

# Lord Deramore's Primary School, York

# Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

Signature of Chair of Governor Richard Frost Signature of Headteacher James Rourke	
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<mark>Statutory</mark> / Non-Statutory	

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#### 1 Statement of intent

Lord Deramore's Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare, both physical and emotional, of every pupil both inside and outside of the school premises. We implement a whole-school preventative approach to managing safeguarding concerns, ensuring that the wellbeing of pupils is at the forefront of all action taken. We will always act in the best interest of the child.

This policy sets out a clear and consistent framework for delivering this promise, in line with safeguarding legislation and statutory guidance.

It will be achieved by:

- Creating a culture of safer recruitment by adopting procedures that help deter, reject or identify people who might pose a risk to children.
- Teaching pupils how to keep safe and recognise behaviour that is unacceptable.
- Identifying and making provision for any pupil that has been subject to abuse.
- Ensuring that members of the governing body, the headteacher and staff members understand their responsibilities under safeguarding legislation and statutory guidance, are alert to the signs of child abuse and know to refer concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
- Ensuring that the headteacher and any new staff members and volunteers are only appointed when all the appropriate checks have been satisfactorily completed.

The DSL is the Headteacher, Mr James Rourke.

In the absence of the DSL, child protection matters will be dealt with by the two deputy designated safeguarding leads, Mrs Jane Hitchon (SENDCO/Inclusion Leader) and Mr Mark Richards (Phase 3 Leader).

# 2 Key Safeguarding Contacts – Lord Deramore's Primary School



#### **Key Safeguarding Contacts – Local Authority**

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)		01904 551900 01609 780780 (out of hours emergency) e-mail: <a href="mailto:childrensfrontdoor@york.gov.uk">childrensfrontdoor@york.gov.uk</a>
Children's Services	Referral & Assessment Manager or Duty Social Worker	
Local Area Team	Via MASH	01904 551900 (via MASH)
Family Focus Team	Kerry Gregory	01904 551900
Children's Centres Team	LAT Team Practitioner (East)	07760171920 e-mail: <u>kerry.gregory@york.gov.uk</u>
Attendance Advisor	Mr Mark Smith	01904 555187 e-mail: mark.smith@york.gov.uk
Safeguarding Advisor	Mrs Caroline Wood	01904 555694 e-mail: caroline.wood@york.gov.uk
Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)	Debra Lane	01904 551783 e-mail: lado@york.gcsx.gov.uk NB only email using a secure 'york.gov' email account

#### 3 Definitions

- 3.1 The terms "children" and "child" refer to anyone under the age of 18.
- **3.2** For the purposes of this policy, "safeguarding and protecting 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.
- **3.3** For the purposes of this policy, the term "harmful sexual behaviour" includes, but is not limited to, the following actions:
  - · Using sexually explicit words and phrases
  - Inappropriate touching
  - Sexual violence or threats
  - Full penetrative sex with other children or adults
- 3.4 In accordance with the DfE's guidance, 'Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges' (2018), and for the purposes of this policy, the term "'sexual harassment" is used within this policy to describe any unwanted conduct of a sexual nature, both online or offline, which violates a child's dignity and makes them feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated, and can create a hostile, sexualised or offensive environment.
- **3.5** For the purpose of this policy, the term "**sexual violence**" encompasses the definitions provided in the Sexual Offences Act 2003, including those pertaining to rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault.
- 3.6 The term "teaching role" is defined as planning and preparing lessons and courses for pupils; delivering lessons to pupils; assessing the development, progress and attainment of pupils; and reporting on the development, progress and attainment of pupils. These activities are not teaching work if the person carrying out the activity does so (other than for the purposes of induction) subject to the direction and supervision of a qualified teacher or other person nominated by the headteacher to provide such direction and supervision.

# 4 Legal framework

This policy has been created with due regard to all relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

#### Legislation

- Children Act 1989
- Children Act 2004
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- The Education (School Teachers' Appraisal) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- The Childcare (Disqualification) and Childcare (Early Years Provision Free of Charge) (Extended Entitlement) (Amendment) Regulations 2018

#### Statutory guidance

- HM Government (2013) 'Multi-agency practice guidelines: Handling cases of Forced Marriage'
- DfE (2018) 'Working Together to Safeguard Children'
- DfE (2015) 'The Prevent duty'
- DfE (2020) 'Keeping children safe in education'
- DfE (2018) 'Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006'
- DFE (2018) Multi-agency statutory guidance on female genital mutilation

#### Non-statutory guidance

- DfE (2015) 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused'
- DfE (2018) 'Information sharing'
- DfE (2017) 'Child sexual exploitation'
- DfE (2018) 'Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges'

#### Other relevant school policies include:

- Behaviour (Relationships) Policy
- Confidentiality Policy
- Data Protection & Information Security Policy
- Emergency Plan
- E-Safety Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- SEND Policy
- Sex Education & Relationships Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Whistleblowing Policy (City of York Council)

# 5 Roles and responsibilities

#### 5.1 The governing body has a duty to:

- Ensure that the school complies with its duties under the above child protection and safeguarding legislation.
- Guarantee that the policies, procedures and training opportunities in the school are effective and comply with the law at all times.
- Guarantee that the school contributes to inter-agency working in line with the statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (2018).
- Confirm that the school's safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practices of the local authority (LA) as part of the inter-agency safeguarding procedures.
- Understand the local criteria for action and the local protocol for assessment, and ensure these are reflected in the school's policies and procedures.
- Comply with its obligations under section 14B of the Children Act 2004 to supply the local safeguarding arrangements with information to fulfil its functions.
- Ensure that staff members have due regard to relevant data protection principles which allow them to share personal information.
- Ensure that a member of the governing body is nominated to liaise with the LA and/or partner agencies on issues of child protection and in the event of allegations of abuse made against the headteacher or another governor.
- Guarantee that there are effective child protection policies and procedures in place, together with a staff code of conduct.
- Ensure that there is a senior level lead responsible for safeguarding arrangements.
- Appoint a member of staff from the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to the role of Deputy DSL as an explicit part of the role-holder's job description and ensure that they are trained to the same standard as the DSL.
- Ensure all relevant persons are aware of the school's local safeguarding arrangements, and the timelines for their local safeguarding children boards (LSCBs) to transition to the new system including the governing body itself, the SLT and DSL.
- Make sure that pupils are taught about safeguarding, including protection against dangers online, through teaching and learning opportunities, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum.
- Adhere to statutory responsibilities by conducting pre-employment checks on staff who work with children, taking proportionate decisions on whether to ask for any checks beyond what is required.
- Ensure that staff members are appropriately trained to support pupils to be themselves at school, e.g. if they are LGBTQ+.
- Ensure that appropriate policies and procedures are in place for supervising volunteers.
- Make sure that at least one person on any appointment panel has undertaken safer recruitment training.
- Ensure that all staff members receive safeguarding and child protection training updates, such as e-bulletins, emails and staff meetings, as required, but at least annually.
- Certify that there are procedures in place to handle allegations against members of staff or volunteers.
- Confirm that there are procedures in place to make a referral to the DBS and the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA), where appropriate, if a person in regulated activity has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns or would have been had they not resigned.
- Guarantee that there are procedures in place to handle pupils' allegations against other pupils.
- Ensure that appropriate disciplinary procedures are in place, as well as policies pertaining to the behaviour of pupils and staff.
- Ensure that procedures are in place to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, including those in relation to peer-on-peer abuse.

- Make sure that pupils' wishes and feelings are taken into account when determining what action to take and what services to provide to protect individual pupils.
- Guarantee that there are systems in place for pupils to express their views and give feedback.
- Establish an early help procedure and ensure all staff understand the procedure and their role
  in it.
- Appoint a designated teacher to promote the educational achievement of Looked After Children (LAC) and ensure that this person has undergone appropriate training.
- Ensure that the designated teacher works with the virtual school head to discuss how the pupil premium funding can best be used to support LAC.
- Introduce mechanisms to assist staff in understanding and discharging their roles and responsibilities.
- Make sure that staff members have the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to keep LAC safe, particularly with regards to the pupil's legal status, contact details and care arrangements.
- Put in place appropriate safeguarding responses for pupils who go missing from school, particularly on repeat occasions, to help identify any risk of abuse and neglect, including sexual abuse or exploitation, and prevent the risk of their disappearance in future.
- Ensure that all members of the governing body have been subject to an enhanced DBS check.
- Ensure that procedures are in place to refer staff to the DBS if a person in regulated activity
  has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns, or would have been had they
  not resigned or been suspended.

The link governor for safeguarding is **Mrs Sue Perutz**, who will:

- Be aware of current policy, procedures and practices.
- Meet at least annually with the DSL.

The governing body of Lord Deramore's Primary School receives verbal safeguarding updates from the headteacher and reviews the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy annually, usually in September.

Additionally, governors undertake their responsibilities in relation to allegations against staff and any disciplinary procedures. The safeguarding governor scrutinises, questions and challenges the DSL and relevant staff regarding child protection and safeguarding across the school. The following is discussed as part of the scrutiny:

- Safeguarding training records.
- The volume of referrals made.
- The single central record.
- Meetings attended at children's social care or multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH).
- The early help model.
- Looked-after children and children on child protection plans.
- Children in need of a child protection plan or a (CAF/FEHA) common assessment framework.
- Core group meetings and initial child protection conferences.
- The child in need meetings they have attended about the vulnerable children in the school.
- · Personal Education Plans.
- Whether the DSL has appropriate time allocated for this role.
- Whether child protection referrals are made swiftly or suffer delays.
- The cause for concern forms, including when they were last revised, whether they have
  a section that clearly demonstrates that the referrer was updated on the outcome of the
  referral, whether the date and time is captured on the form, and whether the DSL has
  authorised and actioned the forms.

#### 5.2 The headteacher has a duty to:

- Safeguard pupils' wellbeing and maintain public trust in the teaching profession.
- Ensure that the policies and procedures adopted by the governing body, particularly concerning referrals of cases of suspected abuse and neglect, are followed by staff members.
- Provide staff, upon induction, with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, Staff Code of Conduct, part one of the 'Keeping children safe in education' (KCSIE) guidance, Behaviour (Relationships) Policy, the Children Missing Education Policy, online safety training, and the identity of the DSL and any deputies.

#### 5.3 The DSL (who at our school is also the headteacher) has a duty to:

- Refer all cases of suspected abuse to children's social care services (CSCS), the LA designated officer (LADO) for child protection concerns, the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), and the police in cases where a crime has been committed.
- Refer cases of radicalisation to the 'Channel' programme.
- Liaise with the headteacher to inform them of safeguarding issues, especially ongoing enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police investigations.
- Liaise with the deputy DSL to ensure effective safeguarding outcomes.
- Act as a source of support, advice and expertise to staff members on matters of safeguarding by liaising with relevant agencies.
- Understand the assessment process for providing early help and intervention.
- Support staff members in liaising with other agencies and setting up inter-agency assessment where early help is deemed appropriate.
- Keep cases of early help under constant review and refer them to the CSCS if the situation does not appear to be improving.
- Have a working knowledge of how LAs 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.
- Ensure each member of staff has access to and understands the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and procedures – this will be discussed during the staff induction process.
- Be alert to the specific requirements of vulnerable children, in particular those with SEND, young carers and pupils who are LAC or were previously LAC and keep up to date with skills, knowledge and understanding of these groups.
- Meet with the LAT, at least termly, and liaise regularly as appropriate.
- Keep detailed, accurate records of concerns and referrals and ensure these are recorded securely on *CPOMS* (our online safeguarding recording system).
- Secure access to resources and attend any relevant training courses.
- Encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings.
- Work with the governing body to ensure the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy is reviewed annually and the procedures are updated regularly.
- Ensure the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy is available publicly, and parents are aware that the school may make referrals for suspected cases of abuse or neglect, as well as the role the school plays in these referrals.
- Link with local safeguarding arrangements to make sure that staff members are aware of the training opportunities available and the latest local policies on safeguarding.
- Ensure that a pupil's child protection file is transferred to any future school in a secure manner. These will be clearly marked, "<u>Confidential – Child Protection – for the attention of the Designated Safeguarding Lead</u>". Where possible, child protection records will be handed over personally to a member of staff from the receiving school, who is asked to sign for them. If the new school uses CPOMS to ensure these are transferred electronically.

- Be available at all times during school hours (in person or by phone) to discuss any safeguarding concerns.
- Hold the details of the LA personal advisor and liaise with them as necessary. The designated teacher has a responsibility for promoting the educational achievement of LAC and previously LAC, and for children who have left care through adoption, special guardianship or child arrangement orders or who were adopted from state care outside England and Wales.
- be aware of pupils who have a social worker and track their academic progress
- help promote educational outcomes by sharing the information about the welfare, safeguarding and child protection issues with teachers and school and college leadership staff.

#### 5.4 Other staff members have a responsibility to:

- Safeguard pupils' wellbeing and maintain public trust in the teaching profession as part of their professional duties.
- Provide a safe environment in which pupils can learn.
- Act in accordance with school procedures with the aim of eliminating unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, including those in relation to peer-on-peer abuse.
- Maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned.
- Be aware of the signs of abuse and neglect.
- Be aware of the early help process and understand their role in it.
- Act as the lead professional in undertaking an early help assessment, where necessary.
- Be aware of, and understand, the process for making referrals to CSCS, as well as for making statutory assessments under the Children Act 1989 and their role in these assessments.
- Be confident of the processing conditions under relevant data protection legislation, including information which is sensitive and personal, and information that should be treated as special category data.
- Make a referral to CSCS and/or the police immediately, if at any point there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child.
- Be aware of and understand the procedure to follow in the event that a child confides they are being abused or neglected.
- Support social workers in making decisions about individual children, in collaboration with the DSL.
- Maintain appropriate levels of confidentiality when dealing with individual cases, and always act in the best interest of the child.
- Follow the school's procedure for, and approach to, preventing radicalisation as outlined in the Extremism and Anti-Radicalisation Policy.
- In cases of peer-on-peer abuse, staff should consider what support may be needed for the perpetrators as well as the victims.
- Track the academic progress of all children, particularly those who have a named social worker.

# 6 Reporting Concerns

#### 6.1 Child protection concerns

Anyone who has any child protection concerns will <u>immediately</u> report these verbally to the DSL or Deputy DSL or record these on *CPOMS*. The headteacher, James Rourke, and relevant phase leader should also be 'alerted' with all entries.

It is important that only objective observations and facts are recorded. In addition, wider environmental factors affecting a child's life, that may pose a threat to their safety and/or welfare, must also be considered and reported so that as much contextual information as possible can be provided as part of the referral process.

Anyone who has concerns that the behaviour of another adult is, or may be, abusive to children will **immediately** inform the DSL. If these concerns relate to the headteacher, the designated safeguarding governor will be informed or the Chair of Governors contacted.

In the event that an allegation is made against the designated safeguarding governor, the matter will be reported directly to the LADO service.

#### 6.2 General safeguarding concerns

We are mindful of the physical complexities of the school site with regard to its location and layout. These are managed through ongoing risk assessments. The School Business Manager, **Eleanor Jones**, is the lead member of staff relating to health, safety and site security. She line manages our site caretaker, **Matthew Mason**.

Anyone who has a general safeguarding concern, e.g. relating to policies and procedures or any aspect of health and safety within school or on offsite visits, will **immediately** report this verbally to the DSL or Deputy DSL or to the School Business Manager.

# 7 Inter-agency working

Lord Deramore's Primary School contributes to inter-agency working as part of its statutory duty and is aware of the expected timeline for its LSCB to fully transition to new system of three safeguarding partners.

The school will work with CSCS, the police, health services and other services to protect the welfare of its pupils, through the early help process and by contributing to inter-agency plans to provide additional support.

Where a need for early help is identified, the school will allow access for CSCS from the host LA and, where appropriate, a placing LA, for that LA to conduct (or consider whether to conduct) a section 17 or 47 assessment.

The school recognises the importance of proactive information sharing between professionals and local agencies in order to effectively meet pupils' needs and identify any need for early help.

Staff members are aware that whilst the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 place a duty on schools to process personal information fairly and lawfully, they also allow for information to be stored and shared for safeguarding purposes – data protection regulations do not act as a barrier to sharing information where failure to do so would result in the pupil being placed at risk of harm.

Staff members will ensure that fear of sharing information does not stand in the way of their responsibility to promote the welfare and safety of pupils.

If staff members are in doubt about sharing information, they will speak to the DSL or deputy DSL. The school also recognises the particular importance of inter-agency working in identifying and preventing child sexual exploitation (CSE).

# 8 Abuse and neglect

All members of staff will be aware that abuse, neglect and safeguarding issues are rarely standalone events that can be given a specific label and multiple issues often overlap one another.

All staff members will be aware of the indicators of abuse and the appropriate action to take following a pupil being identified as at potential risk of abuse or neglect.

When identifying pupils at risk of potential harm, staff members will look out for a number of indicators including, but not limited to, the following:

- Injuries in unusual places, eg bite marks on the neck, that are also inconsistent with their age
- Lack of concentration and acting withdrawn
- Knowledge ahead of their age, e.g. sexual knowledge
- Use of explicit language
- Fear of abandonment
- Depression and low self-esteem

All members of staff will be aware of the indicators of peer-on-peer abuse, such as those in relation to bullying, gender-based violence, sexual assaults and sexting.

All staff will be aware of the necessary procedures to follow to prevent peer-on-peer abuse, which will be dealt with in line with the school's Behaviour Policy.

All staff will be aware of the behaviours linked to drug taking, alcohol abuse, truancy and sexting, and will understand that these put pupils in danger.

All staff will be aware of the effects of a pupil witnessing an incident of abuse, such as witnessing domestic violence at home.

# 9 Types of abuse and neglect

- **9.1 Abuse:** A form of maltreatment of a child which involves inflicting harm or failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family, institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others, e.g. via the internet.
- **9.2 Physical abuse:** A form of abuse which may involve actions such as hitting, throwing, burning, drowning and poisoning, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical abuse can also be caused when a parent fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.
- **9.3 Emotional abuse:** A form of abuse which involves the emotional maltreatment of a child to cause severe and adverse effects on the child's emotional development. This may involve telling a child they are worthless, unloved, inadequate, not giving them the opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them, or often making them feel as though they are in danger.
- 9.4 Sexual abuse: A form of abuse which involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, and whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. This may involve physical assault, such as penetrative assault and touching, or non-penetrative actions, such as looking at sexual images or encouraging children to behave in inappropriate ways.
- **9.5 Domestic abuse**: A form of abuse involving an incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over. Exposure to domestic abuse and/or violence can have a serious, long lasting emotional and psychological impact on children. In some cases, a child may blame themselves for the abuse or may have had to leave the family home as a result.

The Operation Encompass initiative enables North Yorkshire Police to provide early reporting to our school of any domestic abuse incidents that occur outside of normal school hours and that might have had an impact on a child attending our premises the following day. This information will be shared at the earliest opportunity between Monday to Friday. When an incident occurs on a weekend, the school will be notified by the police on the Monday.

A nominated member of school staff, known as a key adult, will receive the information from the police. The key adult will be able to use information that has been shared with them, in confidence, to ensure that our school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children or their families. Information will be shared where it is identified that a child or young person was present, witnessed, or was involved in a domestic abuse incident.

9.6 Neglect: A form of abuse which involves the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in serious impairment of a child's health or development. This may involve providing inadequate food, clothing or shelter, or the inability to protect a child from physical or emotional harm or ensure access to appropriate medical treatment. Neglect is often difficult to identify and assess due to its cumulative nature. The following tool is available to help the DSL to identify whether a child would benefit from further intervention: <a href="http://www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/neglect.htm">http://www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/neglect.htm</a>

#### 10 Serious Violent Crime

All staff need to be aware of indicators, which may signal that children are at risk from, or are involved with serious violent crime. These may include;

- increased absence from school
- a change in friendship groups or relationships with older individuals or groups
- a significant decline in performance
- signs of self-harm or a significant change in wellbeing
- signs of assault or unexplained injuries
- unexplained gifts or new possession could indicate that children have been approached by, or are involved with, individuals associated with criminal networks or gangs.

Staff should be aware of the associated risks and understand measures in place to manage these. Advice for schools and colleges is provided in the Home Office's <u>Preventing youth violence and gang involvement</u> and its <u>Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable young adults: county lines guidance.</u>

# 11 Female genital mutilation (FGM)

For the purpose of this policy, FGM is defined as the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or any other injury to the female genital organs.

FGM is considered a form of abuse in the UK and is illegal.

All staff will be alert to the possibility of a girl being at risk of FGM, or already having suffered FGM. If staff members are worried about someone who is at risk of FGM or who has been a victim of FGM, they are required to share this information with social care and/or the police.

Teaching staff are **legally required** to report to the police any discovery, whether through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence, of FGM on a girl under the age of 18. Teachers failing to report such cases will face disciplinary action.

**NB.** The above does not apply to any suspected or at-risk cases, nor if the individual is over the age of 18. In such cases, local safeguarding procedures will be followed.

There are a range of potential indicators that a pupil may be at risk of FGM. While individually they may not indicate risk, if two or more indicators are present, this could signal a risk to the pupil. Victims of FGM are most likely to come from communities that are known to adopt this practice. It is important to note that the pupil may not yet be aware of the practice or that it may be conducted on them, so staff will be sensitive when broaching the subject.

#### Indicators that may show a heightened risk of FGM include the following:

- The socio-economic position of the family and their level of integration into UK society
- Any girl with a mother or sister who has been subjected to FGM
- Any girl withdrawn from personal, social and health education (PSHE)

#### Indicators that may show FGM could take place soon include the following:

- When a female family elder is visiting from a country of origin
- A girl may confide that she is to have a 'special procedure' or a ceremony to 'become a woman'
- A girl may request help from a teacher if she is aware or suspects that she is at immediate risk
- A girl, or her family member, may talk about a long holiday to her country of origin or another country where the practice is prevalent

Staff will be vigilant to the signs that FGM has already taken place so that help can be offered, enquiries can be made to protect others, and criminal investigations can begin.

#### Indicators that FGM may have already taken place include the following:

- Difficulty walking, sitting or standing
- Spending longer than normal in the bathroom or toilet
- Spending long periods of time away from a classroom during the day with bladder or menstrual problems
- Prolonged or repeated absences from school followed by withdrawal or depression
- Reluctance to undergo normal medical examinations
- Asking for help, but not being explicit about the problem due to embarrassment or fear Teachers will not examine pupils, and so it is rare that they will see any visual evidence, but they will report to the police where an act of FGM appears to have been carried out. Unless the teacher has a good reason not to, they should also consider and discuss any such case with the DSL and involve CSCS as appropriate.

FGM is also included in the definition of 'honour-based' abuse (HBA), which involves crimes that have been committed to defend the honour of the family and/or community, alongside forced marriage and breast ironing.

All forms of HBA are forms of abuse and will be treated and escalated as such. Staff will be alert to the signs of HBA, including concerns that a child is at risk of HBA, or has already suffered from HBV, and will consult with the DSL who will activate local safeguarding procedures if concerns arise.

# 12 Forced marriage

For the purpose of this policy, a "forced marriage" is defined as a marriage that is entered into without the full and free consent of one or both parties, and where violence, threats or any other form of coercion is used to cause a person to enter into the marriage. Forced marriage is classed as a crime in the UK.

As part of HBV, staff will be alert to the signs of forced marriage including, but not limited to, the following:

- Becoming anxious, depressed and emotionally withdrawn with low self-esteem
- Showing signs of mental health disorders and behaviours such as self-harm or anorexia
- Displaying a sudden decline in their educational performance, aspirations or motivation
- Regularly being absent from school
- Displaying a decline in punctuality
- An obvious family history of older siblings leaving education early and marrying early

If staff members have any concerns regarding a child who may have undergone, is currently undergoing, or is at risk of, forced marriage, they will speak to the DSL and local safeguarding procedures will be followed – this could include referral to CSCS, the police or the Forced Marriage Unit.

# 13 Child sexual exploitation (CSE)

The statutory definition of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) can be found in the guidance document Child sexual exploitation: Definition and a guide for practitioners (DfE 2017)

The definition, which can be found on KCSIE (2020) page 84, is:

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

Indicators of child sexual exploitation may include:

- Acquisition of money, clothes, mobile phones, etc. without plausible explanation;
- Gang-association and/or isolation from peers/social networks;
- Exclusion or unexplained absences from school, college or work;
- Leaving home/care without explanation and persistently going missing or returning late;
- Excessive receipt of texts/phone calls;
- Returning home under the influence of drugs/alcohol;
- Inappropriate sexualised behaviour for age/sexually transmitted infections;
- Evidence of/suspicions of physical or sexual assault;
- Relationships with controlling or significantly older individuals or groups;
- Multiple callers (unknown adults or peers);
- Frequenting areas known for sex work;
- Concerning use of internet or other social media;
- · Increasing secretiveness around behaviours; and
- · Self-harm or significant changes in emotional well-being.

Potential vulnerabilities include:

Although the following vulnerabilities increase the risk of child sexual exploitation, it must be remembered that not all children with these indicators will be exploited. Child sexual exploitation can occur without any of these issues.

- Having a prior experience of neglect, physical and/or sexual abuse;
- Lack of a safe/stable home environment, now or in the past (domestic abuse or parental substance misuse, mental health issues or criminality, for example);
- · Recent bereavement or loss:
- · Social isolation or social difficulties:
- Absence of a safe environment to explore sexuality;
- · Economic vulnerability;
- · Homelessness or insecure accommodation status;
- · Connections with other children and young people who are being sexually exploited;
- · Family members or other connections involved in adult sex work;
- Having a physical or learning disability;
- · Being in care (particularly those in residential care and those with interrupted care histories); and
- · Sexual identity.

More information can be found in:

Child sexual exploitation: Definition and a guide for practitioners (DfE 2017)

#### 13.1 Referring cases

Where CSE, or the risk of it, is suspected, staff will discuss the case with the DSL. If after discussion a concern still remains, local safeguarding procedures will be triggered, including referral to the LA.

#### 13.2 Support

The LA and all other necessary authorities will then handle the matter to conclusion. The school will cooperate as needed.

#### 14 Homelessness

The DSL and deputy DSL will be aware of the contact details and referral routes in to the Local Housing Authority so that concerns over homelessness can be raised as early as possible.

Indicators that a family may be at risk of homelessness include the following:

- Household debt
- Rent arrears
- Domestic abuse
- Anti-social behaviour
- Any mention of a family moving home because "they have to"

Referrals to the Local Housing Authority do not replace referrals to CSCS where a child is being harmed or at risk of harm.

# 15 County lines and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)

For the purpose of this policy, "County lines criminal activity" refers to situations where children may have been trafficked within England for the purpose of criminal exploitation by drug networks or gangs grooming and exploiting children to carry drugs and money from urban areas to suburban areas, rural areas and market and seaside towns.

Staff will be made aware of pupils with missing episodes who may have been trafficked for the purpose of transporting drugs.

Staff members who suspect a pupil may be vulnerable to, or involved in, this activity will immediately report all concerns to the DSL.

The DSL will consider referral to the National Referral Mechanism on a case-by-case basis. Indicators that a pupil may be involved in county lines active include the following:

- · Persistently going missing or being found out of their usual area
- Unexplained acquisition of money, clothes or mobile phones
- Excessive receipt of texts or phone calls
- · Relationships with controlling or older individuals or groups
- · Leaving home without explanation
- · Evidence of physical injury or assault that cannot be explained
- · Carrying weapons
- Sudden decline in school results
- Becoming isolated from peers or social networks
- Self-harm or significant changes in mental state
- · Parental reports of concern

Further information can be found on the North Yorkshire Safeguarding website; <a href="http://www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/child-sexual-abuse-and-exploitation.htm">http://www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/child-sexual-abuse-and-exploitation.htm</a>

The definition of **Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)**, which can be found on KCSIE (2020) page 83, is:

CCE is where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child into any criminal activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial or other advantage of the perpetrator or facilitator and/or (c) through violence or the threat of violence.

The victim may have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears consensual. CCE does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

Some of the following can be indicators of CCE:

- children who appear with unexplained gifts or new possessions;
- children who associate with other young people involved in exploitation;
- children who suffer from changes in emotional well-being;
- children who misuse drugs and alcohol;
- · children who go missing for periods of time or regularly come home late; and
- children who regularly miss school or education or do not take part in education.

## 16 Pupils with family members in prison

Pupils with a family member in prison will be offered pastoral support as necessary.

They will receive a copy of 'Are you a young person with a family member in prison' from Action for Prisoners' Families where appropriate and allowed the opportunity to discuss questions and concerns.

# 17 Pupils required to give evidence in court

Pupils required to give evidence in criminal courts, either for crimes committed against them or crimes they have witnessed, will be offered appropriate pastoral support.

Pupils will also be provided with the booklet 'Going to Court' from HM Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS) where appropriate and allowed the opportunity to discuss questions and concerns.

# 18 Contextual safeguarding

Safeguarding incidents can occur outside of school and can be associated with outside factors. School staff, particularly the DSL and Deputy DSL, will always consider the context of incidents – this is known as contextual safeguarding. Staff will consider the risk of abuse and neglect in the home as well as risk outside such as sexual and/or criminal exploitation, radicalisation, bullying and children going missing.

Assessment and understanding of pupils' behaviour will consider whether there are wider environmental factors that are a threat to their safety and/or welfare. Also if they are suffering harm or have been traumatised by abuse.

The school will provide as much contextual information as possible when making referrals to CSCS.

# 19 Preventing radicalisation

For the purpose of this policy, "**radicalisation**" refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies.

Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of the school's wider safeguarding duties. The school will actively assess the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism.

Staff will be alert to changes in pupils' behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection.

Staff will use their professional judgement to identify pupils who may be at risk of radicalisation and act appropriately, which may include making a referral to the Channel programme. The school will work with local safeguarding arrangements as appropriate.

The school will ensure that they engage with parents and families, as they are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation. In doing so, the school will assist and advise family members who raise concerns and provide information for support mechanisms.

Any concerns over radicalisation will be discussed with a child's parents, unless the school has reason to believe that the child would be placed at risk as a result.

#### 19.1 Training

The DSL will undertake Prevent awareness training to be able to provide advice and support to other staff on how to protect children against the risk of radicalisation. The DSL will hold formal training sessions with all members of staff to ensure they are aware of the risk indicators and their duties regarding preventing radicalisation.

#### 19.2 Risk indicators of vulnerable pupils

#### Indicators of an identity crisis include the following:

- · Distancing themselves from their cultural/religious heritage
- Uncomfortable with their place in society

#### Indicators of a personal crisis include the following:

- · Family tensions
- A sense of isolation
- Low self-esteem
- Disassociation from existing friendship groups
- Searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging

#### Indicators of vulnerability through personal circumstances includes the following:

- Migration
- Local community tensions
- Events affecting their country or region of origin
- Alienation from UK values
- A sense of grievance triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination

#### Indicators of vulnerability through unmet aspirations include the following:

- Perceptions of injustice
- · Feelings of failure
- · Rejection of civic life
- Indicators of vulnerability through criminality:
- Experiences of dealing with the police
- · Involvement with criminal groups

#### 19.3 Making a judgement

When making a judgement, staff will ask themselves the following questions:

- Does the pupil have access to extremist influences?
- Does the pupil access the internet for the purposes of extremist activities (e.g. using closed network groups, accessing or distributing extremist material, contacting such groups covertly using Skype)?
- Is there a reason to believe that the pupil has been, or is likely to be, involved with extremist organisations?
- Is the pupil known to have possessed, or be actively seeking, extremist literature/other media likely to incite racial or religious hatred?
- Does the pupil sympathise with or support illegal/illicit groups?
- Does the pupil support groups with links to extremist activity?
- Has the pupil encountered peer, social, family or faith group rejection?
- Is there evidence of extremist ideological, political or religious influence on the pupil?
- Have international events in areas of conflict and civil unrest had a noticeable impact on the pupil?
- Has there been a significant shift in the pupil's outward appearance that suggests a new social, political or religious influence?
- Has the pupil come into conflict with family over religious beliefs, lifestyle or dress choices?

- Does the pupil vocally support terrorist attacks, either verbally or in their written work?
- Has the pupil witnessed or been the victim of racial or religious hate crimes?
- Is there a pattern of regular or extended travel within the UK?
- Has the pupil travelled for extended periods of time to international locations?
- Has the pupil employed any methods to disguise their identity?
- Does the pupil have experience of poverty, disadvantage, discrimination or social exclusion?
- Does the pupil display a lack of affinity or understanding for others?
- Is the pupil the victim of social isolation?
- Does the pupil demonstrate a simplistic or flawed understanding of religion or politics?
- Is the pupil a foreign national or refugee, or awaiting a decision on their/their family's immigration status?
- Does the pupil have insecure, conflicted or absent family relationships?
- Has the pupil experienced any trauma in their lives, particularly trauma associated with war or sectarian conflict?
- Is there evidence that a significant adult or other person in the pupil's life has extremist views or sympathies?

#### Critical indicators include where the pupil is:

- In contact with extremist recruiters.
- Articulating support for extremist causes or leaders.
- Accessing extremist websites.
- Possessing extremist literature.
- Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage.
- Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues.
- · Joining extremist organisations.
- Making significant changes to their appearance and/or behaviour.

Any member of staff who identifies such concerns, because of observed behaviour or reports of conversations, will report these to the DSL.

The DSL will consider whether a situation may be so serious that an emergency response is required. In this situation, a 999 call will be made; however, concerns are most likely to require a police investigation as part of the Channel programme, in the first instance.

#### 19.4 Channel programme

Safeguarding children is a key role for both the school and the LA, which is implemented through the use of the Channel programme. This service shall be used where a vulnerable pupil is at risk of being involved in terrorist activities.

In cases where the school believes a pupil is potentially at serious risk of being radicalised, the headteacher or DSL will contact the Channel programme.

The DSL will also support any staff making referrals to the Channel programme.

The Channel programme ensures that vulnerable children and adults of any faith, ethnicity or background, receive support before their vulnerabilities are exploited by those that would want them to embrace terrorism, and before they become involved in criminal terrorist-related activity.

The programme identifies individuals at risk, assesses the extent of that risk, and develops the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned, with multi-agency cooperation and support from the school.

The delivery of the Channel programme may often overlap with the implementation of the LA's or school's wider safeguarding duty, especially where vulnerabilities have been identified that require intervention from CSCS, or where the individual is already known to CSCS.

#### 19.5 Extremist speakers

The school takes precautions when inviting speakers, to ensure that speakers who may promote extremist views are prevented from using the school premises.

#### 19.6 Building children's resilience

The school will:

- Provide a safe environment for debating controversial issues.
- Promote fundamental values of tolerance, respect, equality, freedom of speech, democracy and rules of law - alongside pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Allow pupils time to explore sensitive and controversial issues.
- Provide pupils with the knowledge and skills to understand and manage potentially difficult situations, recognise risk, make safe choices and recognise where pressure from others threatens their personal safety and wellbeing.
- Equip pupils to explore political and social issues critically, weigh evidence, debate, and make reasoned arguments.
- Teach pupils about how democracy, government and law making/enforcement occur.
- Teach pupils about mutual respect and understanding for the diverse national, regional, religious and ethnic identities of the UK.

#### 19.7 Resources

The school will utilise the following resources when helping to prevent radicalisation:

- Local safeguarding arrangements
- Local police (contacted via 101 for non-emergencies)
- The DfE's dedicated helpline (020 7340 7264)
- The Channel awareness programme
- The Educate Against Hate website

# 20 Children missing education

A child going missing from education is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect and such children are at risk of being victims of harm, exploitation or radicalisation.

#### 20.1 Daily Procedures

Morning attendance registers officially open at 08:50. Children who arrive after 09:00 are expected to report to the school office to provide a reason for being late and this is recorded and monitored so that safeguarding concerns may be flagged up and investigated at the earliest opportunity. Children arriving between 08:50 and 09:15 are marked as an L (late arrival). Children arriving after 09:15 are marked as U (arrival after registers close). Between 09:00 and 10:00, admin staff will telephone/text parents and emergency contacts of children who are absent and for which no reason has been provided. As part of the registration process, parents are asked to provide four separate emergency contacts for each pupil.

If no contact is made by 09:30, this will be considered a safeguarding issue and a home visit will be instigated. If there is no response when a home visit is made, the matter will be referred to the police.

The school will inform the local authority of any pupil who fails to attend school regularly.

When a child who is subject to a Child Protection Plan is absent without explanation, the DSL will be informed by the class teacher or office staff, who will <u>immediately</u> inform MASH.

Staff will monitor pupils that go missing from the school, particularly on repeat occasions, and report them to the DSL following normal safeguarding procedures, in accordance with the Children Missing Education Policy.

The school will inform the LA of any pupil who fails to attend regularly or has been absent without the school's permission for a continuous period of 10 school days or more.

#### 20.2 Admissions register

Pupils are placed on the admissions register at the beginning of the first day that is agreed by the school, or when the school has been notified that the pupil will first be attending.

The school will notify the LA within five days of when a pupil's name is added to or removed from the admissions register, using the Pupil Movement Form (e-mail to cme@york.gov.uk)

The school will ensure that the admissions register is kept up-to-date and accurate at all times and will inform parents when any changes occur.

Four emergency contact details will be held for each pupil where possible.

Staff will monitor pupils who do not attend the school on the agreed date and will notify the LA at the earliest opportunity.

If a parent notifies the school that their child will live at a different address, the school will record the following information on the admissions register:

- The full name of the parent with whom the pupil will live
- The new address
- The date from when the pupil will live at that address

If a parent notifies the school that their child will be attending a different school, or is already registered at a different school, the following information will be recorded on the admissions register:

- The name of the new school
- The date on which the pupil first attended, or is due to attend, that school

Where a pupil moves to a new school, the school will use the secure School2School system to securely transfer pupils' data electronically.

To ensure accurate data is collected to allow effective safeguarding, the school will inform the LA of any pupil who is going to be deleted from the admission register, in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (as amended), where they:

- Have been taken out of the school by their parents, and are being educated outside the national education system, e.g. home education.
- Have ceased to attend the school, and no longer live within a reasonable distance of the premises.
- Have been certified by the school's medical officer as unlikely to be in a fit state of health to attend, before ceasing to be of compulsory school age, and their parent has not indicated the intention to the pupil continuing to attend school after ceasing to be of compulsory school age.

- Have been in custody for a period of more than four months due to a final court order and the school does not reasonably believe they will be returning to the school at the end of that period.
- Have been permanently excluded.

The school will also remove a pupil from the admissions register where the school and LA has been unable to establish the pupil's whereabouts after making reasonable enquiries into their attendance.

# If a pupil is to be removed from the admissions register, the school will provide the LA with the following information:

- The full name of the pupil
- The full name and address of any parent with whom the pupil lives
- At least one telephone number of the parent with whom the pupil lives
- The full name and address of the parent with whom the pupil is going to live, and the date that the pupil will start living there, if applicable
- The name of the pupil's new school and the pupil's expected start date there, if applicable
- The grounds for removal from the admissions register under regulation 8 of the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

The school will work with the LA to establish methods of making returns for pupils back into the school.

The school will highlight to the LA where they have been unable to obtain necessary information from parents, e.g. where an address is unknown.

The school will also highlight any other necessary contextual information including safeguarding concerns

# 21 Pupils with special educational needs and disability (SEND)/Mental Health Issues

All staff need to 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.

School staff are not expected or trained to diagnose mental health conditions or issues, but may notice behaviours that may be of concern.

Where staff have a mental health concern about a child that may also be a safeguarding concern, they should raise the issue by informing the designated safeguarding lead or a deputy.

Staff will be aware of the following:

- Certain indicators of abuse, such as behaviour, mood and injury, may relate to the pupil's disability or mental heatlh without further exploration; however, it should never be assumed that a child's indicators relate only to their disability and/or mental health
- Pupils with SEND and/or mental health issues can be disproportionally impacted by things like bullying, without outwardly showing any signs
- Communication barriers may exist, as well as difficulties in overcoming these barriers

When reporting concerns or making referrals for pupils with SEND and/or mental health issues, the above factors will always be taken into consideration.

When managing a safeguarding issue relating to a pupil with SEND and/or a mental health issue, the DSL will liaise with the school's SENCO, as well as the pupil's family where appropriate, to ensure that the pupil's needs are effectively met.

## 22 Alternative provision

The school will remain responsible for a pupil's welfare during their time at an alternative provider. When placing a pupil with an alternative provider, the school will obtain written confirmation that the provider has conducted all relevant safeguarding checks on staff.

# 23 Work experience

Where the school has pupils conduct work experience at the school, an enhanced DBS check will be obtained if the pupil is over the age of 16.

# 24 Homestay exchange visits

#### 24.1 School-arranged homestays in UK

Where the school is arranging for a visiting child to be provided with care and accommodation in the UK in the home of a family to which the child is not related, the responsible adults are considered to be in regulated activity for the period of the stay.

In such cases, the school is the regulated activity provider; therefore, the school will obtain all the necessary information required, including a DBS enhanced certificate with barred list information, to inform its assessment of the suitability of the responsible adults.

Where criminal record information is disclosed, the school will consider, alongside all other information, whether the adult is a suitable host.

In addition to the responsible adults, the school will consider whether a DBS enhanced certificate should be obtained for anyone else aged over 16 in the household.

#### 24.2 School-arranged homestays abroad

The school will liaise with partner schools to discuss and agree the arrangements in place for the visit.

The school will consider, on a case-by-case basis, whether to contact the relevant foreign embassy or High Commission of the country in question to ascertain what checks may be possible in respect of those providing homestay outside of the UK.

The school will use its professional judgement to assess whether the arrangements are appropriate and sufficient to safeguard every child involved in the exchange.

Pupils will be provided with emergency contact details to use where an emergency occurs or a situation arises that makes them feel uncomfortable.

#### 24.3 Privately arranged homestays

Where a parent or pupil arranges their own homestay, this is a private arrangement and the school is not the regulated activity provider.

## 25 Children with a Social Worker and Private fostering

We recognise that when a child has a social worker, it is an indicator that the child is more at risk than most pupils.

This may mean that they more vulnerable to further harm, as well as facing educational barriers to attendance, learning, behaviour and poor mental health.

We take these needs into account when making plans to support pupils who have a social worker.

Where the school becomes aware of a pupil being privately fostered, they will notify the LA as soon as possible to allow the LA to conduct any necessary checks.

## 26 Concerns about a pupil

#### 26.1 Children's concerns

Children have opportunities to raise concerns and make complaints and these will be listened to and taken seriously and responded to.

The school displays information about pupils sharing worries or concerns and pupils are encouraged to report any concerns about safeguarding they may have to the DSL or deputy DSL.

The school has a proactive, accessible and confidential Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) service, where pupils can go for information, help and advice in confidence.

Lord Deramore's Primary School is committed to raising pupils' awareness that they have a right to not be treated or touched in a way that makes them unhappy or hurt:

- That sometimes they may not feel able to stop an adult doing something that they do not like
- That there are people in and out of school who will listen to them and take steps to protect them from harm. Age-appropriate materials are utilised in PSHE in order to help children to understand child protection issues.

#### 26.2 Staff members' concerns

If a member of staff has any concern about a child's welfare, they will act on them immediately by speaking to the DSL or a deputy..

All staff members are aware of the procedure for reporting concerns and understand their responsibilities in relation to confidentiality and information sharing.

Where the DSL is not available to discuss the concern with, staff members will contact the Deputy DSL with the matter.

If a referral is made about a child by anyone other than the DSL, the DSL will be informed as soon as possible.

The LA will make a decision regarding what action is required within one working day of the referral being made and will notify the referrer.

Staff are required to monitor a referral if they do not receive information from the LA regarding what action is necessary for the pupil.

If the situation does not improve after a referral, the DSL will ask for reconsideration to ensure that their concerns have been addressed and that the situation improves for the pupil. If early help is appropriate, the case will be kept under constant review. If the pupil's situation does not improve, a referral will be considered.

All concerns, discussions and decisions made, as well as the reasons for making those decisions, will be recorded in writing by the DSL and kept securely in a locked cabinet in the headteacher's office.

If a pupil is in immediate danger, a referral will be made to CSCS and/or the police immediately.

If a pupil has committed a crime, such as sexual violence, the police will be notified without delay.

Where there are safeguarding concerns, the school will ensure that the pupil's wishes are always taken into account, and that there are systems available for pupils to provide feedback and express their views.

When responding to safeguarding concerns, staff members will act calmly and supportively, ensuring that the pupil feels like they are being listened to and believed.

An inter-agency assessment will be undertaken where a child and their family could benefit from coordinated support from more than one agency. These assessments will identify what help the child and family require in preventing needs escalating to a point where intervention would be needed.

# 27 Early help

Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life. Any pupil may benefit from early help, but in particular staff will be alert to the potential need for early help for pupils who:

- Have SEND (whether or not they have a statutory Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC).
- · Are young carers.
- Show signs of being drawn into anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups.
- Are frequently missing/going missing from care or from home.
- Misuse drugs or alcohol.
- Are at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation.
- Are in a family circumstance presenting challenges such as substance abuse, adult mental health problems or domestic abuse.
- Are returned home to their family from care.
- Show early signs of abuse and/or neglect.
- Are at risk of being radicalised or exploited.
- Are privately fostered.

Early help will also be used to address non-violent harmful sexual behaviour to prevent escalation. All staff will be made aware of the local early help process and understand their role in it. The DSL will take the lead where early help is appropriate.

# 28 Managing referrals

The reporting and referral process outlined in Appendix K will be followed accordingly.

All staff members, in particular the DSL, will be aware of the LA's arrangements in place for managing referrals. The DSL will provide staff members with clarity and support where needed.

When making a referral to CSCS or other external agencies, information will be shared in line with confidentiality requirements and will only be shared where necessary to do so.

The DSL will work alongside external agencies, maintaining continuous liaison, including multiagency liaison where appropriate, in order to ensure the wellbeing of the pupils involved. The DSL will work closely with the police to ensure the school does not jeopardise any criminal proceedings, and to obtain help and support as necessary.

Where a pupil has been harmed or is in immediate danger or at risk of harm, the referrer will be notified of the action that will be taken within one working day of a referral being made. Where this information is not forthcoming, the referrer will contact the assigned social worker for more information.

The school will not wait for the start or outcome of an investigation before protecting the victim and other pupils: this applies to criminal investigations as well as those made by CSCS. Where CSCS decide that a statutory investigation is not appropriate, the school will consider referring the incident again if it is believed that the pupil is at risk of harm. Where CSCS decide that a statutory investigation is not appropriate and the school agrees with this decision, the school will consider the use of other support mechanisms, such as early help and pastoral support.

At all stages of the reporting and referral process, the pupil will be informed of the decisions made, actions taken and reasons for doing so.

Discussions of concerns with parents will only take place where this would not put the pupil or others at potential risk of harm. The school will work closely with parents to ensure that the pupil, as well as their family, understands that the arrangements in place, such as in-school interventions, are effectively supported and know where they can access additional support.

# 29 Concerns about staff members and safeguarding practices

We recognise the possibility that adults working in the school may harm children, including governors, volunteers, supply teachers and agency staff. Any concerns about the conduct of other adults in the school should be taken to the headteacher without delay; any concerns about the headteacher should go to the Chair of Governors (Richard Frost) who can be contacted by email via <a href="mailto:rostri@gmail.com">rostri@gmail.com</a>. The school office can also provide his telephone number.

Any concerns regarding the safeguarding practices at the school will be raised with the SLT, and the necessary whistleblowing procedures will be followed, as outlined in the Whistleblowing Policy. If a staff member feels unable to raise an issue with the SLT, they should access other whistleblowing channels such as the NSPCC whistleblowing helpline (0800 028 0285).

Any allegations of abuse made against staff members – including visiting or external staff – will be dealt with in accordance with the school's Disciplinary Policy.

The guidance in KCSIE (Part Four) should be followed where it is alleged that anyone working in the school or college that provides education for children under 18 years of age, including supply teachers and volunteers 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 he or she 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.

## 30 Dealing with allegations of abuse against staff

All allegations will be dealt with in line with the school's Disciplinary Policy. Where an allegation is substantiated, and the individual is dismissed or resigns, the school will refer it to the DBS. They will also consider referring the matter to the TRA for consideration for a prohibition order.

If a case manager is concerned about the welfare of other children in the community following a staff member's suspension, they may report this concern to CSCS.

The school will preserve records which contain information about allegations of sexual abuse for the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA), for the term of the inquiry in question.

# 31 Allegations of abuse against other pupils (peer-on-peer abuse)

#### 31.1 Sexual harassment

Sexual harassment refers to unwanted conduct of a sexual nature that occurs online or offline. Sexual harassment violates a pupil's dignity and makes them feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated, and can create a hostile, sexualised or offensive environment. If left unchallenged, sexual harassment can create an atmosphere that normalises inappropriate behaviour and may lead to sexual violence.

Sexual harassment includes:

- · Sexual comments.
- Sexual "jokes" and taunting.
- Physical behaviour, such as deliberately brushing against another pupil.
- Online sexual harassment, including non-consensual sharing of images and videos and consensual sharing of sexual images and videos (often known as sexting), inappropriate comments on social media, exploitation, coercion and threats – online sexual harassment may be isolated or part of a wider pattern.
- Upskirting, which typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm.

#### 31.2 Sexual violence

Sexual violence refers to the three following offences:

- Rape: A person (A) commits an offence of rape if he intentionally penetrates the vagina, anus or mouth of another person (B) with his penis, B does not consent to the penetration and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.
- Assault by Penetration: A person (A) commits an offence if s/he intentionally penetrates the vagina or anus of another person (B) with a part of her/his body or anything else, the penetration is sexual, B does not consent to the penetration and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.
- **Sexual Assault:** A person (A) commits an offence of sexual assault if s/he intentionally touches another person (B), the touching is sexual, B does not consent to the touching and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.

The term "harmful sexual behaviour" is used to describe behaviour that is problematic, abusive and violent, and that may cause developmental damage. Harmful sexual behaviour may include:

- Using sexually explicit words and phrases.
- Inappropriate touching.
- Sexual violence or threats.
- Full penetrative sex with other children or adults.
- Sexual interest in adults or children of very different ages to their own.
- Forceful or aggressive sexual behaviour.
- Compulsive habits.
- Sexual behaviour affecting progress and achievement.
- Using sexually explicit words and phrases.
- Inappropriate touching.
- Sexual violence or threats.

Sexual behaviour can also be harmful if one of the children is much older (especially where there is two years or more difference, or where one child is pre-pubescent and the other is not) and where the child may have SEND.

#### 31.3 A preventative approach

In order to prevent peer-on-peer abuse and address the wider societal factors that can influence behaviour, the school will educate pupils about abuse, its forms and the importance of discussing any concerns and respecting others through the curriculum, assemblies and PSHE lessons.

The school will also ensure that pupils are taught about safeguarding, including online safety, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum in PSHE lessons, sex and relationships education (SRE) and group sessions. Such content will be age and stage of development specific, and tackle issues such as the following:

- Healthy relationships both on line and off line
- Respectful behaviour
- · Gender roles, stereotyping and equality
- Body confidence and self-esteem
- Prejudiced behaviour
- That sexual violence and sexual harassment is always wrong
- Addressing cultures of sexual harassment

Pupils will be allowed an open forum to talk about concerns and sexual behaviour. They are taught how to raise concerns and make a report, including concerns about their friends or peers, and how a report will be handled.

Further information regarding how this subject is taught to children is available in the following policies;

- Sex Education and Relationships Policy
- PHSCE Policy
- E-Safety Policy

#### 31.4 Awareness

All staff will be aware that pupils of any age and sex are capable of abusing their peers and will never tolerate abuse as "banter" or "part of growing up".

All staff will be aware that peer-on-peer abuse can be manifested in many different ways, including sexting and gender issues, such as girls being sexually touched or assaulted, and boys being subjected to hazing/initiation type of violence which aims to cause physical, emotional or psychological harm.

All staff will be made aware of the heightened vulnerability of pupils with SEND, who are three times more likely to be abused than their peers. Staff will not assume that possible indicators of abuse relate to the pupil's SEND and will always explore indicators further. LGBTQ+ children can be targeted by their peers. In some cases, children who are perceived to be LGBTQ+, whether they are or not, can be just as vulnerable to abuse as LGBTQ+ children.

The school's response to boy-on-boy and girl-on-girl sexual violence and sexual harassment will be equally as robust as it is for incidents between children of the opposite sex.

Pupils will be made aware of how to raise concerns or make a report and how any reports will be handled. This includes the process for reporting concerns about friends or peers.

# 31.5 Support available if a child has been harmed, is in immediate danger or at risk of harm

If a child has been harmed, is in immediate danger or is at risk of harm, a referral will be made to CSCS. Within one working day, a social worker will respond to the referrer to explain the action that will be taken.

# 31.6 Support available if early help, section 17 and/or section 47 statutory assessments are appropriate

If early help, section 17 and/or section 47 statutory assessments (assessments under the Children Act 1989) are appropriate, school staff may be required to support external agencies. The DSL and deputies will support staff as required.

#### 31.7 Support available if a crime may have been committed

Rape, assault by penetration and sexual assaults are crimes. Where a report includes such an act, the police will be notified, often as a natural progression of making a referral to CSCS. The DSL will be aware of the local process for referrals to both CSCS and the police. Whilst the age of criminal responsibility is 10 years of age, if the alleged perpetrator is under 10, the principle of referring to the police remains. In these cases, the police will take a welfare approach rather than a criminal justice approach.

The school has a close relationship with the local police force and the DSL will liaise closely with the local police presence.

#### 31.8 Support available if reports include online behaviour

Online concerns can be especially complicated. The school recognises that there is potential for an online incident to extend further than the local community and for a victim, or the alleged perpetrator, to become marginalised and excluded both online and offline. There is also strong potential for repeat victimisation if the content continues to exist.

If the incident involves sexual images or videos held online, the <u>Internet Watch Foundation</u> will be consulted to have the material removed.

Staff will not view or forward illegal images of a child. If they are made aware of such an image, they will contact the DSL.

#### 31.9 Managing disclosures

Victims will always be taken seriously, reassured, supported and kept safe. Victims will never be made to feel like they are causing a problem or made to feel ashamed.

If a friend of a victim makes a report or a member of staff overhears a conversation, staff will take action – they will never assume that someone else will deal with it. The basic principles remain the same as when a victim reports an incident; however, staff will consider why the victim has not chosen to make a report themselves and the discussion will be handled sensitively and with the help of CSCS where necessary. If staff are in any doubt, they will speak to the DSL.

Where an alleged incident took place away from the school or online but involved pupils from the school, the school's duty to safeguard pupils remains the same.

All staff will be trained to handle disclosures. Effective safeguarding practice includes:

- Never promising confidentiality at the initial stage.
- Only sharing the report with those necessary for its progression.
- Explaining to the victim what the next steps will be and who the report will be passed to.
- Recognising that the person the child chose to disclose the information to is in a position of trust.
- Being clear about boundaries and how the report will be progressed.
- Not asking leading questions and only prompting the child with open questions.
- Waiting until the end of the disclosure to immediately write a thorough summary. If notes
  must be taken during the disclosure, it is important to still remain engaged and not appear
  distracted.
- Only recording the facts as the child presents them not the opinions of the note taker.
- Where the report includes an online element, being aware of searching, screening and confiscation advice and <u>UKCCIS sexting advice</u>.
- Wherever possible, managing disclosures with two staff members present (preferably with the DSL or a deputy as one of the staff members).
- Informing the DSL or deputy as soon as possible after the disclosure if they could not be involved in the disclosure.

The DSL will be informed of any allegations of abuse against pupils with SEND. They will record the incident in writing and, working with the SENCO, decide what course of action is necessary, with the best interests of the pupil in mind at all times.

#### 31.10 Confidentiality

Lord Deramore's Primary School will only engage staff and agencies required to support the victim and/or be involved in any investigation. If a victim asks the school not to tell anyone about the disclosure, the school cannot make this promise. Even without the victim's consent, the information may still be lawfully shared if it is in the public interest and protects children from harm.

The DSL will consider the following when making confidentiality decisions:

- Parents will be informed unless it will place the victim at greater risk.
- If a child is at risk of harm, is in immediate danger or has been harmed, a referral will be made to CSCS.
- Rape, assault by penetration and sexual assaults are crimes reports containing any such crimes will be passed to the police.

The DSL will weigh the victim's wishes against their duty to protect the victim and others. If a referral is made against the victim's wishes, it will be done so extremely carefully and the reasons for referral will be explained to the victim. Appropriate specialist support will always be offered.

#### 31.11 Anonymity

There are legal requirements for anonymity where a case is progressing through the criminal justice system. The school will do all it can to protect the anonymity of children involved in any report of sexual violence or sexual harassment. It will carefully consider, based on the nature of the report, which staff will be informed and what support will be in place for the children involved.

When deciding on the steps to take, the school will consider the role of social media in potentially exposing victims' identities and facilitating the spread of rumours.

#### 31.12 Risk assessment

The DSL or a deputy will make an immediate risk and needs assessment any time there is a report of sexual violence. For reports of sexual harassment, a risk assessment will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Risk assessments are not intended to replace the detailed assessments of experts, and for incidents of sexual violence it is likely that a professional risk assessment by a social worker or sexual violence specialist will be required.

Risk assessments will consider:

- The victim.
- The alleged perpetrator.
- Other children at the school, especially any actions that are appropriate to protect them.

Risk assessments will be recorded (either on paper or electronically) and kept under review in accordance with the school's Data Protection Policy.

#### 31.13 Taking action following a disclosure

The DSL or a deputy will decide the school's initial response, taking into consideration:

- The victim's wishes.
- The nature of the incident.
- The ages and developmental stages of the children involved.
- Any power imbalance between the children.
- Whether the incident is a one-off or part of a pattern.
- Any ongoing risks.
- Any related issues and the wider context, such as whether there are wider environmental factors in a child's life that threaten their safety and/or welfare.
- The best interests of the child.
- That sexual violence and sexual harassment are always unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Immediate consideration will be given as to how to support the victim, alleged perpetrator and any other children involved.

For reports of rape and assault by penetration, whilst the school establishes the facts, the alleged perpetrator will be removed from any classes shared with the victim. The school will consider how to keep the victim and alleged perpetrator apart on school premises, and on

transport where applicable. These actions will not be seen as a judgement of guilt on the alleged perpetrator.

For reports of sexual violence and sexual harassment, the proximity of the victim and alleged perpetrator and the suitability of shared classes, premises and transport will be considered immediately.

In all cases, the initial report will be carefully evaluated and the wishes of the victim, nature of the allegations and requirement to protect all children will be taken into consideration.

#### 31.14 Managing the report

The decision of when to inform the alleged perpetrator of a report will be made on a caseby-case basis. If a report is being referred to CSCS or the police, the school will speak to the relevant agency to discuss informing the alleged perpetrator.

There are four likely outcomes when managing reports of sexual violence or sexual harassment:

- Managing internally
- Providing early help
- Referring to CSCS
- Reporting to the police

Whatever outcome is chosen, it will be underpinned by the principle that sexual violence and sexual harassment is never acceptable and will not be tolerated. All concerns, discussion, decisions and reasons behind decisions will be recorded either on paper or electronically.

The following situations are statutorily clear and do not allow for contrary decisions:

- A child under the age of 13 can never consent to sexual activity.
- The age of consent is 16.
- Sexual intercourse without consent is rape.
- Rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault are defined in law.
- Creating and sharing sexual photos and videos of children under 18 is illegal including children making and sending images and videos of themselves.

#### 31.15 Managing internally

In some cases, e.g. one-off incidents, the school may decide to handle the incident internally through behaviour and anti-bullying policies and by providing pastoral support.

#### 31.16 Providing early help

The school may decide that statutory interventions are not required, but that pupils may benefit from early help – providing support as soon as a problem emerges. This approach can be particularly useful in addressing non-violent harmful sexual behaviour and may prevent escalation of sexual violence.

#### 31.17 Referral to CSCS

If a child has been harmed, is at risk of harm or is in immediate danger, the school will make a referral to CSCS. Parents will be informed unless there is a compelling reason not to do so (if referral will place the victim at risk). This decision will be made in consultation with CSCS.

The school will not wait for the outcome of an investigation before protecting the victim and other children.

The DSL will work closely with CSCS to ensure that the school's actions do not jeopardise any investigation. Any related risk assessment will be used to inform all decisions.

If CSCS decide that a statutory investigation is not appropriate, the school will consider referring the incident again if they believe the child to be in immediate danger or at risk of harm.

If the school agrees with the decision made by CSCS, they will consider the use of other support mechanisms such as early help, pastoral support and specialist support.

#### 31.18 Reporting to the police

Reports of rape, assault by penetration or sexual assault will be passed on to the police – even if the alleged perpetrator is under 10 years of age. Generally, this will be in parallel with referral to CSCS. The DSL and deputies will follow the local process for referral.

Parents will be informed unless there is a compelling reason not to do so. Where parents are not informed, it is essential for the school to support the child with any decision they take, in unison with CSCS and any appropriate specialist agencies.

The DSL and governing body will agree what information will be disclosed to staff and others, in particular the alleged perpetrator and their parents. They will also discuss the best way to protect the victim and their anonymity.

The DSL will be aware of local arrangements and specialist units that investigate child abuse.

In some cases, it may become clear that the police will not take further action, for whatever reason. In these circumstances, the school will continue to engage with specialist support for the victim as required.

#### 31.19 Bail conditions

Police bail is only used in exceptional circumstances. It is unlikely that a child will be placed on police bail if alternative measures can be used to mitigate risks.

The school will work with CSCS and the police to support the victim, alleged perpetrator and other children (especially witnesses) during criminal investigations. The school will seek advice from the police to ensure they meet their safeguarding responsibilities.

The term 'released under investigation' (RUI) is used to describe alleged perpetrators released in circumstances that do not warrant the application of bail.

Where bail is deemed necessary, the school will work with CSCS and the police to safeguard children – ensuring that the victim can continue in their normal routine and continue to receive a suitable education.

#### 31.20 Managing delays in the criminal justice system

The school will not wait for the outcome (or even the start) of criminal proceedings before protecting the victim, alleged perpetrator and other children. The associated risk assessment will be used to inform any decisions made.

The DSL will work closely with the police to ensure the school does not jeopardise any criminal proceedings, and to obtain help and support as necessary.

#### 31.21 The end of the criminal process

Risk assessments will be updated if the alleged perpetrator receives a caution or is convicted. If the perpetrator remains in the same school as the victim, the school will set out clear expectations regarding the perpetrator, including their behaviour and any restrictions deemed reasonable and proportionate with regards to the perpetrator's timetable.

The school will ensure that the victim and perpetrator remain protected from bullying and harassment (including online).

Where an alleged perpetrator is found not guilty or a case is classed as requiring "no further action", the school will offer support to the victim and alleged perpetrator for as long as is necessary. The victim is likely to be traumatised and the fact that an allegation cannot be substantiated does not necessarily mean that it was unfounded. The school will discuss decisions with the victim and offer support.

The alleged perpetrator is also likely to require ongoing support, as they have also been through a difficult and upsetting experience.

- Ongoing support for the victim
- Any decisions regarding safeguarding and supporting the victim will be made with the following considerations in mind:
- The terminology the school uses to describe the victim
- The age and developmental stage of the victim
- · The needs and wishes of the victim
- Whether the victim wishes to continue in their normal routine
- The victim will not be made to feel ashamed about making a report
- What a proportionate response looks like

Victims may not disclose the whole picture immediately and they may be more comfortable talking about the incident on a piecemeal basis; therefore, a dialogue will be kept open and the victim can choose to appoint a designated trusted adult.

Victims may struggle in a normal classroom environment. Whilst it is important not to isolate the victim, the victim may wish to be withdrawn from lessons and activities at times. This will only happen when the victim wants it to, not because it makes it easier to manage the situation. The school will provide a physical space for victims to withdraw to.

Victims may require support for a long period of time and the school will be prepared to offer long-term support in liaison with relevant agencies. Everything possible will be done to prevent the victim from bullying and harassment as a result of any report they have made.

If the victim is unable to remain in the school, alternative provision or a move to another school will be considered – this will only be considered at the request of the victim and following discussion with their parents. If the victim does move to another school, the DSL will inform the school of any ongoing support needs and transfer the child protection file.

When considering the support required for an alleged perpetrator, the school will take into account:

- The terminology they use to describe the alleged perpetrator or perpetrator.
- The balance of safeguarding the victim and providing the alleged perpetrator with education and support.
- The reasons why the alleged perpetrator may have abused the victim and the support necessary.
- Their age and developmental stage.

- What a proportionate response looks like.
- Whether the behaviour is a symptom of their own abuse or exposure to abusive practices and/or materials.

When making a decision, advice will be taken from CSCS, specialist sexual violence services and the police as appropriate.

If the alleged perpetrator moves to another school (for any reason), the DSL will inform the destination school of any ongoing support needs and transfer the child protection file. The school will work with professionals as required to understand why the abuse took place and provide a high level of support to help the pupil understand and overcome the reasons for their behaviour and reduce the likelihood of them abusing again.

#### 31.22 Disciplining the alleged perpetrator

Disciplinary action can be taken whilst investigations are ongoing and the fact that investigations are ongoing does not prevent the school reaching its own conclusion and imposing an appropriate penalty.

The school will make such decisions on a case-by-case basis, with the DSL taking a leading role. The school will take into consideration whether any action would prejudice an investigation and/or subsequent prosecution. The police and CSCS will be consulted where necessary.

The school will also consider whether circumstances make it unreasonable or irrational for the school to make a decision about what happened while an investigation is considering the same facts.

Disciplinary action and support can take place at the same time. The school will be clear whether action taken is disciplinary, supportive or both.

#### **Shared classes**

Once the DSL has decided to progress a report, they will again consider whether the victim and alleged perpetrator will be separated in classes, on school premises and on school transport – balancing the school's duty to educate against its duty to safeguard. The best interests of the pupil will always come first.

Where there is a criminal investigation into rape or assault by penetration, the alleged perpetrator will be removed from classes with the victim and potential contact on school premises and transport will be prevented.

Where a criminal investigation into rape or assault by penetration leads to a conviction or caution, in all but the most exceptional circumstances, this will constitute a serious breach of discipline and result in the view that allowing the perpetrator to remain in the school would harm the education or welfare of the victim and potentially other pupils.

Where a criminal investigation into sexual assault leads to a conviction or caution, the school will consider suitable sanctions and permanent exclusion. If the perpetrator will remain at the school, the school will keep the victim and perpetrator in separate classes and manage potential contact on school premises and transport. The nature of the conviction or caution, alongside the wishes of the victim, will inform any discussions made.

Where a report of sexual assault does not lead to a police investigation, this does not mean that the offence did not happen or that the victim has lied. Both the victim and alleged

perpetrator will be affected and appropriate support will be provided. Considerations regarding sharing classes and potential contact will be made on a case-by-case basis.

In all cases, the school will record its decisions and be able to justify them. The needs and wishes of the victim will always be at the heart of the process.

#### 31.23 Working with parents and carers

In most sexual violence cases, the school will work with the parents of both the victim and alleged perpetrator. For cases of sexual harassment, these decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

The school will meet the victim's parents with the victim present to discuss the arrangements being put in place to safeguard the victim, and to understand their wishes in terms of support arrangements and the progression of the report.

Schools will also meet with the parents of the alleged perpetrator to discuss arrangements that will impact their child, such as moving them out of classes with the victim. Reasons behind decisions will be explained and the support being made available will be discussed. The DSL or a deputy will attend such meetings, with agencies invited as necessary.

#### 31.24 Safeguarding other children

Children who have witnessed sexual violence, especially rape and assault by penetration, will be provided with support.

It is likely that children will "take sides" following a report, and the school will do everything in its power to protect the victim, alleged perpetrator and witnesses from bullying and harassment.

The school will keep in mind that contact may be made between the victim and alleged perpetrator and that harassment from friends of both parties could take place via social media and do everything in its power to prevent such activity.

As part of the school's risk assessment following a report, transport arrangements will be considered, as it is a potentially vulnerable place for both a victim and alleged perpetrator. Schools will consider any additional support that can be put in place.

# 32 Communication and confidentiality

All child protection and safeguarding concerns will be treated in the strictest of confidence in accordance with school data protection policies.

Where there is an allegation or incident of sexual abuse or violence, the victim is entitled to anonymity by law; therefore, the school will consult its policy and agree what information will be disclosed to staff and others, in particular the alleged perpetrator and their parents.

Where a report of sexual violence or sexual harassment is progressing through the criminal justice system, the school will do all it can to protect the anonymity of the pupils involved in the case. Concerns will only be reported to those necessary for its progression and reports will only be shared amongst staff members and with external agencies on a need-to-know basis.

During disclosure of a concern by a pupil, staff members will not promise the pupil confidentiality and will ensure that they are aware of what information will be shared, with whom and why.

Where it is in the public interest, and protects pupils from harm, information can be lawfully shared without the victim's consent, e.g. if doing so would assist the prevention, detection or prosecution of a serious crime.

Before doing so, the DSL will weigh the victim's wishes against their duty to protect the victim and others. Where a referral is made against the victim's wishes, it is done so carefully with the reasons for the referral explained to the victim and specialist support offered.

Depending on the nature of a concern, the DSL will discuss the concern with the parents of the pupils involved. Discussions with parents will not take place where they could potentially put a pupil at risk of harm. Discussion with the victim's parents will relate to the arrangements being put in place to safeguard the victim, with the aim of understanding their wishes in terms of support arrangements and the progression of the report. Discussion with the alleged perpetrator's parents will have regards to the arrangements that will impact their child, such as moving classes, etc., with the reasons behind decisions being explained and the available support discussed. External agencies will be invited to these discussions where necessary.

Where confidentiality or anonymity has been breached, the school will implement the appropriate disciplinary procedures as necessary and will analyse how damage can be minimised and future breaches be prevented.

Where a pupil is leaving the school, the DSL will consider whether it is appropriate to share any information with the pupil's new provider, in addition to the child protection file, that will allow the new provider to support the pupil and arrange appropriate support for their arrival.

# 33 Online safety

As part of a broad and balanced curriculum, all pupils will be made aware of online risks and taught how to stay safe online. Some of the these risks highlighted are linked to using technology and social media, including on line bullying and/or grooming on line for exploitation or radicalisation.

Through training, all staff members will be made aware of the following:

- Pupil attitudes and behaviours which may indicate they are at risk of potential harm online
- The procedure to follow when they have a concern regarding a pupil's online activity

The school will ensure that suitable filtering systems are in place to prevent children accessing terrorist and extremist material, in accordance with the school's Data and E-Security Breach Prevention and Management Plan. Further details of how the school supports the education of online safety and control measures in place can be found in the E-Safety Policy (Spring 2019).

The use of mobile phones by staff and pupils is monitored by the school, in accordance with the Mobile Phone Policy.

The school will ensure that the use of filtering and monitoring systems does not cause "over blocking" which may lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what pupils can be taught regarding online teaching.

We are aware that we have a duty to teach children and families how to keep safe when using the Internet outside of school. As remote learning has become a greater feature of our provision due to the recent Covid-19 pandemic, we will continue to provide parents and carers with regular training and resources linked to online safety.

# 34 Mobile phone and camera safety

- Staff members will not use personal mobile phones/cameras on school premises when pupils are present (unless in emergencies).
- Staff may use mobile phones in the staffroom during breaks and non-contact time.
- Staff will use their professional judgement in emergency situations.
- Staff may take mobile phones on educational visits, but they must only be used to take photographs for posting on Twitter, or in the event of an emergency.
- Images or videos of pupils or staff taken on mobile phones on educational visits for the purpose of posting on Twitter will be deleted immediately afterwards.
- The sending of inappropriate messages or images from mobile devices is strictly prohibited.

Staff who do not adhere to this policy will face disciplinary action.

ICT technicians and the computing co-ordinator will review and authorise any downloadable apps

The school will adhere to the terms of the Mobile Phone Policy, Using Images Policy and E-Safety Policy at all times.

Photographs and videos of pupils will be carefully planned before any activity, with particular regard to consent and adhering to the school's Using Images Policy and Data Protection Policy.

Where photographs and videos will involve LAC pupils, adopted pupils, or pupils for whom there are security concerns, the teacher will liaise with the DSL to determine the steps involved.

The DSL will, in known cases of a pupil who is a LAC or who has been adopted, liaise with the pupil's social worker, carers or adoptive parents to assess the needs and risks associated with the pupil.

Staff will report any concerns about another staff member's use of mobile phones to the DSL.

# 35 Sports clubs and extra-curricular activities

Clubs and extracurricular activities hosted by external bodies will work in collaboration with the school to effectively safeguard pupils and adhere to local safeguarding arrangements.

Paid and volunteer staff running sports clubs and extracurricular activities are aware of their safeguarding responsibilities and promote the welfare of pupils and understand how they should respond to child protection concerns and how to make a referral to CSCS or the police, if necessary.

Appendix D outlines the safeguarding procedures to be followed by activity leaders and by the school for extra-curricular clubs and activities taking place on the school premises.

#### 36 Safer recruitment

An enhanced DBS check with barred list information will be undertaken for all paid and volunteer staff members engaged in regulated activity. A person will be considered to be in 'regulated activity' if, as a result of their work, they:

- Are responsible on a daily basis for the care or supervision of children.
- Regularly work in the school at times when children are on the premises.
- Regularly come into contact with children under 18 years of age.

The DfE's <u>DBS Workforce Guides</u> will be consulted when determining whether a position fits the child workforce criteria.

#### 36.1 Pre-employment checks

The governing body will assess the suitability of prospective employees by:

- Verifying the candidate's identity, preferably from the most current photographic ID and proof of address except where, for exceptional reasons, none is available.
- Obtaining a certificate for an enhanced DBS check with barred list information where the person will be engaged in regulated activity.
- Obtaining a separate barred list check if an individual will start work in regulated activity before the DBS certificate is available.
- Section 128 checks will be carried out on all personal in Senior Leadership roles, as individuals subject to the direction are disqualified from holding this position.
- Checking that a candidate to be employed as a teacher is not subject to a prohibition order issued by the Secretary of State, using the TRA Teacher Services' System.
- Verifying the candidate's mental and physical fitness to undertake their working responsibilities, including asking relevant questions about disability and health to establish whether they have the physical and mental capacity for the specific role.
- Checking the person's right to work in the UK. If there is uncertainty about whether an
  individual needs permission to work in the UK, the advice set out on the Gov.UK
  website will be followed.
- If the person has lived or worked outside the UK, making any further checks that the school considers appropriate; this includes checking for any teacher sanctions or restrictions that an EEA professional regulating authority has imposed.
- Checking professional experience, QTS and qualifications as appropriate using Teacher Services.

An enhanced DBS certificate will be obtained from candidates before or as soon as practicable after appointment. An online update check may be undertaken through the DBS update service if an applicant has subscribed to it and gives their permission. The school will adopt a rolling programme of DBS re-checks every three years for all staff, or sooner if necessary.

#### 36.2 Internal candidates

References from internal candidates will always be scrutinised before appointment.

#### 36.3 Initial teacher training (ITT) candidates

Where applicants for ITT are salaried by the school, the school will ensure that enhanced DBS checks with barred list information are carried out.

Written confirmation will be obtained to ensure that an enhanced DBS certificate and barred list check has been carried out for all fee-funded trainees.

#### 36.4 Governors

An enhanced DBS check will be carried out for each member of the governing body. Where a governor also engages in regulated activity, a barred list check will also be requested. The school will also contact the TRA using Teacher Services to check if a proposed governor is barred as a result of being subject to a section 128 direction. Where a barred list check has been performed, the section 128 direction will also be shown and will not require a separate check.

#### 36.5 Those who have lived or worked outside of the UK

For those who have lived or worked outside of the UK, additional checks regarding teacher sanctions or restrictions will be conducted, this includes checking for any teacher sanctions or restrictions that an EEA professional regulating authority has imposed.

#### 36.6 Barred list check

An enhanced DBS check may be requested for anyone working in school that is not in regulated activity but does not have a barred list check.

If there are concerns about an applicant, an enhanced DBS check with barred list information may be requested, even if they have worked in regulated activity in the three months prior to appointment.

Written information about their previous employment history will be obtained from candidates and the appropriate checks undertaken to ensure information is not contradictory or incomplete.

#### 36.7 References

References will be obtained directly from referees and scrutinised, with all concerns satisfactorily resolved prior to confirmation of employment.

References will only be accepted from a senior person and not from a colleague.

References will be sought on all short-listed candidates, including internal ones, before an interview and checked on receipt to ensure that all specific questions were answered satisfactorily.

References will be obtained prior to interviews taking place and discussed during interviews. Open testimonials will not be considered.

Information about past disciplinary actions or allegations will be considered carefully when assessing an applicant's suitability for a post.

Information sourced directly from a candidate or online source will be carefully vetted to ensure they originate from a credible source.

#### 36.8 Volunteers

No volunteer will be left unsupervised with a pupil or allowed to work in regulated activity until the necessary checks have been obtained.

An enhanced DBS certificate with barred list check will be obtained for all new volunteers in regulated activity that will regularly teach or look after children on an unsupervised basis or provide personal care on a one-off basis.

Personal care includes helping a child with eating and drinking for reasons of illness, or care in connection with toileting, washing, bathing and dressing for reasons of age, illness or disability.

A supervised volunteer who regularly teaches or looks after children is not in regulated activity.

The school will obtain an enhanced DBS certificate with barred list check for existing volunteers that provide pastoral care.

Unless there is cause for concern, the school will not request any new DBS certificates with barred list check for existing volunteers that have already been checked.

A risk assessment will be undertaken for volunteers not engaged in regulated activity when deciding whether to seek an enhanced DBS check.

#### 36.9 Contractors

The school will ensure that any contractor or employee of the contractor working on the premises has been subject to the appropriate level of DBS check.

Checks will be conducted to ensure that the contractor presenting themselves for work is the same person on whom the checks have been made.

Contractors without a DBS check will be supervised if they will have contact with children. The identity of the contractor will be checked upon their arrival at the school.

#### 36.10 Data retention

DBS certificates will be securely destroyed as soon as practicable, but not retained for longer than six months from receipt.

A copy of the other documents used to verify the successful candidate's identity, right to work and required qualifications will be kept for the personnel file. The personnel file will be held for the duration of the employee's employment in line with GDPR retention guidelines.

#### 36.11 Referral to the DBS

The school will refer to the DBS anyone who has harmed a child or poses a risk of harm to a child, or if there is reason to believe the member of staff has committed an offence and has been removed from working in regulated activity.

DBS checks are not mandatory for associate members appointed by the governing body

# 37 Single central record (SCR)

The school keeps an SCR which records all volunteers and staff, including supply staff and teacher trainees on salaried routes, who work at the school. The following information is recorded on the SCR:

- An identity check
- A barred list check
- An enhanced DBS check
- A prohibition from teaching check
- A check of professional qualifications
- A Section 128 check for qualifying staff
- A check to determine the individual's right to work in the UK
- Additional checks for those who have lived or worked outside of the UK

For agency and third-party supply staff, the school will also record whether written confirmation from the employment business supplying the member of staff has been received which indicates that all of the necessary checks have been conducted and the date that confirmation was received. If any checks have been conducted for volunteers, this will also be recorded on the SCR.

If risk assessments are conducted to assess whether a volunteer should be subject to an enhanced DBS check, the risk assessment will be recorded.

The DSL and Chair of Governors review and sign off a printed copy of the SCR on a termly basis.

# 38 Staff suitability

The school will ensure that staff and volunteers are not disqualified under the Childcare (Disqualification) and Childcare (Early Years Provision Free of Charge) (Extended Entitlement) (Amendment) Regulations 2018.

#### A person may be disqualified if they:

- Have certain orders or other restrictions placed upon them.
- Have committed certain offences.

All staff members are required to sign a Staff Disqualification Declaration (Appendix J) to confirm that they are not disqualified from working in a schooling environment.

A disqualified person will not be permitted to continue working at the school, unless they apply for and are granted a waiver from Ofsted. The school will provide support with this process.

# 39 Training

Staff members will undergo safeguarding and child protection training at induction. The induction training will include:

- The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy
- The Behaviour Policy
- The Staff Code of Conduct
- The safeguarding response to children who go missing from education
- The identity of the DSL and any deputies
- The role of the DSL and deputy DSLs

All staff members will also receive regular safeguarding and child protection updates as required, but at least annually. Training will cover, at a minimum:

- The issues surrounding sexual violence and sexual harassment.
- Contextual safeguarding.
- How to keep previously LAC safe.
- Child criminal exploitation and the need to refer cases to the National Referral Mechanism.

Staff will receive opportunities to contribute towards and inform the safeguarding arrangements in the school.

The DSL and deputy DSL will undergo updated child protection training every two years, as well as additional training to refresh their skills and knowledge at regular intervals (at least annually) to allow them to keep up-to-date with any developments relevant to their role.

The DSL and deputy DSL will also undergo biennial Prevent awareness training which will enable them to understand and support the school with regards to the Prevent duty and equip them with the knowledge needed to advise staff.

The DSL and their deputy(s) will undergo online safety training to help them recognise the additional risks that pupils with SEND face online, for example, from online bullying, grooming and radicalisation, to ensure they have the capability to support pupils with SEND to stay safe online

Online basic child protection awareness and extremism awareness (Prevent) training will also be conducted for all paid and volunteer staff members on an annual basis, as part of the overall safeguarding approach. These are accessed from the following websites:

Child Protection: http://york.learningpool.com/login

**Prevent:**: <a href="http://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk">http://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk</a>

### 40 General Safeguarding Procedures

#### 40.1 Creating a safer culture

Members of school staff will always endeavour to act professionally and conduct any relationships with children in a professional manner. No corporal punishment will be threatened or used by staff. Staff will not use or threaten any form of punishments which could have an adverse impact on the child's well-being.

To avoid over-familiarity and to encourage a respectful environment, all adults will address each other formally in the presence of children, i.e. by their title and surname ("Mr ...", "Mrs ..."). Children are expected to address adults in the same way and will be corrected if they refer to an adult by his/her first name.

#### 40.2 Physical intervention and use of force

In our roles as carers we will do our best to comfort and reassure children who are upset, distressed or in difficulty, in an appropriate and professional manner. Physical intervention is rarely needed and will be avoided, unless a child is at immediate risk of hurting him or herself and/or others. It is unrealistic to suggest that staff should never touch pupils and staff have the right to use reasonable force to control or restrain pupils in certain circumstances. 'Reasonable' means 'using no more force than is needed' and the use of force may involve passive physical contact or active physical contact.

Physical intervention is always in accordance with the school's Physical Intervention policy. Staff will receive 'Team-Teach' training and will be expected to apply the training they received in Team-Teach to de-escalate where possible, then use the appropriate holds as practised in the training. However, as a general rule, only the force necessary to stop or prevent danger should be used.

Children who ask or need to be cuddled or comforted will not be pushed away, however, such levels of contact are avoided so that the safety of the child or the integrity of the adult is not compromised and so that a safe culture, with clear boundaries of expected behaviour, is evident at all times.

- A comforting arm or guiding hand may be used for individual child when appropriate.
- The minimum force necessary will be used to control children in extreme circumstances.
- For children who need greater comfort or positive handling, the class teacher or SENCO will liaise
  with the parents to ascertain the appropriate types of comforting and physical contact that a child

needs. These children will be identified by the class teacher or SENCO and communicated to all staff, including visiting and peripatetic teachers.

- Before any physical contact is given, staff will first consider whether it is age/gender appropriate.
- There may be some children for whom physical contact is particularly unwelcome. These children
  will be identified by the class teacher or SENCo and communicated to all staff, including visiting and
  peripatetic teachers.
- We recognise that there may be early years' children or children with SEN who will need physical prompts or help.

#### 40.3 PE and games

Sometimes it will be necessary to help children physically in school, e.g. helping a small child to fasten a trouser button or changing for PE. Where a child cannot perform a task independently, staff will verbalise reasons for actions that could otherwise be misinterpreted or misconstrued, and ensure another adult or child is nearby.

KS2 children do not require help with changing for PE but do require supervision from a distance to maintain order. Girls and boys who wish to change separately will be allowed to do so.

Some physical contact may be necessary to demonstrate exercise or techniques during PE lessons and sport coaching.

#### 40.4 First-aid/medical attention

When children need medical attention, the following guidelines will be followed:

- If a child is on the ground and cannot get up by themselves, adult, preferably a first-aider, will be sent for.
- When appropriate, children will be prompted to clean their own injuries.
- If an injury is on or close to a child's torso, the child will be asked check him/herself to ascertain the extent of the injury. If this is not possible, and privacy is required to protect the child's modesty, the medical room will be used to check the injury, with another adult present.

#### 40.5 Intimate care

When a child needs intimate care that is not already part of a health care plan, two adults will be involved. Depending on the age and maturity of the child, he/she will be encouraged to care for him/herself, with guidance or support from an adult.

Should the child be unable to clean him/herself appropriately, the parents may be contacted and asked to come to school and assist their child. If appropriate, the child may need to be taken home to be made comfortable.

#### 40.6 Children who are not collected from school at the end of the day.

KS2 pupils are regularly reminded by their teachers that if they are not collected at the end of the day as anticipated, that they should return to their teacher and ask for help. The procedure for this is as follows:

- The child will be taken to the school office by the teacher.
- The teacher and/or office staff will contact parents/carers.

- If parents/carers cannot be contacted, the emergency contact will be used.
- The child will be made comfortable and supervised by the teacher until collection, and if that is not possible, the teacher will designate a named adult to take over responsibility for the child until collection.
- The child will not be left entirely alone without knowing where the named person is, in school, while waiting.
- If it is felt by school staff that the collecting adult is not able to look after the child (and therefore the child is at risk) staff should seek advice from the DSL or Deputy DSL the deputy DSL and/or MASH (01904 551900).
- If neither the parents/carers or the emergency details can be contacted, advice should be sought from the MASH.
- All FS and KS1 pupils are handed over directly to an adult and if not collected, the procedure above is followed.

#### 40.7 Educational visits

The suitability of residential accommodation will be checked before and during use. Adequate levels of supervision are provided for pupils who may pose a risk to other pupils during school visits and off-site activities.

# 41 Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed annually by the DSL and the governing body.

Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff.

All members of staff are required to familiarise themselves with all processes and procedures outlined in this policy as part of their induction programme.

#### 42 Contacts and advice

#### **Expert organisations**

- Barnardo's
- Lucy Faithfull Foundation
- NSPCC
- Rape Crisis
- University of Bedfordshire: Contextual Safeguarding
- UK Safer Internet Centre

#### Support for victims

- Anti-Bullying Alliance
- MoJ Victim Support
- Rape Crisis

- The Survivor's Trust
- Victim Support

#### **Toolkits**

- Brook
- NSPCC
- Safeguarding Unit, Farrer and Co, and Carlene Firmin, MBE, University of Bedfordshire

#### Further information on confidentiality and information sharing

- Gillick Competency Fraser Guidelines
- Government Information Sharing Advice
- Information Commissioner's Office: Education
- NSPCC: Things to Know and Consider

#### Further information on sexting

- UK Council for Child Internet Safety: Sexting Advice
- London Grid for Learning Collection of Advice

#### **Support for parents**

- Parentzone
- Parentsafe London Grid for Learning
- CEOP Thinkuknow Challenging Harmful Sexual Attitudes and their Impact
- <u>CEOP Thinkuknow Supporting Positive Sexual Behaviour</u>

# STAFF SAFEGUARDING CHECKLIST - 2020/21

Please complete and return to the School Business Manager

I have read and understood the following key documents:				
Part One of "KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION" (DfE - September 2020)  Lord Deramore's Primary School's SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION POLICY (Rev. September 2020)				
Lord Deramore's Primary School's <b>CODE OF CONDUCT</b> (Rev. September 2020)				
Lord Deramore's Primary School's <b>STAFF HANDBOOK</b> (Rev. September 2020)				
Lord Deramore's Primary School's <b>BEHAVIOUR &amp; RELATIONSHIPS POLICY</b> (Rev. June 2019)				
I have completed the following safeguarding awareness training:				
Basic Child Protection Awareness Training: <a href="http://york.learningpool.com/login">http://york.learningpool.com/login</a> Course title – City of York Safeguarding Children Awareness E-Learning 2019/20  (Certificate of completion to be copied to the school business manager)  If you have difficulty signing up, please speak with the office administrator				
Basic Extremism Awareness Training ("Prevent Duty"):       http://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk     (Certificate of completion to be copied to the school business manager)				

Name	Signature
Role in School	Date

# VISITING TEACHERS/INSTRUCTOR SAFEGUARDING CHECKLIST – 2020/21

Please complete and return to the School Business Manager

I have provided evidence of the following:
Photo ID (passport/driving licence)
DBS clearance Certificate
EL/PL Insurance Certificate (£5,000,000)
Coaching/Teaching Certificate
First Aid Certificate
Risk Assessments relating to the activity I deliver
Reference/Testimonials
I have received, read and understood the following:
Staff handbook (Revised September 2020)
Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy (Revised September 2020)
'Keeping Children Safe in Education Part 1' (DfE, 2020)
Behaviour and Relationship Policy (Revised June 2019)
I have undertaken the online Basic Safeguarding training:
Basic Child Protection Awareness Training:  http://york.learningpool.com/login  Course title – City of York Safeguarding Children Awareness E-Learning 2019/20  (Certificate of completion to be copied to the school business manager)  If you have difficulty signing up, please speak with the office administrator
I consent to photographs in which my image appears being used on the school website and Twitter feed and understand that I can withdraw this consent at any time.
Signed Name
Polo:



# **VOLUNTEER/STUDENT AGREEMENT SAFEGUARDING CHECKLIST – 2020/21**

Please complete and sign this Sheet and hand it in to the School Business Manager at the school office.

	An Enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check has been undertaken				
	I have received and have read and understand the school's Code of Conduct				
	I have received, read and understood the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy				
	I have received, read and understand 'Keeping Children Safe in Education Part 1" (DFE)				
	I have received, read and understood the school's Behaviour and Relationships Policy				
	I have received, read and understand the following Risk Assessments: Manual Handling, Working at Height, Classroom.				
	I have undertaken the online Basic Safeguarding training:				
	Basic <b>Child Protection Awareness</b> Training: <a href="http://york.learningpool.com/login">http://york.learningpool.com/login</a> Course title – City of York Safeguarding Children Awareness E-Learning 2019/20  (Certificate of completion to be copied to the school business manager)  If you have difficulty signing up, please speak with the office administrator				
	I agree to treat information obtained from being a volunteer in school as strictly confidential				
I consent to photographs in which my image appears being used on the school website and Twitter feed and understand that I can withdraw this consent at any time.					
	Signed				
	Name				
	Date				

APPENDIX D

# Disqualification declaration for staff / unsupervised volunteers LORD DERAMORE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, YORK



Name:	F	Position:				
Orders and other restrictions						
Have any orders or other determinations rel	ated to childcare been made in respect	of you?	Yes / No			
Have any orders or other determinations rela	Have any orders or other determinations related to childcare been made in respect of a child in your care?					
Have any orders or other determinations been made which prevent you from being registered in relation to childcare, children's homes or fostering?						
Are there any other relevant orders, restrictions or prohibitions in respect of you as set out in Schedule 1 of the Childcare (Disqualification) and Childcare (Early Years Provision Free of Charge) (Extended Entitlement) (Amendment) Regulations 2018?						
Are you barred from working with children b	y the DBS?		Yes / No			
Are you prohibited from teaching?			Yes / No			
Sį	ecified and statutory offences					
Have you ever been cautioned, reprimande		_				
<ul> <li>Any offence against or involving a c</li> </ul>			Yes / No			
Any violent or sexual offence again:			Yes / No			
Any offence under The Sexual Offe	nces Act 2003?		Yes / No			
Any other relevant offence?			Yes / No			
Have you ever been cautioned, reprimanded for or convicted of a similar offence in another country?						
	Provision of information					
If you have answered yes to any of the	questions above, provide details belov	w. You may provide thi	s information			
separately, but you must do so without delay.						
Details of the order restriction, conviction or	caution:					
The date(s) of the above:						
The relevant court(s) or body/bodies):						
You should also provide a copy of the relevant order, caution, conviction, etc. In relation to cautions/convictions, a DBS Certificate may be provided.  Please return this form in a sealed envelope to the school business manager						
	Declaration					
<ul> <li>In signing this form, I confirm that the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge and that:</li> <li>I understand my responsibilities to safeguard children.</li> <li>I understand that I must notify my headteacher immediately of anything that affects my suitability to work within the school. This includes any cautions, warnings, convictions, orders or other determinations made in respect of me that would render me disqualified from working with children.</li> </ul>						
Signed:	- <u>J</u>					
Print name:						
Date:						

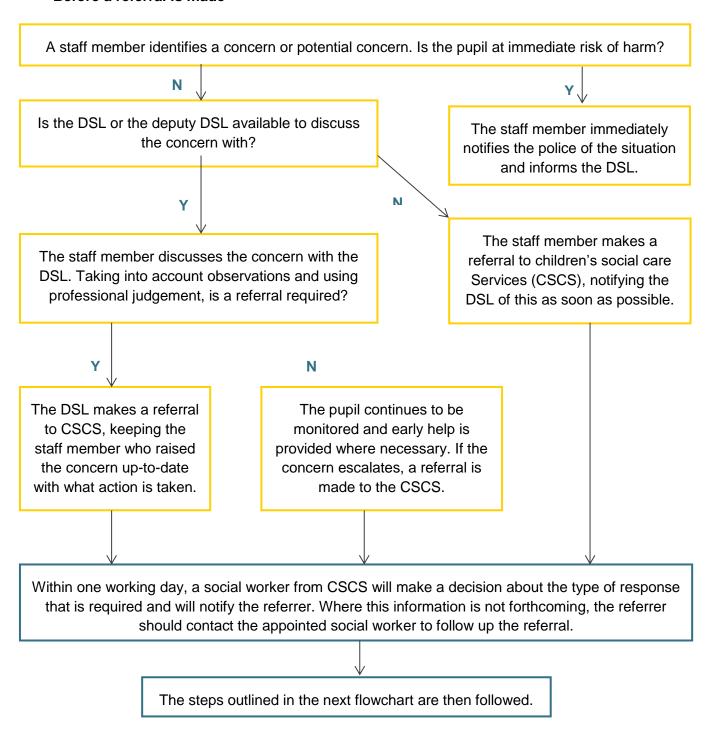
# **Safeguarding Reporting Process**

#### **APPENDIX E**

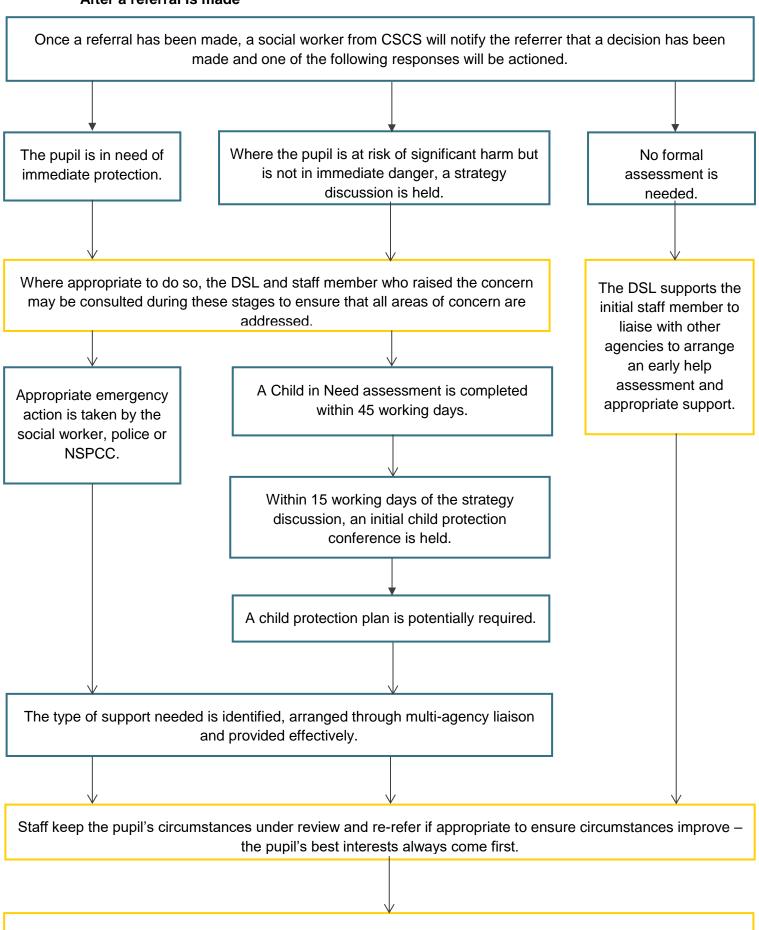
The process outlined within the first section should be followed where a staff member has a safeguarding concern about a child. Where a referral has been made, the process outlined in the 'After a referral is made' section should be followed.

The actions taken by the school are outlined in yellow, whereas actions taken by another agency are outlined in blue.

Before a referral is made



#### After a referral is made



If the child's situation does not appear to be improving, the DSL should press for re-consideration to ensure their concerns have been addressed and, most importantly, that the child's situation improves.

# **APPENDIX M**