of Directors |
| Current Policy Version | 1.3 |
| Policy Effective From | 1st September 2023 |
| Policy Review Date | September 2024 |

**Revision Schedule**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Version** | **Revisions** | **By whom** |
| 1.0 | Original | CEO/SIL |
| 1.1 | Reviewed and updated in line with KCSIE 2020 | CEO/SIL |
| 1.2 | Reviewed and updated in line with KCSIE 2021 | CEO/SIL |
| 1.3 | Reviewed and updated in line with KCSIE 2022 | CEO/SIL |
| 1.4 | Reviewed and updated in line with KCSIE 2023 | CEO/SIL |
|  |  |  |

**Graphical user interface, application

Description automatically generatedGlazebury CE Primary School** 

**Safeguarding Handbook**

**“Growing together at the heart of God’s community”**

**Trust Prayer**

Heavenly Father,

Let peace, friendship and love grow in our schools.

Send the Holy spirit to give excellence to our learning,

Love to our actions, and joy to our worship.

Guide us to help others, so we may all

Learn, Love and Achieve,

Together with Jesus

**The HEART of our school and curriculum:**

**H – Helping children prepare for life, growing with God.**

**E – Embracing Christian Values.**

**A - Achievement for all.**

**R - Reading at the heart of our school**

**T – Teaching a knowledge rich curriculum.**

*cc*

Amen.

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| --- | --- |
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| 1. Safeguarding Handbook Ethos |  |
| 1. What is safeguarding  * Listening to children , capturing the child’s voice * The designated safeguarding lead (DSL) * What does the DSL do? * Safeguarding team approach to safeguarding children |  |
| 1. The role of the governing body |  |
| 1. Allegations against members of staff working with children |  |
| 1. Whistleblowing |  |
| 1. Safeguarding Training |  |
| 1. Record keeping and confidentiality |  |
| 1. **Key procedures and responding to concerns about and from a child**  * **Dealing with a disclosure from a child** * Early help * Working with Parents and carers * **What is abuse?**   **- Neglect**  **- Emotional abuse**  **- Sexual abuse**  **- Physical abuse** |  |
| 1. Parenting capacity |  |
| 1. Bullying |  |
| 1. Child sexual exploitation  * Sexually harmful behaviour |  |
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| 1. **LDST Reporting to governor template** |  |
| 1. **Ofsted Safeguarding evidence file checklist** |  |
| 1. **School Prevent poster – Prevent and safeguarding pledge** |  |

1. **Safeguarding Handbook Ethos:**

Glazebury CE Primary Schoolis committed to working together with all relevant agencies to ensure that children and families are able to receive the right help at the right time and that appropriate action is taken swiftly to protect children from harm.

**We believe that:**

* All children and young people have the right to be protected from harm;
* Children and young people need to be safe and to feel safe in school;
* Children and young people need support which matches their individual needs, including those who may have experienced abuse;
* All children and young people have the right to speak freely and voice their values and beliefs;
* All children and young people must be encouraged to respect each other’s values and support each other;
* All children and young people have the right to be supported to meet their emotional, and social needs as well as their educational needs – a happy healthy sociable child and young person will achieve better educationally;
* Schools can and do contribute to the prevention of abuse, victimisation, bullying, exploitation, extreme behaviours, discriminatory views and risk taking behaviours; and
* All staff and visitors have an important role to play in safeguarding children and protecting them from abuse.

**Our responsibility to children by:**

* Clarifying standards of behaviour for staff and pupils;
* Contributing to the establishment of a safe, resilient and robust ethos in the school, built on mutual respect, and shared values
* Introducing appropriate work within the curriculum;
* Encouraging pupils and parents to participate;
* Training staff to the signs and indicators that a child may be at risk;
* Developing staff awareness, through training, of the types of abuse;
* Developing staff’s awareness of the risks and vulnerabilities their pupils may face;
* Addressing concerns at the earliest possible stage by offering early help; and
* Taking action when a child needs protection and safeguarding
* Working together with all agencies to help to reduce the potential risks that pupils may face if being exposed to abuse, neglect, violence, extremism, exploitation, or victimisation

**All staff can contribute to supporting our pupils by:**

* Identifying and protecting the most vulnerable
* Identifying individual needs where possible; and
* Designing plans to meet those needs
* Including appropriate work within the curriculum;
* Implementing child protection policies and procedures; and
* Working in partnership with pupils/students, parents and agencies.

**ii.What is safeguarding?**

**S**afeguarding children is the action we take to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm, and it is everyone’s responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and families has a role to play.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this Policy as:

* Protecting children from maltreatment;
* Preventing impairment of children's health or development;
* Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
* Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

(Source: Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015))

**Listening to children: Capturing the child’s voice**

Effective safeguarding systems are child centred. Failings in safeguarding systems are too often the result of losing sight of the needs and views of the children within them, or placing the interests of adults (potentially the child’s parents) ahead of the needs of children.

**Children want to be respected, their views to be heard, to have stable relationships with professionals built on trust and for consistent support provided for their individual needs. This should guide the behaviour of professionals. Anyone working with children should see and speak to the child; listen to what they say; take their views seriously; and work with them collaboratively when deciding how to support their needs.** A child-centred approach is supported by:

* The Children Act (1989) (as amended by section 53 of the Children Act 2004).
* The Equality Act 2010
* The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) (1991)
* Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015)
* Keeping Children Safe in Education (2016)

Whilst professionals can NOT promise confidentiality, they must do the right thing in all cases. No child or group of children must be treated any less favourably than others in being able to access effective services which meet their particular needs; which includes child protection action and the offer of ‘Early Help’.

**The Designated Senior Lead (DSL) for Safeguarding**

The role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) was specified in the Children Act (2006) which stated that every organisation must have a “named person” for safeguarding children and young people. The DSL therefore must be a member of the Senior Leadership Team within schools and Academies. The DSL role is one of great importance, with this member of staff being a champion of safeguarding and a source of support for all school and academy staff. It is key that **all** staff know who the DSL is and ensure that all concerns about a child are shared with the DSL immediately.

The name of the Designated Safeguarding Lead for Glazebury Church of England Primary School is **Mrs. Karen Mowbray, Head Teacher.**

The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is **Mrs. Karen Wall, Deputy Head Teacher**

Telephone number**: 01925 949404**

**What does the DSL do?**

* Lead responsibility for dealing with safeguarding and child protection concerns at the school or academy and should be available at all times during the school day. This may mean having a deputy or team approach.
* Should act as source of support, advice and expertise within school when deciding whether to make a referral by liaising with relevant agencies.
* The DSL will be trained to a high level, which includes both single agency and multi-agency training (Level 3). This must be updated at least every two years; good practice is that the DSL updates their training on an annual basis.
* The DSL will recognise how to identify signs of abuse and will make an appropriate judgement on what action to take. This will be based on the information that the DSL is presented with by staff.
* The DSL will assess the appropriateness of completing an early help assessment (e.g. CAF, TAF or ECAF) or whether the threshold has been met for social care statutory social work services.
* The DSL will access regular training and network events to keep as up to date as possible with changes in legislation and or statutory guidance.
* The DSL will ensure that the schools safeguarding policy is embedded and available to all staff and volunteers at the point of induction. If the policy is reviewed the DSL will share the new updates with all staff to ensure that all staff know what is expected of them.
* The DSL will champion safeguarding and keep all staff up to date with current procedure and practice. This will help to familiarise all staff with their own role within safeguarding.
* The DSL will ensure all new staff and volunteers have induction training covering safeguarding and child protection and are able to recognise and report any concerns immediately if they arise. The induction will cover the ‘basic awareness session’ and the ‘no delay’ principle.
* The DSL will keep detailed accurate secure written contemporaneous records. Each child will have an individual file labelled either child protection or early help. Chronologies will be help for each child and they will be clear, concise and factual (E.g. dated, concern, initialled, action taken). Files will hold copies of all referrals and relevant multi agency meetings and plans. Files will be reviewed and quality assured as part of the s157/s175 audit process.
* The DSL will deliver whole school staff safeguarding training to all staff; recommended on a yearly basis as part of INSET. This should include briefings on specific topics such as CSE, FGM, Radicalisation and Private Fostering.
* The DSL should be aware of the Local Safeguarding Children’s Board (LSCB) and how it operates. This should include access to the LSCB website and to practitioner training events.
* The DSL will participate in multi-agency meetings and contribute effectively either verbally or by way of a written report.
* The DSL will attend Child Protection Case Conferences and contribute to discussions at the conference and will make a formal recommendation at the meeting in respect of a child protection plan.
* The DSL will contribute to social work assessments e.g. The Combined Assessment when required and requested to do so. This will include the sharing of information about attendance, attainment and any other concerns that have been identified as well of any strengths that the family/ child has.
* The DSL will develop the Vulnerability Risk Register (VRR) to identify the vulnerable children at the school or academy. This confidential register will be reviewed regularly to ensure that the DSL knows who the vulnerable children are. This may be reviewed as part of safeguarding team meetings. This should automatically include children in care, children on a child protection plan and children in need. It may also include children receiving early help (have a CAF or family support plan), young carers, children with medical needs, children at risk of CSE, children who have emotional and mental health difficulties, children who self-harm etc. The categories on this register will be determined by the needs of the school community.
* The DSL will monitor the attendance, development and wellbeing of children who are subject to a child protection plan and children in care.
* The DSL will champion safeguarding in school- promoting effective communication both internally and with external agencies on all matters relating to child protection.
* The DSL will complete a 175 Audit on an annual basis, at the request of the Local Authority to ensure that there are effective systems in place to keep children safe.
* Where appropriate the DSL will identify staff to be part of a Safeguarding Team, to ensure that there is always a member of staff present in school who can take a lead role in safeguarding children in the DSLs absence. The DSL will take the lead responsibility within the safeguarding team.

**The Safeguarding Team Approach to safeguarding children**

This is considered to be the best practice to managing safeguarding at school as practically, there is always cover for absence and therefore a number of professionals trained to know what to do if there were concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child. It also encourages a culture of working collaboratively and making decisions together, with the child at the heart of the teams practice. The team approach is supportive to the DSL, who will as a result of a team structure, no longer works in isolation and take the sole responsibility for safeguarding.

Importantly, the DSL leads the safeguarding team and on a day to day basis decision will be made by the DSL. Team members need to be clear of their role within the team and what is expected from them. De briefing and reflective practice is an important part of safeguarding practice and should be routinely built into safeguarding team meetings via Joined -up care meetings.

**Meet the Safeguarding Team at Glazebury Church of England Primary School**.

Glazebury Church of England Primary School operates a safeguarding team approach with a split focus on both early help and child protection.

**School’s Safeguarding Team**:

DSL -Mrs Karen Mowbray – Head Teacher - **Lead**

DDSL -Mrs Karen Wall – Deputy Head

Mrs Angela Jones -Teaching Assistant

Mrs Kathryn Holcroft- School Business Manager

Admin support: Mrs Lorna Porter

Safeguarding Governor – Mr Stuart Roberts-Tighe

**Other useful contacts:**

**LADO** (Local Authority Designated Officer) – Telephone number**: 01925 442079**

Email: conference&reviewunit@warrington.gcsx.gov.uk

**Warrington Children’s Safeguarding Team** -integrated front door – **01925 443322**

(**out of hours -01925 444400)**

**Warrington Safeguarding Children’s Board 01925 433126**

**Education Safeguarding officer (MASH)–** Michelle Heritage -01925 442928

Email: mheritage@warrington.gov.uk

**Prevent** Officer Cheshire: **01606362121** email: prevent@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

**Anti-terrorism** hotline **0800 789 321**

CME: **Attendance and Child missing in Education** Dave Sampson 01925 442261

**Key Functions of the Safeguarding Team**

The DSL will lead the safeguarding team and allocate tasks to safeguarding team members. The DSL will have management oversight of the safeguarding work completed by the safeguarding team. **(See Child Protection Policy: Section 7- Roles and Responsibilities)**

**iii. The role of the Governing Body**

The Governing Body are the accountable body for ensuring the safety of the school.

**(see Child Protection Policy: Section 7- Roles and Responsibilities)**

**The role of safeguarding governor**

The governor responsible for safeguarding children will play an essential role in ensuring children in the school or are kept safe from harm. The safeguarding governor plays an important role in ensuring oversight and scrutiny of safeguarding policy, procedure and practice on behalf of the full governing body.

The **Nominated Governor** for child protection at Glazebury Church of England Primary   
School is **Mr Stuart Roberts-Tighe.**

The Nominated Governor is responsible for liaising with the Head Teacher and Designated Safeguarding Person (DSL) over all matters related to safeguarding issues. The role is strategic rather than operational – they will not be involved in concerns about individual children. It is not the role of the link governor to supervise the DSL; the link governor should offer support and appropriate challenge. However, the nominated governor for safeguarding will want to be reassured that systems for safeguarding children are in place and embedded into practice. This could be achieved by holding a termly meeting between the DSL and the nominated governor.

**iv. Allegations against members of staff who work with children**

There is a separate specific policy for **Managing Allegations against members of staff who work with children**, which is part of the safeguarding suite of documents.

Find a brief summary of actions that should be taken should an allegation be made.

If an allegation is made, or information is received which suggests that a person may be unsuitable to work with children, the member of staff receiving the allegation or aware of the information, will immediately inform the Head Teacher.

The Head Teacher on all such occasions will discuss the content of the allegation with the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and where appropriate the HR business partner and LDST personnel.

If the allegation made to a member of staff concerns the Head Teacher, the person receiving the allegation will immediately inform the Chair of Governors who will consult the LADO, and HR business partner, without notifying the Head Teacher first. The school will comply with local safeguarding children’s board procedures in respect of managing all allegations against members of staff who work with children. **(see Child Protection Policy: Section 11- Managing allegations of abuse against staff and volunteers working at school)**

**v. Whistleblowing**

Please see the separate and specific policy in relation to Whistleblowing, which is part of the safeguarding suite of documents, (see policy). The key principles are that all staff should be aware of their duty to raise concerns, where they exist, about the management of child protection and safeguarding, which may include the attitude or actions of colleagues. If it becomes necessary to consult outside the school, they should speak in the first instance the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO).

**vi. Safeguarding Training**

All staff will receive basic training as part of their induction; this will be delivered by

the DSL or member of Safeguarding Team. New staff will be provided with the

safeguarding suite of documents, including the Safeguarding Policy. All staff should

ensure that they are familiar with the procedures written within this policy. All staff

can gain advice and support from the DSL who is the lead member of staff for

safeguarding.

Whilst it is not statutory for ALL staff to update their safeguarding training on an

annual basis, it is good practice. Safeguarding update training should be part of whole

school INSET training days and can provide useful updates on key themes such as CSE

and Radicalisation. This training will be delivered by the DSL and/or Stay Safe Team

members. Best practice is for the DSL to ensure that staff receive ‘regular updates’,

through either staff meetings or School Improvement Liverpool electronic safeguarding

bulletins.

The DSL must update their training on a regular basis. The statutory requirement is every two years, however, good practice is that the DSL attends multi-agency training on an annual basis and participates in local (single agency) networks to share good practice, reflect and learn together and to keep up to date. The DSL must attend PREVENT training.

The named governor for safeguarding should also update their training on a regular basis; good practice is on an annual basis to ensure that they keep up to date in their knowledge.

Evidence of safeguarding training must be made available as part of any safeguarding inspection or audit.

**vii. Record Keeping and Confidentiality (also see Child Protection Policy: Section 18 -confidentiality, information sharing, record keeping and retention)**

Good, up to date record keeping of concerns and action taken is essential for two main reasons:

It helps schools to identify causes for concern at an early stage. Often it is only when a number of seemingly minor issues are considered as a holistic picture, that a safeguarding or child protection concern becomes clear;

It helps schools monitor and manage its safeguarding practices. Furthermore, in any inspection it will be important to provide evidence of robust and effective safeguarding policy and practice

A record of concern, suspicion or allegation should be made at the time or as soon as possible after the event. It is not usually advisable to make a written record whilst a child is disclosing abuse, as it may deter the child from speaking. However, it is important that events are recorded in the child’s own words and as soon as possible, to ensure absolute accuracy.

Records should be factual, using the child’s own words in cases where a disclosure is made. Professional opinion can be given, but needs to be supported by stating the facts and observations upon which the opinions are based. It is important to remember that what is recorded can be shared with all appropriate agencies and potentially the child’s parents. (Except where doing so, would place a child at risk of significant harm in the case of parents (See DES circular 17/89).

Expressing an opinion as to whether the child is telling the truth is not helpful and can prejudice how a case proceeds. All records should be dated and signed with the name of the signatory clearly printed and filed in chronological order. Concerns should be logged contemporaneously and in chronological order. It is advisable that each child’s file has a running chronology that is kept up to date.

All recorded child protection concerns must be passed to the DSL following completion of the Initial Concern Form (Appendix 1) as soon as possible. The DSL will need to make a professional judgement about what action needs to be taken.

All records of child protection concerns, disclosures or allegations are to be treated as sensitive information and should be kept together securely and separately from the child’s general school records and stored until the child’s 25th birthday.

As a guide, the pupil’s child protection or early help file should contain:

* any concerns recorded by staff
* Any child protection information received from previous schools or other agencies
* Copy of any internal or external referrals and correspondence
* Copies of any referrals from the DSL to Children’s Social Care
* In the case of a child subject to a Child Protection Plan, notes of any Child Protection case conference or Core Group meetings etc.
* Where a case is ongoing, keep a record of any actions and discussions etc. which will form a ‘running chronology’ for future reference.

If any information is removed from a file for any reason, a dated note must be placed in the file indicating who has taken it, why and when.

When a child changes school, a copy of the child protection file should be sent to the new school, under separate cover, directed to the receiving school’s DSL. Best practice would recommend a handover meeting to ensure that all relevant information is shared.

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**Viii. Key procedures and responding to concerns about a child**

This section will make clear the procedure that all staff should follow, should you have concerns about a child. It will also explore what abuse is in detail and define some of the signs and symptoms. It is important that staff read through this section and familiarise themselves with the potential warning signs that a child is at risk.

**Dealing with a disclosure of abuse from a child**

Children often will choose who they talk to, when they have something that is worrying them or happening to them. Children may have thought long and hard about telling an adult, and will have chosen the adult specifically as they have trust in that person to do the right thing.

Disclosing something upsetting and traumatic may be very difficult and distressing for both the child and the adult. Listening to and supporting a child who has been abused can also be traumatic for the adults involved. Support for you will be available from your Designated Safeguarding Person or Head Teacher. These guidance notes may help you if you are ever in this situation. Remember, the child chose you and it is a privileged position to be in, it’s a position where you can make a difference to a child’s situation.

**A golden rule is that you don’t ever promise confidentiality and be open and honest with the child at all times.**

**Guidance for you to consider**

**Do**

* Stay calm and listen to what the child is saying
* Do consider the environment that you are in with the child, is it appropriate? Do other staff members know where you are?
* Ask open ended questions and record what is being said in the child’s own words.
* Encourage the child to talk but reassure the child that they have done the right thing in speaking to you
* Reassure the child that you believe them. Children very rarely lie about abuse; but s/he may have tried to tell others and not been heard or believed.
* Tell the child that it is not her/his fault.
* Listen and remember and make notes and if appropriate, share your notes with the child to recap what has been said.
* Check that you have understood correctly what the child is trying to tell you by clarifying the facts.
* The child for telling you. Communicate that s/he has a right to be safe and protected.
* Be aware that the child may retract what s/he has told you. It is essential to record all you have heard.
* At the end of the conversation, tell the child again who you are going to tell (The DSL) and why that person needs to know.
* As soon as you can afterwards, make a detailed record of the conversation using the child’s own language. Include any questions you may have asked. (**Use yellow Initial Concern Form - Appendix 1)** to do this.

**Do Not**

* Do not ask "leading questions" or press for information.
* Do not investigate.
* Do not communicate shock, anger or embarrassment or share your opinion on what has happened.
* Do not swear.
* Make inappropriate comments about the alleged offender
* Never enter into a pact of secrecy with the child. Assure the child that you will try to help but let the child know that you will have to tell other people in order to do this. State who this will be and why (The DSL).
* Do not tell the child that what s/he experienced is dirty, naughty or bad.
* Make physical contact with the child. Whilst the child may seek out physical contact, remember that this may place you in a vulnerable position and also an abused child may not want physical comfort e.g. a hug.

If you have concerns about a child, or notice something may be wrong, ask the question “Are you OK?” Children have told us that they want adults to:

**Be Vigilant**: they want to have adults notice when things are troubling them.

**Understanding and action**: they want adults to understand what is happening; to be heard and understood; and to have that understanding acted upon

**Stability**: to be able to develop an on-going stable relationship of trust with those helping them

**Respect:** to be treated with the expectation that they are competent rather than not

**Information and engagement**: to be informed about and involved in procedures, decisions, concerns and plans

**Explanation**: to be informed of the outcome of assessments and decisions and reasons when their views have not met with a positive response

**Support**: to be provided with support in their own right as well as a member of their family

**Advocacy:** to be provided with advocacy to assist them in putting forward their views

Source: Working Together to Safeguard Children; p10; (2013)

**Early Help for Children and their Families**

Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child’s life. Part of a School and academies safeguarding procedures should include effective ways to identify emerging problems and potential unmet needs for individual children and families. **(see Child Protection Policy Section 5-Working together to safeguard children)**

**Working with Parents and Carers**

In general, the DSL will discuss any child protection concerns with parents / carers

before approaching other agencies, and will seek their consent to making a referral

to another agency e.g. Children’s Social Care. The exception to this principle is when

the concern is either a physical or sexual nature and implicates a family member or if

doing so would place the child at risk of significant harm. In addition, Parents / carers

will be informed about our Safeguarding policy through the website and newsletters. **(see Child**

**Protection Policy Section 6 – communicating with Parents and visitors)**

**What is Abuse?**

Abuse is a form of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. They may be abused by an adult or adults or another child or children. Abuse has significant impact on a child’s physical and emotional health and development. All staff need to understand what the categories of abuse are and how to spot the signs and symptoms of abuse in a child so that action can be taken to protect and safeguard the child.

**Neglect** is the persistent failure to meet a child’s basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child’s health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to: provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment); protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger; ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child’s basic emotional needs.

The following may be indicators of neglect (**this is not designed to be used as a checklist**):

* Constant hunger;
* Smelly (through poor hygiene or clothing)
* Stealing, scavenging and/or hoarding food;
* Frequent tiredness or listlessness;
* Frequently dirty or unkempt;
* Often poorly or inappropriately dressed for the weather;
* Poor school attendance or often late for school;
* Poor concentration;
* Affection or attention seeking behaviour;
* Illnesses or injuries that are left untreated;
* Failure to achieve developmental milestones, for example growth, weight;
* Failure to develop intellectually or socially;
* Responsibility for activity that is not age appropriate such as cooking, ironing, caring for siblings;
* The child is regularly not collected or received from school; or
* The child is left at home alone or with inappropriate carers

**Emotional Abuse** is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and adverse effects on the child’s emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or ‘making fun’ of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond a child’s developmental capability as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, although it may occur alone.

The following may be indicators of emotional abuse (**this is not designed to be used as a checklist):**

* The child consistently describes him/herself in very negative ways – as stupid, naughty, hopeless, ugly;
* Quiet, withdrawn and nervous
* Over-reaction to mistakes;
* Delayed physical, mental or emotional development;
* Sudden speech or sensory disorders;
* Inappropriate emotional responses, fantasies;
* Neurotic behaviour: rocking, banging head, regression, tics and twitches;
* Self-harming, drug or solvent abuse;
* Fear of parents being contacted;
* Running away;
* Compulsive stealing;
* Appetite disorders - anorexia nervosa, bulimia; or
* Soiling, smearing faeces, enuresis.

N.B. Some situations where children stop communication suddenly (known as “traumatic mutism”) can indicate maltreatment.

**Sexual Abuse** involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

The following may be indicators of sexual abuse (**this is not designed to be used as a checklist):**

* Sexually explicit play or behaviour or age-inappropriate knowledge;
* Anal or vaginal discharge, soreness or scratching;
* Reluctance to go home;
* Inability to concentrate, tiredness;
* Refusal to communicate;
* Thrush, persistent complaints of stomach disorders or pains;
* Eating disorders, for example anorexia nervosa and bulimia;
* Attention seeking behaviour, self-mutilation, substance abuse;
* Aggressive behaviour including sexual harassment or molestation;
* Unusual compliance;
* Regressive behaviour, enuresis, soiling;
* Frequent or open masturbation, touching others inappropriately;
* Depression, withdrawal, isolation from peer group;
* Reluctance to undress for PE or swimming; or
* Bruises or scratches in the genital area.

**Sexual Abuse by Young people**

The boundary between what is abusive and what is part of normal childhood or youthful experimentation can be blurred. The determination of whether behaviour is developmental, inappropriate or abusive will hinge around the related concepts of true consent, power imbalance and exploitation. This may include children and young people who exhibit a range of sexually problematic behaviour such as indecent exposure, obscene telephone calls, fetishism, bestiality and sexual abuse against adults, peers or children.

Developmental Sexual Activity encompasses those actions that are to be expected from children and young people as they move from infancy through to an adult understanding of their physical, emotional and behavioural relationships with each other. Such sexual activity is essentially information gathering and experience testing. It is characterised by mutuality and of the seeking of consent.

Inappropriate Sexual Behaviour can be inappropriate socially, in appropriate to development, or both. In considering whether behaviour fits into this category, it is important to consider what negative effects it has on any of the parties involved and what concerns it raises about a child or young person. It should be recognised that some actions may be motivated by information seeking, but still cause significant upset, confusion, worry, physical damage, etc. It may also be that the behaviour is “acting out” which may derive from other sexual situations to which the child or young person has been exposed.

If an act appears to have been inappropriate, there may still be a need for some form of behaviour management or intervention. For some children, educative inputs may be enough to address the behaviour.

Abusive sexual activity included any behaviour involving coercion, threats, aggression together with secrecy, or where one participant relies on an unequal power base.

**Assessment**

In order to more fully determine the nature of the incident the following factors should be given consideration. The presence of exploitation in terms of:

**Equality** – consider differentials of physical, cognitive and emotional development,

power and control and authority, passive and assertive tendencies

**Consent** – agreement including all the following:

* Understanding that is proposed based on age, maturity, development level, functioning and experience
* Knowledge of society’s standards for what is being proposed
* Awareness of potential consequences and alternatives
* Assumption that agreements or disagreements will be respected equally
* Voluntary decision
* Mental competence

**Coercion –** the young perpetrator who abuses may use techniques like bribing,

manipulation and emotional threats of secondary gains and losses that is loss of love,

friendship, etc. Some may use physical force, brutality or the threat of these regardless of

victim resistance.

**Physical Abuse** is a form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

The following may be indicators of physical abuse (**this is not designed to be used as a checklist):**

* Multiple bruises in clusters, or of uniform shape;
* Bruises that carry an imprint, such as a hand or a belt;
* Bite marks;
* Round burn marks;
* Multiple burn marks and burns on unusual areas of the body such as the back, shoulders or buttocks;
* An injury that is not consistent with the account given;
* Changing or different accounts of how an injury occurred;
* Bald patches;
* Symptoms of drug or alcohol intoxication or poisoning;
* Unaccountable covering of limbs, even in hot weather;
* Fear of going home or parents being contacted;
* Fear of medical help;
* Fear of changing for PE;

**Viv.Parenting Capacity: When there are concerns**

Research and experience indicates that the following responses from parents may suggest a cause for concern across all four categories:

* Delay in seeking treatment that is obviously needed;
* Unawareness or denial of any injury, pain or loss of function (for example, a fractured limb);
* Inconsistent explanations offered, several different explanations or the child is said to have acted in a way that is inappropriate to her/his age and development;
* Reluctance to give information or failure to mention other known relevant injuries;
* Frequent presentation of minor injuries;
* A persistently negative attitude towards the child;
* Unrealistic expectations or constant complaints about the child;
* Alcohol misuse or other drug/substance misuse;
* Parents request removal of the child from home; or
* Mental health issues which prevent the parent from meeting the child’s basic needs
* Violence between adults in the household.
* Failure to protect the child from known ‘risky’ persons
* Failure to prioritise the child’s needs above that of their own.

**X.Bullying** is behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally. Bullying can take many forms (for instance, cyber-bullying via text messages or the internet), and is often motivated by prejudice against particular groups, for example on grounds of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or because a child is adopted or has caring responsibilities. It might be motivated by actual differences between children, or perceived differences. Stopping violence and ensuring immediate physical safety is obviously a school’s first priority but emotional bullying can be more damaging than physical. Staff should recognise this as a potential child protection issue and follow the school or academy’s **Behaviour Management policy including the Anti Bullying Policy.**

Under the Children Act 1989 a bullying incident should be addressed as a child protection concern when there is ‘reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm’. Where this is the case, the school staff should report their concerns to their local authority children’s social care. Even where safeguarding is not considered to be an issue, schools may need to draw on a range of external services to support the pupil who is experiencing bullying, or to tackle any underlying issue which has contributed to a child engaging in bullying.

See **Appendix 7** for links to additional information in respect of preventing and responding to bullying and cyberbullying and also the anti-bullying policy.

**Xi.Child Sexual Exploitation** **(CSE)** is a form of child abuse which involves children and young people (male and female, of a range of ethnic origins and ages, in some cases as young as 10) involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people receive something (for example food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, gifts, money or in some cases simply affection) in exchange for sexual activity. Sexual exploitation can take many forms ranging from the seemingly ‘consensual’ relationship where sex is exchanged for affection or gifts, to serious organised crime by gangs and groups. Perpetrators of child sexual exploitation are found in all parts of the country and are not restricted to particular ethnic groups.

What marks out exploitation is an imbalance of power in the relationship. The perpetrator always holds some kind of power over the victim which increases as the exploitative relationship develops. Sexual exploitation involves varying degrees of coercion, intimidation or enticement, including unwanted pressure from peers to have sex, sexual bullying including cyberbullying and grooming. However, it also important to recognise that some young people who are being sexually exploited do not exhibit any external signs of this abuse.

Key indicators of children being sexually exploited can include:

* going missing for periods of time or regularly coming home late;
* regularly missing school or education or not taking part in education;
* appearing with unexplained gifts or new possessions;
* associating with other young people involved in exploitation;
* older boyfriends or girlfriends;
* suffering from sexually transmitted infections;
* mood swings or changes in emotional wellbeing;
* drug and alcohol misuse; and
* displaying inappropriate sexualised behaviour.

Education staff should be aware that children and young people are more vulnerable to abuse through sexual exploitation if they have experience of:

* Violence/Domestic Abuse
* Children and Young People ‘Looked After’
* refugee/asylum seeker
* Pattern of street homeless
* Substance misuse by parent/carers/child
* Learning disabilities, special needs or mental health issues
* Homophobia
* Estranged from family
* Death or illness of a significant person in the child’s life
* Financially unsupported

Practitioners should also be aware that many children and young people who are victims of sexual exploitation do not recognise themselves as such. A significant number of children who are victims of sexual exploitation go missing from home, care and education at some point. Return interviews for young runaways can help in establishing why a young person ran away and the subsequent support that may be required, as well as preventing repeat incidents. The information gathered from return interviews can be used to inform the identification, referral and assessment of any child sexual exploitation cases.

In assessing whether a child or young person is a victim of sexual exploitation, or at risk of becoming a victim, careful consideration should be given to the issue of consent. It is important to bear in mind that:

* a child under the age of 13 is not legally capable of consenting to sex (it is statutory rape) or any other type of sexual touching;
* sexual activity with a child under 16 is also an offence;
* it is an offence for a person to have a sexual relationship with a 16 or 17 year old if they hold a position of trust or authority in relation to them;
* where sexual activity with a 16 or 17 year old does not result in an offence being committed, it may still result in harm, or the likelihood of harm being suffered;
* non consensual sex is rape whatever the age of the victim; and
* If the victim is incapacitated through drink or drugs, or the victim or his or her family has been subject to violence or the threat of it, they cannot be considered to have given true consent and therefore offences may have been committed.

**Practice Reminder:** The action that ALL staff and volunteers should take, if there are concerns about a child is to follow the procedure written in this policy, which is to pass the concerns to the DSL and complete a yellow Initial Concern Form with a written record of the concern. (Appendix 3)

Please see **Appendix 5** for links to additional information on CSE. Please see **Appendix 7** for the CSE Risk Assessment and screening tool.

**Sexually Harmful Behaviour**

Harmful sexual behaviour involves one or more children engaging in sexual discussions or acts that are inappropriate for their age or stage of development. These can range from using sexually explicit words and phrases to full penetrative sex with other children or adults (Rich; 2011).

Sexually harmful behaviour occurs when a young person (below the age of eighteen years) engages in any form of sexual activity with another individual over whom they have power by virtue of age, emotional maturity, gender, physical strength or intellect and where the victim in this relationship suffers sexual exploitation and betrayal of trust.

Sexual activity includes sexual intercourse (oral, anal or vaginal), sexual touching, exposure of sexual organs, showing pornographic material, exhibitionism, voyeurism, obscene communication, frottage, fetishism and talking in a sexualised way. We should also include any form of sexual activity with an animal and where a young person sexually abuses an adult.

**Source: This definition is taken from: CALDER, M et al; Juveniles and children who sexually abuse; p5.**

Incidents of sexually harmful behaviour come to light, either through discovery or disclosure, which may be third-party or second-hand information. The details provided should be carefully recorded by the person receiving the initial account on Initial Concern Form (Appendix 1) and passed to the DSL. The DSL will assess the level of concerns about the behaviour if a referral to Social Care is appropriate.

**Xii. Domestic Violence or Abuse**

Domestic violence is characterised by inter-personal violence and with effect from March 2013 it was defined by the Home Office as:

Domestic violence and abuse is any incident, or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:

* Psychological
* Physical
* Sexual
* Financial
* Emotional

Controlling behaviour is: a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.

Coercive behaviour is: an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim.

This definition includes 'honour’ based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced

marriage and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group. The definition does not cover violence by an under 16 year old against another family member. Where the perpetrator is over 18 and the victim under 18, this is regarded as child abuse. If both perpetrator and victim are under 18 years, consideration of the need for a child protection investigation to be undertaken would still be required but the national definition allows any abuse between 16 -17 year olds to be considered as domestic abuse. If you have concerns of this nature, ensure that you share this with the DSL and complete a yellow Initial Concern Form (**Appendix 3**).

**Teenage Relationship Abuse** By [**Andrew Hall**](http://www.safeguardinginschools.co.uk/author/stoke/) on June 14, 2013in [**Child Protection**](http://www.safeguardinginschools.co.uk/category/child-protection/), [**Safeguarding**](http://www.safeguardinginschools.co.uk/category/safeguarding/)Since March 2013, the Home Office definition of domestic violence now includes 16 – 18 years. However, this type of abuse can occur in any relationship. Teenage relationship abuse may include the following features:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Emotional Abuse | Physical Abuse | Sexual Abuse | Financial Abuse |
| Constant insults and name calling;  Isolation from friends and family;  Checking up on partners all the time (Inc. checking emails, texts, social networking sites etc.)  Making the person feel responsible for the abuse;  Controlling what someone wears or where they go | Hitting, punching, pushing, biting, kicking, using weapons etc. | Forcing someone to have sex  Unwanted kissing or touching  Being made to watch pornography without consent  Pressure not to use contraception | Taking/controlling money  Forcing people to buy them things  Forcing partners to work or not to work |

**Warning Signs of Relationship Abuse might include**

* Physical signs of injury / illness
* Truancy, failing grades
* Withdrawal, passivity, being compliant
* Changes in mood and personality
* Isolation from family and friends
* Frequent texts and calls from boyfriend / girlfriend
* Inappropriate sexual behaviour /language / attitudes
* Depression
* Pregnancy
* Use of drugs / alcohol (where there was no prior use)
* Self-harm
* Eating disorders or problems sleeping
* Symptoms of post-traumatic stress
* Bullying / being bullied

**Signs of Relationship Abuse to look out for**

* Being late for school / not attending (especially if abuser attends same school)
* Arriving early / staying late to avoid abuser
* Not focused in lessons as s/he is preoccupied and worried
* Very gendered expectations of career and achievement
* Feeling unsafe as afraid of being traced by abuser via school
* Disturbed sleep affecting concentration
* Appearing isolated and removed
* Worried that everyone at school knows what is happening

**Practice Reminder:** The action that ALL staff and volunteers should take, if there are concerns about a child is to follow the procedure written in this policy, which is to pass the concerns to the DSL and complete a yellow Initial Concern Form with a written record of the concern. (Appendix 3)

**Xiii. Substance Misuse**

Pupils affected by their own or other's drug misuse should have early access to support through the school’s ‘Early help’ offer and through referral to local drug and alcohol services.

As part of the statutory duty on schools to promote pupils’ wellbeing, schools have a clear role to play in preventing drug misuse as part of their pastoral responsibilities. Schools can have a key role in identifying pupils at risk of drug or alcohol misuse. The process of identifying needs should aim to distinguish between pupils who require general information and education, those who could benefit from targeted prevention, and those who require a detailed needs assessment and more intensive support.

* Schools should provide accurate information on drugs and alcohol through education and targeted information, including via the **FRANK** service;
* Tackle problem behaviour in schools, with wider powers of search and confiscation;
* Work with local voluntary organisations, health partners, the police and others to prevent drug or alcohol misuse.
* To include this support for children as part of the ‘early help’ offer from the school.

**XiV. Faith Abuse**

Faith abuse is where certain kinds of child abuse are linked to faith or belief. This includes: belief in concepts of witchcraft and spirit possession, demons or the devil acting through children or leading them astray (traditionally seen in some Christian beliefs), the evil eye or djinns (traditionally known in some Islamic faith contexts) and dakini (in the Hindu context); ritual or multi murders where the killing of children is believed to bring supernatural benefits or the use of their body parts is believed to produce potent magical remedies; and use of belief in magic or witchcraft to create fear in children to make them more compliant when they are being trafficked for domestic slavery or sexual exploitation.

Child abuse can also occur in culture or faith contexts in general, this can include female genital mutilation, forced marriage, excessive physical punishment or abuse relating to gender, sexuality, ethnicity, nationality, disability or other differences recognised within social or cultural beliefs. Abuse in any culture or faith context is not acceptable and is child abuse. Academy and school staff should follow the procedures and share any concerns with DSL and complete a yellow Initial Concern Form (Appendix 1), if it is suspected that a child is at risk of this type of abuse.

**XV. Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (see child Protection Policy Section 5- FGM)**

Female Genital Mutilation occurs mainly in Africa and to a lesser extent, in the Middle East and Asia. Although it is believed by many to be a religious issue, it is a cultural practice. There are no health benefits. Communities particularly affected by FGM in the UK include girls from: Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Egypt, Nigeria, Eritrea, Yemen, Indonesia and Afghanistan. In the UK, FGM tends to occur in areas with larger populations of communities who practice FGM, such as first-generation immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers. These areas include: London, Cardiff, Manchester, Sheffield, Northampton, Birmingham, Oxford, Crawley, Reading, Slough and Milton Keynes.

**Key Points**

* It is Not a religious practice
* Occurs mostly to girls aged from 5 – 8 years old; but up to around 15
* Criminal offence in UK since 1985
* Offence since 2003 to take girls abroad
* Criminal penalties include up to 14 years in prison

**Reasons for this cultural practice include**

* Cultural identity – An initiation into womanhood
* Gender Identity – Moving from girl to woman – enhancing femininity
* Sexual control – reduce the woman’s desire for sex
* Hygiene/cleanliness – unmutilated women are regarded as unclean

**Risk Factors include**

* low level of integration into UK society
* mother or sister who has undergone FGM
* girls who are withdrawn from PSHE
* a visiting female elder from the country of origin
* being taken on a long holiday to the family’s country of origin
* talk about a ‘special’ event or procedure to ‘become a woman’

**High Risk Time: Be aware**

This procedure often takes place in the summer, as the recovery period after FGM can

be 6-9 weeks. Schools should be alert to the possibility of FGM as a reason why a girl in a high risk group is absent from school or where the family request an ‘authorised absence’ for just before or just after the summer school holidays. Although, it is difficult to identify girls before FGM takes place, where girls from these high risk groups return from a long period of absence with symptoms of FGM, advice should be sought from the police or social services.

**Post-FGM Symptoms include**

* difficulty walking, sitting or standing
* spend longer than normal in the bathroom or toilet
* unusual behaviour after a lengthy absence
* reluctance to undergo normal medical examinations
* asking for help, but may not be explicit about the problem due to embarrassment or fear.

**Longer Term problems include**

* difficulties urinating or incontinence
* frequent or chronic vaginal, pelvic or urinary infections
* menstrual problems
* kidney damage and possible failure
* cysts and abscesses
* pain when having sex
* infertility
* complications during pregnancy and childbirth
* emotional and mental health problems

**See contents reference to Mandatory Reporting of Female Genital Mutilation – procedural information**

**Practice Reminder:** The action that ALL staff and volunteers should take, if there are concerns about a child is to follow the procedure written in this policy, which is to pass the concerns to the DSL and complete and Initial Concern Form with a written record of the concern. (Appendix 3)

**Xvi. Forced Marriage**

There is a clear difference between a ‘forced marriage’ and an ‘arranged marriage’. Arranged marriages have worked well in society for many years. An arranged marriage is when families of both spouses take a leading role in arranging the marriage but the choice whether or not to accept the arrangement remains with the prospective spouses.

A forced marriage is when one or both parties do not consent to the marriage, and people are forced into marriage against their will. Forced marriage is an abuse of human rights. Both physical and emotional abuse may be used to coerce people into the marriage.

In law both parties to a marriage must validly consent to the marriage, the minimum age a person is able to consent to a marriage is 16. A Force Marriage Protection Order can be obtained from a Family Court in order to protect victims, both adults and children from a potential forced marriage or people who are already in a forced marriage.

The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act (2014) make it a criminal offence to force someone to marry. This includes:

* Taking someone overseas to force them to marry (whether or not the forced marriage takes place)
* Marrying someone who lacks the mental capacity to consent to the marriage (whether they’re pressured to or not)
* Breaching a Forced Marriage Protection Order is also a criminal offence

Young people, especially girls who are forced to marry, or those who fear they may be forced to marry, are frequently withdrawn from education, restricting their educational and personal development. They may feel unable to go against the wishes of their parents and consequently may suffer emotionally, often leading to depression and self-harm. These factors can contribute to impaired social development, limited career and educational opportunities, financial dependence and lifestyle restrictions.

Staff may become aware of a pupil because they appear anxious, depressed and emotionally withdrawn with low self-esteem. They may have mental health issues and display behaviours such as self-harming, self-cutting or anorexia. Sometimes they may come to the attention of the police having been discovered shoplifting or taking drugs or alcohol. Often pupil’s symptoms can be exacerbated in the periods leading up to the holiday season. Education staff may wish to be particularly vigilant in that period.

It may be the case that a pupil may present with a sudden decline in their attendance, performance, aspirations or motivation. Some female pupils may feel studying at school is pointless if they are going to be forced to marry and therefore be unable to continue with their education.

**The ‘One Chance’ rule**

All professionals working with suspected or actual victims of forced marriage and honour-based violence need to be aware of the “one chance” rule. That is, they may only have one opportunity to speak to a victims or potential victim and may possibly only have **one chance** to save a life. As a result, all professionals working within statutory agencies need to be aware of their responsibilities and obligations when they are faced with forced marriage cases. If the victim is allowed to leave without the appropriate support and advice being offered, that one chance might be wasted.

**Potential Warning signs or indicators that a child is at risk of Forced Marriage** (**not an exhaustive list**)

* Absence and persistent absence.
* Request for extended leave of absence and failure to return from visits to country of origin.
* Fear about forthcoming school holidays
* Surveillance by siblings or cousins at school.
* Decline in behaviour, engagement, performance or punctuality.
* Poor exam results.
* Being withdrawn from school by those with parental responsibility.
* Removal from a day centre of a person with a physical or learning disability
* Not allowed to attend extra-curricular activities
* Sudden announcement of engagement to a stranger
* Prevented from going on to further/higher education

**What to do if you have concerns**

Forced Marriage is an offence and if this is also happening to a child under the age of 18 it is considered to be child abuse. If you suspect that a child may be forced to marry then you must share your concerns with the Designated Senior Lead (DSL) who will make appropriate contact.

with Children’s Social care or the Police. The Forced Marriage Unit can also be contacted for advice and help in making the referral.

**Xvii. Radicalisation and Violent Extremism (see child Protection Policy Section 5- Prevent)**

Since 2010, when the Government published the Prevent Strategy, there has been an

awareness of the specific need to safeguard children, young people and families from

violent extremism. There have been several occasions both locally and nationally in which

extremist groups have attempted to radicalise vulnerable children and young people to hold

extreme views including views justifying political, religious, sexist or racist violence, or to

steer them into a rigid and narrow ideology that is intolerant of diversity and leaves them

vulnerable to future radicalisation.

**Important contact information**

The Local Prevent Officer is **Emma Hart** and can be contacted on **01606 362121** or

**Email Prevent@cheshire.pnn.police.uk**

Our school, like all others, is required to identify a Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC) who will be the lead within the organisation for safeguarding in relation to protecting individuals from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism: this will normally be the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

The Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for Glazebury Church of England Primary School is **Mrs Karen Mowbray**. Please see explanatory notes about the role of the SPOC in Appendix 4.

Channel is a multi-agency approach to provide support to individuals who are at risk

of being drawn into terrorist related activity. The channel contact for Cheshire is

**Lesley Price 01606 365986 E-mail**: [Lesley.price@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Lesley.price@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)

**Useful Definitions:**

**Radicalisation** refers to the process by which a person comes to support

terrorism and or extremism leading to terrorism.

**Extremism** is defined by the Government in the Prevent Strategy (2010) as:

Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

Extremism is defined by the Crown Prosecution Service as:

The demonstration of unacceptable behaviour by using any means or medium to express views which:

* Encourage, justify or glorify terrorist violence in furtherance of particular beliefs;
* Seek to provoke others to terrorist acts;
* Encourage other serious criminal activity or seek to provoke others to serious criminal acts; or
* Foster hatred which might lead to inter-community violence in the UK.

There is no such thing as a “typical extremist” those who become involved in extremist

actions come from a range of backgrounds and experiences, and most individuals, even

those who hold radical views, do not become involved in violent extremist activity.

Pupils may become susceptible to radicalisation through a range of social, personal and

environmental factors - it is known that violent extremists exploit vulnerabilities in

individuals to drive a wedge between them and their families and communities. It is vital

that school and academy staff are able to recognise those vulnerabilities.

**Indicators of vulnerability include:**

* Identity Crisis – the pupil is distanced from their cultural / religious heritage and experiences discomfort about their place in society;
* Personal Crisis – the pupil may be experiencing family tensions; a sense of isolation; and low self-esteem; they may have dissociated from their existing friendship group and become involved with a new and different group of friends; they may be searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging;
* Personal Circumstances – migration; local community tensions; and events affecting the pupil’s country or region of origin may contribute to a sense of grievance that is triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination or aspects of Government policy;
* Unmet Aspirations – the pupil may have perceptions of injustice; a feeling of failure; rejection of civic life;
* Experiences of Criminality – which may include involvement with criminal groups, imprisonment, and poor resettlement / reintegration;
* Special Educational Need – the pupil may experience difficulties with social interaction, empathy with others, understanding the consequences of their actions and awareness of the motivations of others.

However, this list is not exhaustive, nor does it mean that all young people experiencing the above are at risk of radicalisation for the purposes of violent extremism.

**More critical risk factors could include:**

* Being in contact with extremist recruiters;
* Accessing violent extremist websites, especially those with a social networking element;
* Possessing or accessing violent extremist literature;
* Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage;
* Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues;
* Joining or seeking to join extremist organisations; and
* Significant changes to appearance and / or behaviour;
* Experiencing a high level of social isolation resulting in issues of identity crisis and / or personal crisis.

**What action should be taken if there are concerns?**

* Pass concerns to the DSL/ SPOC
* The DSL/SPOC will make contact with the PREVENT Officer and Channel Officer.

**Teaching Approaches (see child Protection Policy Section 5- Teaching Standards)**

We will all strive to eradicate the myths and assumptions that can lead to some young people becoming alienated and disempowered, especially where the narrow approaches children may experience elsewhere may make it harder for them to challenge or question these radical influences. In our school this will be achieved by good teaching, primarily via PSHE; but also by adopting the methods outlined in the Government’s guidance ‘Teaching approaches that help build resilience to extremism among young people’ DfE 2011.

We will ensure that all of our teaching approaches help our pupils build resilience to extremism and give pupils a positive sense of identity through the development of critical thinking skills. We will ensure that all of our staff are equipped to recognise extremism and are skilled and confident enough to challenge it.

We will be flexible enough to adapt our teaching approaches, as appropriate, so as to address specific issues so as to become even more relevant to the current issues of extremism and radicalisation.

Therefore this approach will be embedded within the ethos of our school so that pupils know and understand what safe and acceptable behaviour is in the context of extremism and radicalisation. This will work in conjunction with our schools approach to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils as defined in OFSTED’s School Inspection Handbook and will include the sound use of collective worships and assemblies to help further promote this rounded development of our pupils.

Our goal is to build mutual respect and understanding and to promote the use of dialogue not violence as a form of conflict resolution. We will achieve this by using a curriculum that includes:

* Citizenship programmes
* Open discussion and debate
* Work on anti-violence and a restorative approach addressed throughout curriculum
* Focussed educational programmes

We will also work with local partners, families and communities in our efforts to ensure our school understands and embraces our local context and values in challenging extremist views and to assist in the broadening of our pupil’s experiences and horizons. We will help support pupils who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a pupil is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences we will ensure that the pupil is offered mentoring. Additionally in such instances our school will seek external support from the Local Authority and/or local partnership structures working to prevent extremism.

**At Glazebury C.E we will promote the values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs.** We will teach and encourage pupils to respect one another and to respect and tolerate difference, especially those of a different faith or no faith. It is indeed our most fundamental responsibility to keep our pupils safe and prepare them for life in modern multi-cultural Britain and globally. We will place a “Prevent” lesson linking to all areas of the curriculum from EYFS to Year 6 to ensure that this is embodied in our teaching culture. See school Prevent leaflet,(See school prevent poster **Appendix 18)**

**REFER also to Prevent Duty Guidance June 2015 – advise for schools and childcare providers. And educate against hate website :** [www.educateagainsthate.com](http://www.educateagainsthate.com)

**XViii. Sexting** is when someone sends or receives a sexually explicit text, image or video on their mobile phone, usually in a text message.

When people talk about sexting, they usually refer to sending and receiving:

* naked pictures or 'nudes'
* 'underwear shots'
* sexual or 'dirty pics'
* explicit ‘rude’ text messages or videos.

If pupils are ‘sexting’ indecent images of someone under the age of 18, they may be committing a criminal offence under Section 1 of the Protection of Children Act 1978 and Section 160 Criminal Justice Act 1988. This means, it is a crime to:

* Take an indecent photograph or allow an indecent photograph to be taken;
* To make an indecent photograph (and this includes downloading or opening an image that has been sent);
* To distribute or show such an image;
* To possess with the intention of distributing images;
* To possess such images.

Whether someone is charged is decided by the Crown Prosecution Service.  Generally, children are not prosecuted.  HOWEVER children and young people need to be aware that they may be breaking the law. Although unlikely to be prosecuted, children and young people who send or possess the images may be visited by Police and on some occasions media equipment e.g. computers and mobile phones could be removed.

The key factor to highlight is that the real harm in relation to ‘sexting’ is that those in the photographs may become victims should the images be shown to others.

Further information can be found in the Appendices with also link to Child Exploitation Online protection Service. (CEOPS)

**Practice Reminder:** The action that ALL staff and volunteers should take, if there are concerns about a child is to follow the procedure written in this policy, which is to pass the concerns to the DSL and complete a yellow Initial Concern Form with a written record of the concern. (Appendix 3)

**XIV. Private Fostering (see child Protection policy – Section 15-Private fostering)**

Privately fostered children could include:

* Children or young people who are sent to this country for education, health care by their birth parents from overseas.
* Teenagers living with a friend's family because they do not get on with their own family.
* Children living with a friend's family because their parents study or work involves unsociable hours, which makes it difficult to use ordinary day care or after school care.
* Children staying with another family because their parents have divorced or separated.
* A child from overseas staying with a host family while attending school or overseas students at boarding school who stay with a host family during the holidays.

**Practice Reminder:** The action that ALL staff and volunteers should take, if there are concerns about a child is to follow the procedure written in this policy, which is to pass the concerns to the DSL and complete a yellow Initial Concern Form with a written record of the concern. (Appendix 3)

**XX. Children Missing from Education**

All children, regardless of their circumstances, are entitled to an efficient, full time education which is suitable to their age, ability, aptitude and any special educational needs they may have. Children missing education are children of compulsory school age who are not registered pupils at a school and are not receiving suitable education otherwise than at a school.

Children missing education are at significant risk of underachieving, being victims of harm, exploitation or radicalisation, and becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) later in life. Effective information sharing between parents, schools and local authorities is critical to ensuring that all children of compulsory school age are safe and receiving suitable education

**The Local Authority officer responsible for CME is David Sampson, who can be contacted on 01925 442261.**

A child going missing from education is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect. School and academy staff members should follow the procedures for dealing with children who go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions, to help identify the risk of abuse and neglect including sexual abuse or exploitation and to help prevent the risks of their going missing in future. However, if a child as in immediate danger or at risk of harm, a referral should be made immediately to children’s social care (and the police if appropriate). Local authority officers responsible for CME should check that a referral has been made and, if not, they should alert children’s social care.

**Requirement for schools (From September 2016) in line with statutory *guidance ‘Children Missing Education: Statutory guidance for Local Authorities’ (2016).***

All schools (including academies and independent schools) must notify their local authority when they are about to remove a pupil’s name from the school admission register under any of the fifteen grounds listed in the regulations1 (Appendix 12). This duty does not apply when a pupil’s name is removed from the admission register at standard transition points – when the pupil has completed the final year of education normally provided by that school – unless the local authority requests that such returns are to be made.

When removing a pupil’s name, the notification to the local authority must include:

* The full name of the pupil,
* The full name and address of any parent with whom the pupil normally resides,
* At least one telephone number of the parent,
* The pupil’s future address and destination school, if applicable, and
* The ground in regulation 8 under which the pupil’s name is to be removed from the admission register (see Appendix 8).

Schools must make reasonable enquiries to establish the whereabouts of the child jointly with the local authority, before deleting the pupil’s name from the register if the deletion is under regulation 8(1), sub-paragraphs (f)(iii) and (h)(iii) (see Appendix 12). All schools must also notify the local authority within five days of adding a pupil’s name to the admission register at a non-standard transition point. The notification must include all the details contained in the admission register for the new pupil. This duty does not apply when a pupil’s name is entered in the admission register at a standard transition point – at the start of the first year of education normally provided by that school – unless the local authority requests that such returns are to be made. Then adding a pupil’s name, the notification to the local authority must include all the details contained in the admission register for the new pupil.

**Missing Child**

The safety and security of the children in our care at Glazebury C.E. Primary School are paramount. Every care is taken to ensure that the children are accounted for at all times when they are in our care.

Each pupil who arrives at school is registered first thing in the morning. Year 1 onwards are expected to come into school independently and make their way into to their classroom. Staffs maintain the appropriate high level of supervision throughout the lessons and are aware of the location of the children in their care at all times.

**If pupils are taken out of the class for interventions this must be communicated to the class teacher who has the overarching responsibility at that time. During the break times and lunch hours, the staff and midday supervisors on duty have responsibility for knowing the locations of the pupils. The register is taken again in the afternoon.** When on excursions off the school premises, staff implement strategies to maximise the safety and security of the children in accordance with the school's Educational Visits policy. Full risk assessments are carried out. A list of all the children’s names is carried by the trip leader and the children split into small groups according to the proper staff/pupil ratios for the age of the children and the purpose of the trip or activity. Each group is managed by a separate member of staff. The number of children is checked regularly by frequent roll calls.

In the unlikely event that after a roll call or at another time it is noticed that a child has gone missing, whether in school or out: The procedures outlined in the missing child policy should be followed.

**XXi. Modern Slavery**

Modern slavery encompasses slavery, servitude, forced and compulsory labour and human trafficking. Traffickers and slave drivers coerce, deceive and force individuals against their will into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment. A large number of active organised crime groups are involved in modern slavery. But it is also committed by individual opportunistic perpetrators.

**Slavery is:** ‘the status or condition of a person over whom any or all of the powers attaching to the right of **ownership** are exercised’. *(Convention to Suppress the Slave Trade and Slavery 1926)*

**Forced or Compulsory Labour is:** ‘all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily’ *(Convention Concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour, 1930 (No.29))*

Labour is the provision of any service, not just manual labour.

**Servitude is:** ‘an obligation to provide a service that is imposed by the use of coercion’.

**Human Trafficking is:** Although many people think of human trafficking as only affecting adults it affects children as well. Child trafficking is child abuse. Children are recruited, moved or transported and then exploited, forced to work or sold. They are often subject to multiple forms of exploitation.

It is also not just about trafficking adults and children across national borders, human trafficking can take place anywhere. The trafficking of human beings involves the movement of a person from one place to another for the purpose of exploiting them using deception, coercion, the abuse of power or the abuse of someone’s vulnerability. People can be trafficked in order to exploit them for sexual purposes, forced labour, domestic servitude or organ harvesting.

A logo on a black background

Description automatically generated with medium confidence**Appendix 1:**

**“Growing together at the heart of God’s community”** 

**INFORMATION / FRONT SHEET**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name:** | | | **DOB:** | | **Class/Form:** | | | **Ethnicity:** | |
| **Home Address:** | | | | | **Telephone:**  **e mail:** | | | | |
| **Status of file and dates:** | | | | | | | | | |
| OPEN |  | |  | |  | |  | |  |
| CLOSED |  | |  | |  | |  | |  |
| TRANSFER |  | |  | |  | |  | |  |
| **Any other child protection records held in school relating to this child/child closely connected to him/her?**  **YES/NO WHO?** | | | | | | | | | |
| **Members of household** | | | | | | | | | |
| Name | Age/DOB | | Relationship to child | | | | Home work | | Contact No |
|  |  | |  | | | |  | |  |
|  |  | |  | | | |  | |  |
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|  |  | |  | | | |  | |  |
| **Significant Others (relatives, carers, friends, child minders, etc)** | | | | | | | | | |
| Name | Relationship to child | | | | Address | | | | Tel No |
|  |  | | | |  | | | |  |
|  |  | | | |  | | | |  |
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|  |  | | | |  | | | |  |
| **Other Agency Involvement** | | | | | | | | | |
| Name of officer/person | | Role and Agency | | Status of Child i.e. EHAF/CPP/LAC/CiN | | Tel No | | | Date |
|  | |  | |  | |  | | |  |
|  | |  | |  | |  | | |  |
|  | |  | |  | |  | | |  |

A logo on a black background

Description automatically generated with medium confidence**Appendix 2:**

**Individual File: KEY EVENTS-CHRONOLOGY**



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Childs Name:**  **DOB:** | | |
| **Date** | **Event –** e.g. telephone conversation with parent , professional. Discussion with colleague, case conference, core group. Disclosure by child, incident, evidence of injury, self-harm etc. | **Outcome/Action**  Communication, reference, recording concern etc. |
|  |  |  |

**Appendix 3**

Shape

Description automatically generated with medium confidence **“Growing together at the heart of God’s community”** 

**Logging a concern about a child’s safety and welfare**

Part 1 (for use by any staff)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Pupil’s Name:** | **Date of Birth: FORM:** |
| **Date and Time of Incident:** | **Date and Time (of writing):** |
| **Name: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………**  **Print Signature**  **Job Title:** | |
| **Note the reason(s) for recording the incident.** | |
| **Record the following factually: Who? What (if recording a verbal disclosure by a child use their words)? Where? When (date and time of incident)? Any witnesses?** | |
| **Note actions, including names of anyone to whom your information was passed.** | |
| **Any other relevant information (distinguish between fact and opinion).** | |

**Check to make sure your report is clear to someone else reading it.**

**Please pass this form to your Designated Person for Child Protection.**

Part 2 (for use by Designated Person)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Time and date information received by DP, and from whom.** |  |
| **Any advice sought by DP (date, time, name, role, organisation and advice given).** |  |
| **Action taken (referral to MASH/children’s social care/monitoring advice given to appropriate staff/EHAF etc) with reasons.**  **Note time, date, names, who information shared with and when etc.** |  |
| **Parent’s informed Y/N**  **and reasons.** |  |
| **Outcome**  **Record names of individuals/agencies who have given information regarding outcome of any referral (if made).** |  |
| **Where can additional information regarding child/incident be found (eg pupil file, serious incident book)?** |  |
| **Should a concern/ confidential file be commenced if there is not already one? Why?** |  |
| **Signed** |  |
| **Printed Name** |  |

**Appendix 4.**

**Preventing Violent Extremism- Roles and responsibilities of the single point of contact (SPOC)**

The SPOC for **Glazebury Church of England Primary School** is **Mrs. Karen Mowbray,** who is responsible for:

* Ensuring that staff of the school are aware that you are the SPOC in relation to protecting pupils from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
* Maintaining and applying a good understanding of the relevant guidance in relation to preventing pupils from becoming involved in terrorism, and protecting them from radicalisation by those who support terrorism or forms of extremism which lead to terrorism;

Raising awareness about the role and responsibilities of **Glazebury Church of England Primary School**:

* in relation to protecting pupils from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
* Monitoring the effect in practice of the school’s RE curriculum and assembly policy to ensure that they are used to promote community cohesion and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs;
* Raising awareness within the school about the safeguarding processes relating to protecting pupils from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
* Acting as the first point of contact within the school for case discussions relating to pupils who may be at risk of radicalisation or involved in terrorism;
* Collating relevant information from in relation to referrals of vulnerable students pupils into the Channel\* process;
* attending Channel\* meetings as necessary and carrying out any actions as agreed;
* Reporting progress on actions to the Channel\* Co-ordinator; and
* Sharing any relevant additional information in a timely manner.

\* **Channel** is a multi-agency approach to provide support to individuals who are at risk of

being drawn into terrorist related activity. It is led by **Cheshire Police Counter-Terrorism**

**Unit,** and it aims to: establish an effective multi-agency referral and intervention process to

identify vulnerable pupils; Safeguard pupils who might be vulnerable to being radicalised, so

that they are not at risk of being drawn into terrorist-related activity; and provide early

intervention to protect and divert pupils away from the risks they face and reduce

vulnerability.

**Appendix 5**

**Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) additional information**

Multi Agency Safeguarding Procedures <http://www.online-procedures.co.uk/pancheshire> (amend if this is not your LSCB)

http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-you-suspect-a-child-is-being-sexually-exploited

What to do if you suspect a child is being sexually exploited Ref: DFE-57517-2012

(Statutory Guidance 2012)

Safeguarding children and young people from sexual exploitation

(Statutory Guidance 2009)

<http://www.online-procedures.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/LSCB-Child-Sex>

Exploitation-Protocol-November-2013-Generic.pdf

**Appendix 6: CSE risk assessment and screening tool**

**RESTRICTED**

Text

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## CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION RISK ASSESSMENT

This screening tool should be used by all professionals working with children aged 10+. Professionals may also decide it is appropriate to use the tool to screen younger children as nationally children as young as 8 years old have been found to be abused in this way. Boys as well as girls are abused through CSE.

This screening tool will help you focus on the specific indicators of sexual exploitation and determine whether further investigations are needed. The tool could be used in supervision, in discussions with parents and carers, with other professionals and with the child.

Many of the indicators of child sexual exploitation are also part of normal teenage behaviours and it is the presence of higher risk factors or multiple other factors which may be indications of child sexual exploitation. **Where a child is aged 13 years old or younger the presence of any one high risk factor must be seen as a potential indicator of sexual exploitation.**

Professionals need to exercise their own judgement when completing the tool.

This includes capturing concerns about which they have some evidence **AND** concerns based on their “gut feelings”. Staff should differentiate between the two and explain this in the notes section.

Where child sexual exploitation is suspected the worker should discuss their concerns with their manager and should also inform their agency’s lead professional who will be monitoring the bigger picture for any emerging patterns.

Professionals should feel free to use the tool creatively, including as part of awareness raising work with children or in engaging parents and carers in understanding the issues.

Once completed if it confirms concerns you **MUST** make a referral to your local **CSE Operational Group** (using your local area referral form) and should include a copy of the completed screening tool. If the screening tool identifies **High Risk**, you must make a referral to Children Social Care using the standard child protection referral process. (Contacts on back page)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Child’s Surname:** | **Child’s forenames:** |
| **Dob:** | **Date completed:** |
| **Name and job title of person completing:** | **Organisation**: |
| **E-mail:** | **Telephone:** |

When completing the screening tool you must use your own judgement as factors such as the child’s age, any additional vulnerabilities, their history, etc., may mean that what for another child would be low level, for that child is high level. Workers should feel free to amend the suggested level using that judgement.

You can either indicate the level of risk using High/medium/low or simply tick the box if the risk element is present (you may wish to use more ticks where the risk is higher.

Remember, this tool is to help you make a professional assessment and **you should not feel constrained by the format. Record your rationale in the notes boxes.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Health Domain** | **Yes**  **No**  **Possible** |  | **Yes**  **No**  **Possible** |
| Physical injuries such as bruising, suggesting of either physical or sexual assault |  | Change in appearance, including losing weight, putting on weight |  |
| A sexually transmitted infection (STI), particularly if it is recurring or there are multiple STI’s |  | Evidence of misuse of drugs / alcohol, including associated health problems |  |
| Pregnancy and / or seeking an abortion |  | Thoughts of or attempted suicide |  |
| Sexually risky behaviour |  | Eating disorder |  |
| Self-harming |  | Learning Disability |  |

**Notes:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Behaviour Domain** | **Yes**  **No**  **Possible** |  | **Yes**  **No**  **Possible** |
| Sexually offending behaviour |  | Hostility in relationship with parents / carers and other family members |  |
| Truancy/disengagement with education or considerable change in performance at school |  | Volatile behaviour, exhibiting extreme array of mood swings or abusive language which is unusual for the child |  |
| Aggressive or violent, including to pets/animals |  | Detachment from age-appropriate activities |  |
| Becoming angry/ hostile if any suspicions or concerns about their activities are expressed |  | Physical aggression towards parents, siblings, pets, teachers or peers |  |
| Physical aggression towards parents, siblings, pets, teachers or peers |  | Secretive behaviour |  |
| Known to be sexually active |  | Low self-image, low self-esteem |  |
| Young offender or anti-social behaviour |  | Sexualised language |  |
| Getting involved in petty crime such as shoplifting or stealing |  |  |  |

**Notes:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Family and Social Domain** | **Yes**  **No**  **Possible** |  | **Yes**  **No**  **Possible** |
| A family member or known associate working in the adult sex trade |  | Unsure about their sexual orientation or unable to disclose sexual orientation to their family |  |
| History of physical, sexual and/or emotional abuse; neglect |  | Witness to domestic violence at home |  |
| Parental difficulties; drug and alcohol misuse; mental health problems; physical or learning difficulty. Being a young carer |  | Conflict at home around boundaries, including staying out late |  |
| Living in hostel, B&B or Foyer accommodation |  | Pattern of street homelessness or sofa surfing |  |
| Recent bereavement or loss |  | Gang association either through relatives, peers or intimate relationships |  |
| Lacking friends their own age |  | Living in a gang neighbourhood |  |

**Notes:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grooming Domain** | **Yes**  **No**  **Possible** |  | **Yes**  **No**  **Possible** |
| Entering or leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults |  | Excessive use of mobile phones, including receiving calls late at night |  |
| Reports that the child/young person has been seen in places known to be used for sexual exploitation |  | Associating with other young people who are known to be sexually exploited, including in school |  |
| Unexplained relationships with older adults |  | Sexual relationship with a significantly older person |  |
| Phone calls, texts or letters from unknown adults |  | Mobile phone being answered by unknown adult |  |
| Inappropriate use of the Internet and forming relationships, particularly with adults, via the Internet. Note: adults may pose as peers to entrap the child |  | Having new mobile phone, several mobile phones and/or SIM cards, especially Blackberry or iPhone (because messages cannot be traced). Always have credit on their mobile phones, despite having no access to money or having no credit so phone can only be used for incoming calls |  |
| Accounts of social activities with no plausible explanation of the source of necessary funding |  | Acquisition of expensive or sexual clothes, mobile phone or other possession without plausible explanation |  |
| Having keys to premises other than those they should have |  | Possession of money with no plausible explanation |  |
| Recruiting others into sexual exploitation |  | Seen at public toilets known for cottaging or adult venues (pubs and clubs) |  |
| Adults loitering outside the child/young person’s usual place of residence or school |  | Leaving home/care setting in clothing unusual for the individual child (inappropriate for age, borrowing clothes from older young people) |  |
| Wearing an unusual amount of clothing (due to hiding more sexualised clothing underneath or hiding their body)` |  | Persistently missing, staying out overnight or returning late with no plausible explanation |  |
| Returning after having been missing, looking well cared for in spite of having no known home base |  | Returning after having been missing looking dirty, dishevelled, tired, hungry, thirsty |  |
| Missing for long periods with no known home base and / or homeless |  | Possession of excessive numbers of condoms |  |
| New contacts with people outside of town |  |  |  |

**Notes:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **E Safety Domain** | **Yes**  **No**  **Possible** |  | **Yes**  **No**  **Possible** |
| Evidence of sexual bullying and/or vulnerability through Internet or social networking sites |  | Concern that inappropriate images of a young person are being circulated via the Internet/phones |  |
| Exchanging inappropriate images for cash, credits or other items |  | Receiving gifts through the post from someone the young person does not known |  |
| Concern that a young person is being coerced to provide sexually explicit images |  | Concern that a young person is being bribed by someone for their inappropriate online activity |  |
| Concern that a young person is selling sexual services via the Internet |  | Accessing dating agencies via mobile phones (e.g. 2 flirt line) |  |
| Unexplained increased mobile phone / gaming credits |  | Going online during the night |  |
| Being secretive, using mobile phone for accessing websites, etc., more than computers |  | Unwilling to share / show online or phone contacts |  |
| Concerns that a young person’s online friendship has developed into an offline relationship |  | Concern that a young person is having an online relationship |  |
| Sharing of inappropriate images amongst friends |  | New contacts with people outside of town |  |
| Spending increasing amount of time on social networking sites including Facebook or on shared gaming sites |  | Spending increasing amount of time with online friends and less time with friends from school or neighbourhood |  |
| Increased time on webcam, especially if in bedroom |  |  |  |

**Notes:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Looked After Children Domain** | **Yes**  **No**  **Possible** |  | **Yes**  **No**  **Possible** |
| Living in residential care |  | Frequently missing from placement |  |
| Multiple placement breakdown |  | Going missing with other children |  |

**Notes:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **What is the level of risk for this child?** | **HIGH** | **MEDIUM** | **LOW** |

This should be read in conjunction with the guidance on the front of the risk assessment tool.

**Low** - Presenting some vulnerability factors but appear to relate to 'normal teenage' behaviour.  No statutory intervention required but may benefit from low level monitoring, awareness raising.

**Medium** - Presenting numerous vulnerability factors but not at immediate risk.  Some protective factors present.  Would benefit from professional intervention, awareness and prevention work.

**High** - **Child is presenting high number of vulnerability factors**, is known to have been exploited and/or groomed.  Regularly goes missing and concerns in relation to drugs/alcohol and inappropriate adult associates.  Child has disclosed exploitation.  Requires statutory intervention to protect.

SUBMIT TO THE PPU IN THE RELEVANT AREA: ……ppu@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

**Appendix 7**

**Bullying and Cyberbullying**

Additional information can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying>

You will find the following useful publications:

Preventing and tackling bullying

REF: DFE-00292-2013

Supporting Children and young people who are bullied: advice for schools

REF:DFE-00094-2014

Cyberbullying: Advice for Head Teacher and school staff

REF:DFE-00652-2014

**Appendix 8**

**Domestic Violence and Abuse:**

Additional information can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/domestic-violence-and-abuse>

**DASH RISK ASSESSMENT**

DASH 2009 RISK MODEL

(Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and ‘Honour Based Violence’)

**This Risk Assessment forms a baseline assessment only. It is a guide to practitioners to indicate appropriate**

**referral to MARAC and a tool to identify service intervention requirements. Risk assessment is a dynamic**

**process and practitioners should be alert to sudden changes in circumstances which impact on Risk Levels**

**IF YOUR CONCERNS RELATE TO AN IMMINENT SERIOUS RISK OR THREAT TO YOUR CLIENT OR FAMILY MEMBERS INFORM THE POLICE WITHOUT DELAY**

**(Emergency 999 or Non Emergency 0845 4580000)**

**Name of Client … ………………………………………………………………**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CURRENT SITUATION**  The context and detail of what is happening is very important. The questions highlighted in **bold** are high risk factors. Tick the relevant box and **add comments** where necessary to expand. | **Yes** | **No** |
| 1. Has the current incident resulted in injury?  (Please state what and whether this is the first injury)   |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |
| **2. Are you very frightened?**   |  | | --- | | Comment: | |  |  |
| 3. What are you afraid of? Is it further injury or violence? (Please give an indication of what you think (name of abuser(s)..…) might do and to whom)  Kill:Self ChildrenOther (please specifiy)  Further injury  or Violence Self  Children  Other (please specifiy)   |  | | --- | |  |     Other  (please clarify): Self  Children  Other (please specifiy)     |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |
| **4. Do you feel isolated from family/ friends i.e. does (……) try to stop you from seeing friends/family/Dr or others?** |  |  |
| 5. Are you feeling depressed or having suicidal thoughts? |  |  |
| **6. Have you separated or tried to separate from (……) within the past year?** |  |  |
| **7. Is there conflict over child contact?** (Please state what)   |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |
| **8. Does (..…) constantly text, call, contact, follow, stalk or harass you?** (Please expand to identify what and whether you believe that this is done deliberately to intimidate you? Consider: Harassment History. Criminal Damage. Following the victim/ loitering/ turning up unannounced. Aggression, Violence, Harassment or use of any third party).   |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |
| **9. Are you pregnant or have you recently had a baby (within 18 months)?** |  |  |
| **CHILDREN/DEPENDENTS** (If no children/dependents, please go to next section) | **Yes** | **No** |
| 10. Are there any children, step-children that aren’t (…) in the household? Or are there other dependents in the household (i.e.older relative)? |  |  |
| **11. Has (…) ever hurt the children/dependents?** |  |  |
| 12. Has (…) ever threatened to hurt or kill the children/dependents? |  |  |
| **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HISTORY** | **Yes** | **No** |
| **13. Is the abuse happening more often?** |  |  |
| **14. Is the abuse getting worse?** |  |  |
| **15. Does (…) try to control everything you do and/or are they excessively jealous**? (In terms of relationships, who you see, being ‘policed at home’, telling you what to wear for example. Consider honour based violence and stalking and specify the behaviour)   |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |
| **16. Has (…) ever used weapons or objects to hurt you?** |  |  |
| **17. Has (…) ever threatened to kill you or someone else and you believed them?** |  |  |
| **18. Has (…) ever attempted to strangle/choke/suffocate/drown you?** |  |  |
| **19. Does (…) do or say things of a sexual nature that makes you feel bad or that physically hurt you or someone else?** (Please specify who and what)   |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |
| **20. Is there any other person that has threatened you or that you are afraid of?** (If yes, consider extended family if honour based violence. Please specify who)   |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |
| 21. Do you know if (…) has hurt anyone else? (Children/siblings/elderly relative/stranger. For example. Consider HBV. Please specify who and what)  Children  Another family member  Someone from previous relationship  Other (please specify)   |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |
| **22. Has (…) ever mistreated an animal or the family pet?** |  |  |
| **ABUSER(S)** | **Yes** | **No** |
| 23. Are there any financial issues? For example, are you dependent on (…) for money/have they recently lost their job/other financial issues? |  |  |
| **24.Has (…) had problems in the past year with drugs (prescription or other), alcohol or mental health leading to problems in leading a normal life?** (Please specify what)  Drugs  Alcohol  Mental Health |  |  |
| **25. Has (…) ever threatened or attempted suicide?** |  |  |
| 26. Has (…) ever breached bail/an injunction and/or any agreement for when they can see you and/or the children? (Please specify)  Bail conditionsNon Molestation/ Occupation Order  Child contact Arrangements  Forced Marriage Protection Order  Other |  |  |
| 27. Do you know if (…) has ever been in trouble with the police or has a criminal history? (If yes, please specify)  DV  Sexual Violence  Other violence  Other |  |  |
| Other relevant information (from victim) which may alter risk levels. Describe: (consider for example victim’s vulnerability – disability, mental health, alcohol/substance misuse and/or the abuser’s occupation/interests – does this give unique access to weapons i.e. ex-military, police, pest control) | | |
| Is there anything else you would like to add to this? | | |
| In **all** cases an initial risk classification is required:  **28. RISK TO VICTIM:**  **STANDARD**  **MEDIUM**  **HIGH**  **If your client is at HIGH RISK i.e.**  **14+ ticks relating to questions 1 – 9 and 13 – 27. 0R**  **3 or more Domestic Abuse Incidents in the last 12 months. OR**  **Professional concern (noted above) Refer to local referral pathway**  **Medium and Standard Risk are identified according to professional judgement in each individual case.** | | |

Client Consent Signature: ……………………………….. Date: …………………………

Practitioner Signature: …………………………………… Date: ………………………….

**Referring Practitioner Details:**

Name of Referring Practitioner & Agency …………………………….

Telephone

Mobile

Email Address

**Appendix 9**

**Additional information in relation to accidental and non-accidental Injury**

**Bruising:** Children can have accidental bruising, but the following must be considered as non-accidental unless there is evidence or an adequate explanation provided:

* Any bruising to a pre-crawling or pre-walking baby
* Bruising in or around the mouth, particularly in small babies which may indicate force feeding
* Two simultaneous bruised eyes, without bruising to the forehead, (rarely accidental, though a single bruised eye can be accidental or abusive)
* Repeated or multiple bruising on the head or on sites unlikely to be injured accidentally
* Variation in colour possibly indicating injuries caused at different times
* The outline of an object used e.g. belt marks, hand prints or a hair brush
* Bruising or tears around, or behind, the earlobe/s indicating injury by pulling or twisting
* Bruising around the face
* Grasp marks on small children
* Bruising on the arms, buttocks and thighs may be an indicator of sexual abuse

**Bite marks** can leave clear impressions of the teeth. Human bite marks are oval or crescent shaped. Those over 3 cm in diameter are more likely to have been caused by an adult or older child. A medical opinion should be sought where there is any doubt over the origin of the bite.

**Burns and Scalds:** It can be difficult to distinguish between accidental and non-accidental burns and scalds, and will always require experienced medical opinion. Any burn with a clear outline may be suspicious e.g.:

* Circular burns from cigarettes (but may be friction burns if along the bony protuberance of the spine)
* Linear burns from hot metal rods or electrical fire elements
* Burns of uniform depth over a large area
* Scalds that have a line indicating immersion or poured liquid (a child getting into hot water is his/her own accord will struggle to get out and cause splash marks)
* Old scars indicating previous burns/scalds which did not have appropriate treatment or adequate explanation
* Scalds to the buttocks of a small child, particularly in the absence of burns to the feet, are indicative of dipping into a hot liquid or bath.

**Fractures** may cause pain, swelling and discolouration over a bone or joint. Non-mobile children rarely sustain fractures. There are grounds for concern if:

* The history provided is vague, non-existent or inconsistent with the fracture type
* There are associated old fractures
* Medical attention is sought after a period of delay when the fracture has caused symptoms such as swelling, pain or loss of movement
* There is an unexplained fracture in the first year of life**Scars**: A large number of scars or scars of different sizes or ages, or on different parts of the body, may suggest abuse.

**Appendix 10**

**A picture containing logo

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**Child Missing Education Notification Form**

**Date:**

**School Organisation** please state**:**

**Name of Referrer: Contact number:**

**Role/How do you know this child?**

**Name of school/organisation (if applicable):**

Child’s name if known – please list any known siblings

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **First Name** | **Last Name** | **DOB** | **Male/Female** | **Date child last attended school** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Name of parent/Carer:

Address:

Contact number if known:

**NOTES** – Please provide further information about either child(ren) or family?

Form to be forwarded to Education Safeguarding Team, 2nd floor, New Town House, Buttermarket Street, Warrington WA1 2NH or electronically to [mheritage@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:mheritage@warrington.gov.uk)

**Appendix 11**

|  |
| --- |
| New Crest logo high resolution b&w |

**WARRINGTON JOINT-AGENCY ASSESSMENT AND REFERRAL FORM**

*This joint-agency assessment and referral form should be used when an agency considers that a child has needs which cannot be met solely by that agency, and where co-ordinated intervention is required to promote, safeguard or protect the welfare of the child/children concerned*

|  |
| --- |
| Completed by: ………………………………………………………….. Date: ……..…..…….…………………..  Designation & Agency: ………………………………………………………….. TEL:…………………………….  Address of referrer: ……………………………………………………………………………….…..…….…………………. |

|  |
| --- |
| **CHILD DETAILS:**  **Family surname(s)** (*or alias*): ………………………………………………………………………………………….  **Name(s) of child(ren) M/F DOB Nursery/School Ethnicity Religion**  ……………………………… ……. ……………. ………………… ………………… ……………  ……………………………… ……. ……………. ………………… ………………… ……………  ……………………………… ……. ……………. ………………… ………………… ……………  ……………………………… ……. ……………. ………………… ………………… ……………  **Address:** ……………………………………………………………………………………………………...….…  Parent’s first language: …………………………………………… Is an interpreter or signer required: ………… |

|  |
| --- |
| GP name & address: ………………………………………………………………… NHS no: ………....………… |

|  |
| --- |
| **FAMILY DETAILS:**  **Parents names (forename and family name/surname) DOB Parental responsibility**  Mother: ………………………………………………. ……………….. Yes No  Father: ………………………………………………. ……………….. Yes No  **Other significant adults in the household DOB Relationship & nature**  **Of care given**  …………………………………………………………. ..…………..….. ….…………………………..  …………………………………………………………. ……………….. ……………………………... |

|  |
| --- |
| **Previous address of the family:**  ………………………………..………………………………………………………………………………………….. |

**If immediate protective action is required, a child protection referral must be made by telephone/visit to the local services office. This joint-agency form must be completed and forwarded to social services following the telephone referral. Within 48 hours a copy should also be sent to the referrer’s manager if agency procedure so requires.**

|  |
| --- |
| **Information on statutory status: Please give details:**  Child/young person or other child(ren)/young person(s)  in family is/has been on a disability register: Yes / No ……………………..……………………………………  Child/young person has Statement of Educational Need Yes / No ………………………...………………………………...  Child/young person or other child(ren)/young person(s)  in family is/has been on a child protection register: Yes / No Category: ……………………………..………………...  Child/young person or other family member(s) has/  Have been looked after by a local authority: Yes / No ……………………..….………………………………... |

|  |
| --- |
| **Reason for referral to social services** *(please indicate if previous referrals have been made and attach any relevant information*): |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DETAILS OF OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED WITH THE FAMILY/CHILD(REN):** | | | |
| **Agency** | **Names** | **Address and tel no.** | **Current involvement** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| |  | | --- | | **Summary of main areas of concern:**  (to be completed by professionalss to the following information): | | **Child’s health and development:** | | **Parenting skills:** | | **Family and environmental factors:** | |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Please outline the work undertaken by your agency to assist this child/family.** *Please also include any contact, which has been made with other agencies in respect of this referral, and provide details of any joint work.* |

|  |
| --- |
| **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** |

|  |
| --- |
| **What are the child’s views about this referral?**  Does the child consent to the sharing of information between agencies? Yes No |

|  |
| --- |
| **What are the parents’ views about your concerns and this referral?** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Please detail any special needs or circumstances of any family member, which may affect this referral or communication and understanding between the family and professional agencies.** |

|  |
| --- |
| I agree for this referral to be made to Social Services and understand that they will contact other agencies, including my doctor, my child’s school and health visitor, as part of the assessment.  **Signed:** ……………………………………………………………….(Parent/Carer) Date: ………………….. |

**Signed:** ………………………………………………………………. **Designation:** …………………………………………

**Forwarded to:** …………………………………………………….. **Copy to:** ………………………………………….

**Date:** ………………………………………………………………

**Please return this form to:** Duty and Assessment Team, Buttermarket Street, New Town House, Warrington.

Tel: 01925 443400 Fax: 01925 443112

EMAIL **: childreferral@warrington.gov.uk**

EH/pm/Jul2003

**Appendix 12**

**Child Missing Education Notification Form**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Your Details | Name: | | Date: | |
| School/Organisation: | Contact number: | | |
| Child & Family Details | Forename(s): | Surname: | | |
| DoB: | Gender: | | |
| Date last seen in education: | Date last seen: | | |
| Parent(s) names and all contact details (including addresses, telephone and email): | | | |
| Referral Reason | All attempts to contact the family have failed (see checklist below) | | |  |
| Family known to have moved away but destination school unknown | | |  |
| Child did not take up allocated school place and attempts to contact have failed | | |  |

Please list details of any known siblings:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| First Name | Last Name | DOB | Male/Female | Date child last attended school |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Is the child (please tick):

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Looked after |  | Traveller |  | In Temp Accommodation |  |
| Child Protection |  | Refugee / Asylum Seeker |  | Other (please state) |  |

Checklist must be completed before referral is submitted:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Action | Date completed | Outcome |
| First day contact procedure |  |  |
| Contact with all known emergency contacts and relatives |  |  |
| Collect further information – e.g. siblings, school community (staff other pupils, friends) other agencies |  |  |
| Home visit within 5 school days |  |  |

Please provide further information about either child(ren) or family:

Form to be forwarded to David Sampson, Attendance Officer and CME Lead, Attendance Team, 2nd Floor, New Town House, Buttermarket Street, Warrington WA1 2NH or electronically to [cme.referrals@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:cme.referrals@warrington.gov.uk)

**Appendix 13: Body map- also see LDST body map in document file**

Graphical user interface, application, Word

Description automatically generated

**Appendix 14: LADO flow chart**



**Appendix 15: Early help**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level of Need** | **Intervention** | **Agencies who may be involved** |
| **Level 1**  Children and young people who are achieving each of the 5 outcomes. | **Whole school initiatives.**  Informal contact with children, parents and carers to resolve low level issues. | The child and their family  School staff |
| **Level 2**  Children and young people who may need extra support in order to achieve the 5 outcomes. | **School Support Meetings**  Informal meetings with parents and carers to resolve low level issues. These may require a referral to an additional agency and will be reviewed. | The child and their family  School staff  Possible involvement of an external agency. |
| **Level 3**  Children and young people who have complex needs and who may require co-ordinated support in order to achieve the 5 outcomes. | **Common Assessment Form (CAF)**  A document completed by the family with support from the lead professional. The CAF document brings together all agencies involved with a family to ensure that everyone is working together and information is shared. The CAF would then be taken to a Service Allocation Meeting (SAM) to ensure that the appropriate support is being given. Parents and Carers or the child where appropriate, must consent to this document.  **Family Support Meetings**  A Family Support Plan is put into place for families with complex needs. This may be required as earlier forms of intervention have not been effective. Family Support Plans, similarly to a CAF, look to bring agencies and families together in order to put in place the best package of support. Parents and Carers or the child where appropriate, must consent to this document. | The child and their family  School staff  Multiple external agencies including Health, Family Support Workers, CAMHS, housing, GP, dentist. This also extends to more targeted services such as counselling services, NSPCC or agencies associated with a particular condition. In some cases Social Care will be invited to Family Support Meetings.  We also employ (p/time):   * A Family Support Worker (Tracy Lynskey)   for rapid responses to need. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level 4**  Children and young people who will not achieve the five outcomes without intensive support. | **Child in Need**  These are meetings for families who require intensive support in order for the child to achieve their 5 outcomes. These meetings are led by Social Care and all agencies involved will be invited along with parents and carers. These meetings are statutory and therefore do not require parental consent.  **Child Protection**  These are meetings for families whose children are at risk of significant harm. These meetings are led by an intendant chair and all agencies involved will be invited along with social care, parents and carers. These meetings will be reviewed every 6 weeks during core group meetings and every 6 months for review child protection conferences. These meetings are statutory and therefore do not require parental consent. | The child (where appropriate) and their family  School staff  Multiple external agencies including Health, Family Support Workers, CAMHS, housing, GP, dentist. This also extends to more targeted services such as counselling services, NSPCC or agencies associated with a particular condition. Social Care would always attend Child in Need and Child Protection conferences. |

**Appendix 16- Reporting to Governors Template**

**Reporting to Governors template**

**Termly Safeguarding Report to Governors (3 pages):**

**Governors should scrutinise the following data and consider how it supports their consideration of the effectiveness of the school’s policies and procedures**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Term 1 | Term 2 | Term 3 |
| Number of new Child Protection (level 4) referrals made |  |  |  |
| Number of new Child in Need (level 4) referrals made |  |  |  |
| Number of new Early Help Assessment Tools raised (level 2 and 3) (EHATs) |  |  |  |
| Total number of students subject to Child Protection plans |  |  |  |
| Total number of students subject to Child In Need plans |  |  |  |
| Total number of students subject to Early Help Assessments |  |  |  |
| Total number of students subject to Early Help Assessments where the school acts as the lead professional |  |  |  |
| Number and circumstances of allegations against staff **referred** to the LADO |  |  |  |
| Number of Children in Care (LAC) |  |  |  |
| Number of children who are privately fostered |  |  |  |
| Number of children who are Young Carers |  |  |  |
| Number of bullying incidents by categories e.g. cyberbullying, homophobic, physical, emotional etc (reference gender, ethnicity, FSM and year group) |  |  |  |
| Number of racist incidents (reference gender, ethnicity and year group) |  |  |  |
| Number of exclusions (reference SEN, gender, FSM ethnicity and year group) |  |  |  |
| Number of children taken off roll including those relating to safeguarding issues, concerns raised or complaints |  |  |  |
| How many Operation Encompass notifications has the school had? |  |  |  |
| How many Operation Encompass notifications have led to EHATs being raised? |  |  |  |
| How many Operation Encompass notifications have led to a referral to Children’s Services for statutory services? |  |  |  |
| How many referrals have been made to Children’s Services in respect of CSE? |  |  |  |
| How many referrals have been made to Children’s Services in respect of FGM? |  |  |  |
| How many referrals have been made to Children’s Services in respect of forced marriage? |  |  |  |
| How many referrals have been made to Children’s Services in respect of extremism and radicalisation? |  |  |  |
| How many referrals have been made to Children’s Services in respect criminal exploitation or gang activity? |  |  |  |
| How many referrals have been made to Children’s Services in respect of children missing from education? |  |  |  |
| How many children attend Alternative Education Provision? |  |  |  |
| How many children attend Alternative Education Provision are subject to multi-agency plans (Early Help Assessment, CIN, CP)? |  |  |  |

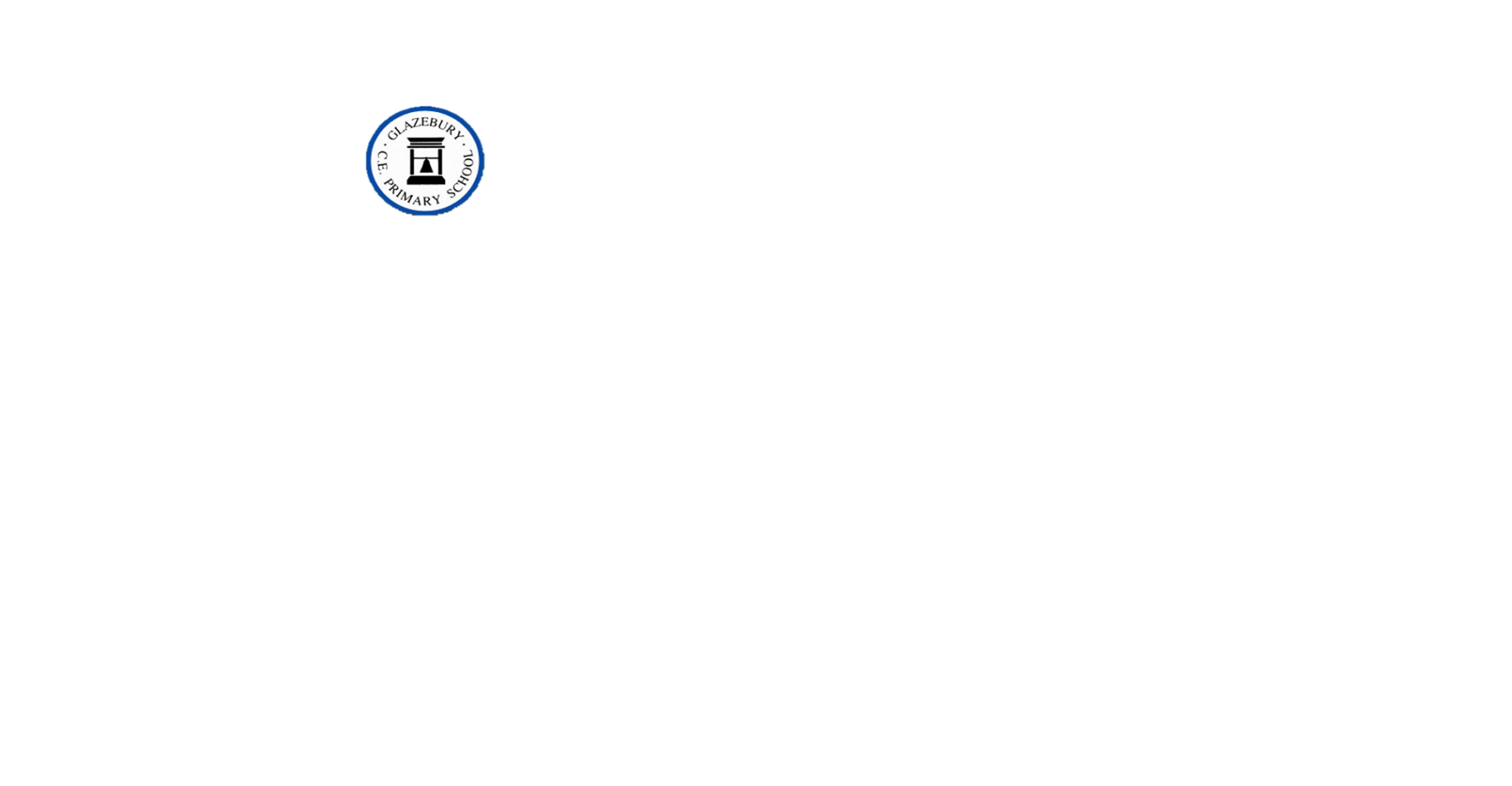
**Appendix 17 Ofsted Safeguarding evidence file**

**Whilst there is no requirement to keep a Safeguarding evidence file some school leaders may find it supports their preparation for inspections. It also supports quality assurance activities by leaders and governors.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No,** |  | **Page** |
| **1** | **Training Log including evidence of going beyond statutory requirements and induction training** |  |
| **2** | **An example of recruitment checklist** |  |
| **3** | **Sample of governors’ minutes demonstrating annual review of child protection policy** |  |
| **4** | **Exemplar safeguarding report to governors’ and governors minutes reflecting upon them.** |  |
| **5** | **Signed 175 audit including evidence base, and monitoring of actions arising by governors** |  |
| **6** | **An analysis of attendance, specifically persistent absentees, unauthorised absence and children missing from education** |  |
| **7** | **An analysis of all forms of behaviour , particularly bullying and discriminatory behaviour** |  |
| **8** | **Monitoring of the safeguarding, attendance and outcomes at AEP provision** |  |
| **9** | **A summary analysis of pupil and parent voice** |  |
| **10** | **An example of a completed early help assessment** |  |
| **11** | **Outcomes of safeguarding learning walks** |  |
| **12** | **Evidence of supervision for the safeguarding team** |  |
| **13** | **A curriculum map setting out activities to support students to stay save and evidence of the impact of activities** |  |
| **14** | **Examples of case studies demonstrating the effectiveness of the schools provision for vulnerable students** |  |
| **15** | **Any training resources and guidance materials given to staff and volunteers in respect of extremism and radicalisation. Child sexual exploitation, FGM and forced marriage.** |  |
| **16** | **Key policies ( child protection policies ….)** |  |

**Appendix 18- School poster – Prevent and prevent leaflet.**

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwjO9cjnitTVAhXkK8AKHZvtBEIQjRwIBw&url=http://littleacornservices.co.uk/&psig=AFQjCNFl74wxGWA4q2p6aiydprIr9NucAA&ust=1502709300328290)

Our school is a place that **inspires and engages** young minds.

Our school believes in democracy and the laws of the country, where every individual has a **voice** that is heard and respected.

Our school values **discussion**, debate and learning from others.

Our school believes that **division** belongs in mathematics **not** in our relationships.

There is NO place for **extremism** in our school we will prevent it.

A picture containing shape

Description automatically generated **My Safeguarding Pledge** 

**To demonstrate my individual commitment to safeguarding children I pledge to:**

**· Ensure that children are visible, their voices heard and their needs, views and wishes addressed**

**· Recognise that some children may be more vulnerable to harm due to their age, specific needs or home circumstances**

**· Work in partnership with other agencies, always acting in the best interests of children**

**· Act without delay to protect children from harm and abuse**

**· Provide early help before children’s needs escalate further**

**· Apply the local ‘levels of need guidance’ to assess and re-evaluate children’s needs**

**· Share information promptly to support a collective and holistic assessment of children’s needs**

**· Strengthen relationships with families, supporting them to build resilience by adopting a solution focused approach**

**· Attend all multi-agency meetings to ensure collective responsibility for achieving positive outcomes for children in a timely way**

**· Ensure agencies challenge each other so that actions are taken promptly, avoiding professional drift**

**· Follow local multi-agency procedures to escalate concerns until there is an appropriate resolution**

**· Participate in regular and effective supervision with my peers so that there is strong oversight of decisions made and actions taken**

**· Meet all mandatory training requirements, regularly updating my professional knowledge whilst applying any learning to my practice and cascading to others**

**The HEART of our school and curriculum:**

**H – Helping children prepare for life, growing with God.**

**E – Embracing Christian Values.**

**A - Achievement for all.**

**R - Reading at the heart of our school**

**T – Teaching a knowledge rich curriculum.**

**‘Growing at the heart of God’s community’ :“Love never fails” 1 Corinthians 13:8**

**“For the Lord gives wisdom: from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding” Proverbs 2:6**