The Key > Safeguarding



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# Today we'll learn

about...

The Key > Safeguarding

Why safeguarding should be everyone's focus

How we can all act in our pupils' best interests

The 4 main types of abuse and signs to look out for

Specific safeguarding issues you might see in our school

# Why safeguarding is so important

Video

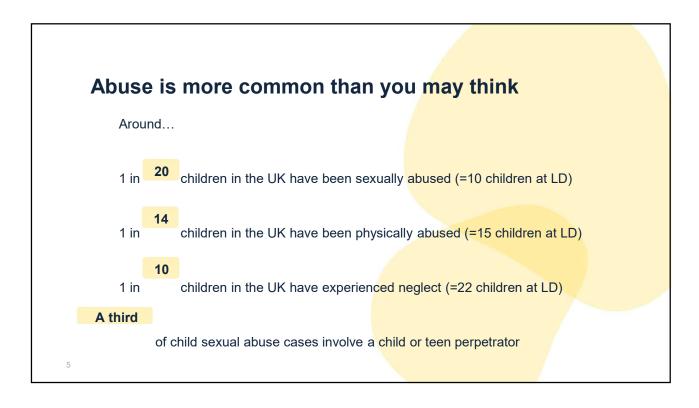


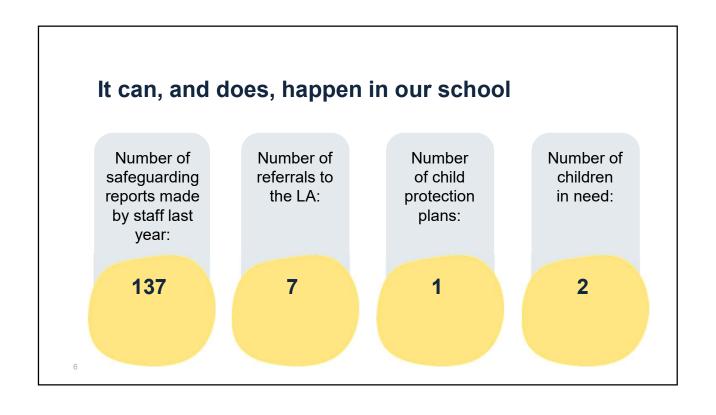


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Why safeguarding should be everyone's focus





# Safeguarding concerns 2022/23 at Lord Deramore's

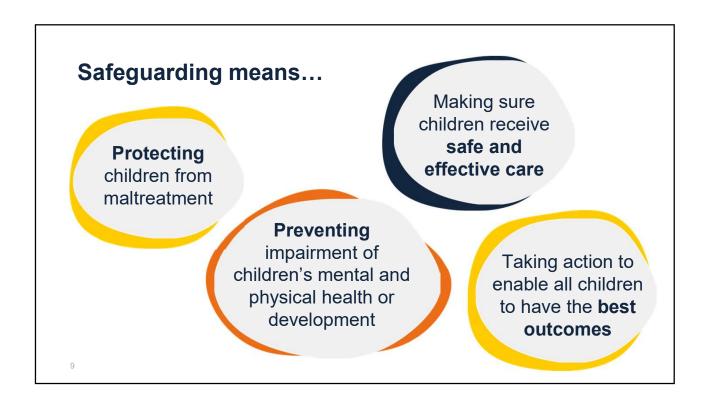
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### Our most common safeguarding issues

- Children who are absent from education (formerly known as 'Children Missing in Education')
- Domestic violence (10 'Operation Encompass' notifications last year)
- · Online safety
- Low mood / SEMH

## And in our local area / demographic

- County Lines (a significant issue in North Yorkshire)
- Female Genital Mutilation (internationally diverse intake)



### Changes to Keeping Children Safe in Education and what they mean for you...

- There haven't been a lot of changes this year
- But there's a...
  - 1. New emphasis on filtering and monitoring systems
  - Clearer distinction between children who are absent from education vs. children missing education



### Filtering and monitoring systems: FAQs

### What are they?

They provide a safe environment to learn and work by protecting pupils and staff from harmful and inappropriate content online. What's seen to be harmful will depend on each pupil.

What's my role?

### All staff need to:

- · Follow policies and procedures
- Report any problems
- Monitor what's happening on screens



### Filtering and monitoring systems: FAQs

### Who's responsible for our system and procedures?

Our...

- · DSL takes lead responsibility for filtering and monitoring reports and any safeguarding concerns that appear or are reported
- SLT and Mark Richards (ICT lead) team makes sure staff understand their roles, reviews the effectiveness of our systems, provides guidance and oversees reports
- IT service provider (North/CYC) has technical responsibility for maintaining and managing our system



# **CYC / North Internet Filtering Information**

City of York Council schools internet provision currently utilises the Smoothwall filtering solution. This is a comprehensive filtering platform using dynamic and group based filtering including new requirements around child safety/anti radicalisation. It is designed to protect schools and academies from inappropriate on-line content, as well as meeting or exceeding the current compliance and recommended safeguarding children legislation. Detailed alerts and reporting are configured to alert the Authority help-desk of an incident at a school, enabling a fast response to ensure children's safety.

The filtering system forms part and parcel of your current internet provision, so much so that you would be unable to access the internet via the school connection without passing through this filtering. CYC/North do not provide unfiltered internet access to any schools or CYC buildings.



Remember - things do 'slip through the net'!

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### Filtering and monitoring systems: FAQs

### When should I report a problem? How do I do this?

Speak with James, Mark or Kat straight away. Log details on CPOMS if it involves a child - including site, context of search, how parents have been informed, follow up actions.

Where should I go if I need to remind myself of this information?

You can find these details in our child protection policy.



# Reporting child sexual abuse: legislation changes

- The government is currently considering changes to legislation around reporting child sexual abuse
- If these changes are approved, there will be legal implications for not reporting suspected cases of abuse
- You must report any signs of possible sexual abuse to your DSL immediately
- Always be alert for signs of child sexual abuse

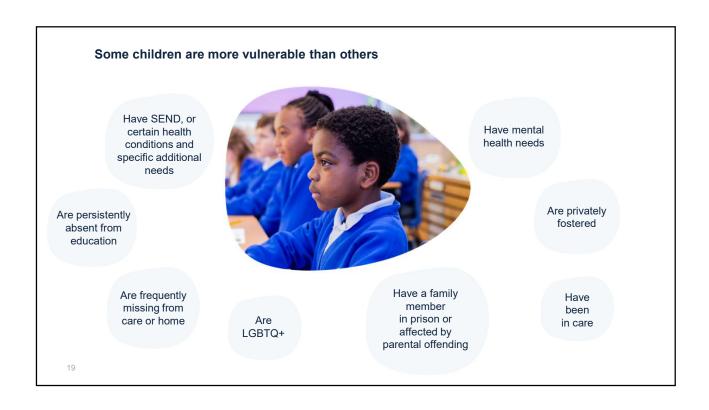
If we're doing our jobs as we should, this change in legislation shouldn't change a thing about what we're doing!

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# Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility Catering staff Office staff Teachers









### Be even more alert to our... Children with SEND

They can be more vulnerable because they might:

- · Rely on others more, or be more innocent or trusting
- · Find it harder to tell someone about their abuse
- Be less likely to understand their experiences abuse
- · Be more prone to isolation or bullying

Signs of abuse might also be missed or dismissed



Always use professional curiosity: think 'why' or 'what might be going on here?'



Be even more alert to our... Children who are LGBTQ+

They can be more vulnerable because they might:

- · Be a more likely target for bullying
- Be at higher risk of homophobic, biphobic or transphobic hate crimes
- Feel different and isolated from their peers
- · Not have a trusted adult to talk to about their identity

Pupils who may be **perceived** to be LGBTQ+ share the same risk factors as those who **are** LGBTQ+



# Key points about why safeguarding should be everyone's focus

- Safeguarding means making sure children grow up safe, happy and healthy
- · Always assume 'it could happen here'
- We all have a role to play in safeguarding children
- Be alert to **changes** in a child
- All children are vulnerable, but some are more vulnerable than others
- The safeguarding team is here to listen to any concerns you have



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How we can all act in our pupils' best interests



# Do... Listen fully, be supportive, take the child seriously Let the child lead the conversation Reassure the child that they're not in trouble and will be kept safe Ask open questions Reflect back what they're saying Be clear about what you'll do next Don't... Give the child the impression they're creating a problem Make promises about keeping things confidential Make further investigations yourself Become distracted by taking notes



# Charlie's experience: what can you remember now?

**Practical activity** 



Time for activity: 3 minutes



What to do: write down what you remember about what Charlie said on page 1 of your activity pack

### What a good report looks like

Date: 18 September 2023

Time: 2.00pm

Charlie T was reluctant to leave the classroom at 12.30pm for lunchtime today, and stayed behind when everyone else went off to the hall.

I asked her if she was okay and she asked if she could talk to me about something that was worrying her. I said that she could and we sat down together.

She told me she was worried about herself and her little sister. She explained that her dad isn't around and mum is often out the house. When mum is home, she's often "drinking or watching TV or sleeping". She sometimes cooks for Charlie and her sister but "sometimes forgets", and "usually shouts" if Charlie or her sister ask for anything.

Charlie said she's tried to make dinner for herself and her sister, but isn't confident using the oven so they end up "just having sandwiches or crisps".

She said that mum sometimes has friends over and Charlie doesn't "like them much" because mum acts "so weird" when they're around.

She's happy she has her sister, and says she'd feel "so alone" without her.

# How to write a robust safeguarding report every time

✓ Think who, what, where and when

Include as much detail as possible, including the child's own words

Stick to the facts

✓ Make the report as soon as possible

"Charlie T was reluctant to leave the classroom at 12.30pm"

Charlie doesn't "like them much" because mum acts "so weird" when they're around

She sometimes cooks for Charlie and her sister but "sometimes forgets", and "usually shouts" if Charlie or her sister ask for anything

Date: 18 September 2023

Time: 2.00pm

# Always report any concerns you have

Report safeguarding concerns to the DSL (or deputy) by:

 CPOMS (remember to alert phase leads, colleagues and, if significant, DSL/HT)

Remember: you must ensure correct categories are logged for all CPOM entries

Remember: data protection is not a barrier to sharing safeguarding concerns

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# What happens after you make a report You have a concern / a child tells you about abuse You report it to the DSL / deputy If the child is in immediate danger and the DSL/deputy isn't available: Make a referral to LA children's social care: 01904 551900 Call the police if appropriate: 111 or 999 Further support within school Referral to children's social care

# Share any concerns about other members of staff

If you have concerns about	Speak to
A member of staff	Headteacher
A volunteer	Headteacher
The headteacher	Chair of governors



If there's a conflict of interest in reporting to the headteacher, go to the LADO: Michelle Turner - 01904 551783 or lado@york.gov.uk

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# Act on 'nagging doubts' too

Low-level concerns include behaviour that's:

Inadvertent or thoughtless

Inappropriate for the circumstances

Ultimately intended to enable abuse

Report low-level concerns in writing by:

 Speaking with James (HT/DSL) or, if appropriate SLT member. Followed by writing via <a href="head.ld@york.gov.uk">head.ld@york.gov.uk</a>

# Low-level concern: yes or no?

Practical activity

Working 1-to-1 with a pupil in a private room with a closed door

Yes

Being 'friends' with pupils on social media

Yes

Recording a video of pupils on their personal phone

Yes

Forgetting to check on a group of pupils doing an activity outside the classroom

Reacting to a child's behaviour in a sharp or angry manner

Yes

Using physical handling when it isn't the last resort

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# Report concerns about our safeguarding practice

Speak to Sue Perutz (safeguarding link governor) or Caroline Wood (CYC safeguarding adviser)

Otherwise, use the NSPCC helpline on:

- 0800 028 0285 (8am to 8pm, Monday to Friday; 9am to 6pm, weekends)
- help@nspcc.org.uk



Yes

# Key points about how we can all act in our pupils' best interests

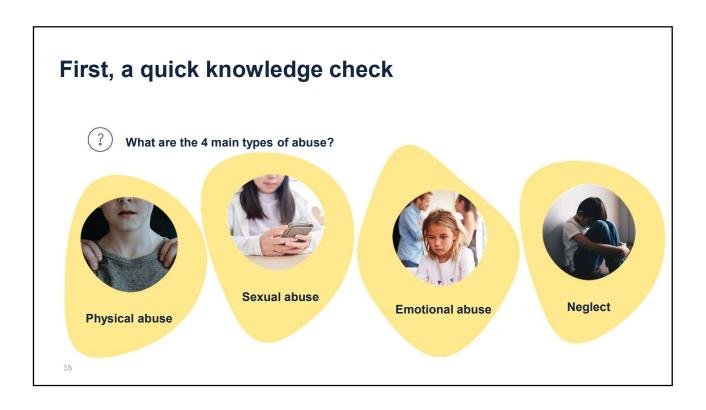
- Take a child seriously if they tell you about abuse they've experienced.
   Reassure them they'll be kept safe
- Be alert to children trying to communicate abuse in other, more indirect ways
- Always report any concern you have no matter how small immediately



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The 4 main types of abuse and signs to look out for



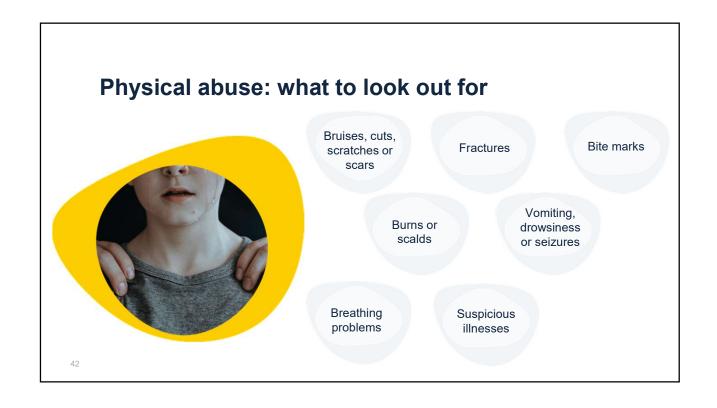


# Neglect and the cost-of-living crisis

- More families than ever are feeling the pinch of the cost of living
- More than 1 in 4 children are now living in poverty
- 54% of parents/carers have had to cut back on food spending in the last year
- 1 in 5 parents/carers are struggling to provide enough food for their children



Poverty and financial hardship are not the same as neglect – but they do increase the risk of experiencing neglect



### Emotional abuse: what to look out for

Behaviour, language or knowledge you wouldn't expect for their age

Outbursts

Isolation from parents or carers Negative interactions with parents or carers

Lacking social skills or friends Low self-esteem or self-confidence

Trying to make people dislike them

Language development issues



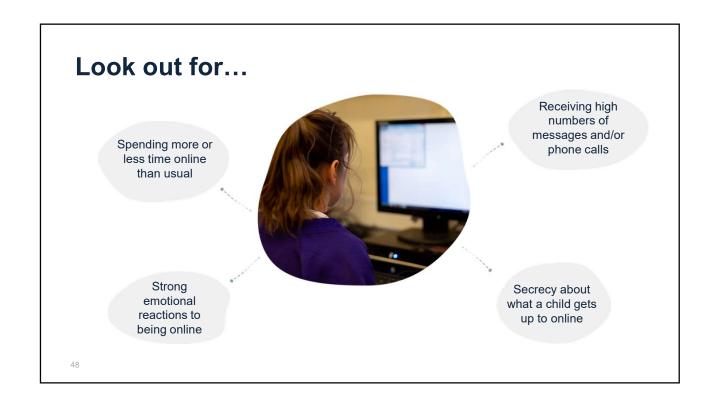
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### Sexual abuse: what to look out for Poor personal Difficulty sitting Marks and hygiene bruises Fear of, or Needing avoiding, Sexually the toilet a particular inappropriate a lot person behaviour **Dropping hints** or mentioning Secretive online Pregnancy 'secrets' behaviour and STIs









# Let's put it into practice

Practical activity



Time for activity: 5 minutes



### What to do:

- Read your group's scenario (on page 1 or 2 of your activity pack)
- · Discuss whether there are signs of abuse, and if so, what kind
- · Write down your thoughts on page 2 of your activity pack
- · Refer to the list of indicators on pages 2 and 3 of your activity pack if you need to
- · Think about whether there are any other factors at play
- · If you have time, look at the other scenario too

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### Let's put it into practice

Practical activity





We can all spot possible signs of abuse. You should always report these to James (HT/DSL) or Rachel/Jane (DDSL) who will investigate further.

# Key points about the 4 main types of abuse

- The 4 main types of abuse are neglect, physical, emotional and sexual
- In most cases, multiple issues will overlap with each other
- The cost-of-living crisis has put more children than ever into poverty this increases
  the risk of neglect, but is not the same as neglect
- The crucial thing is to be able to spot that something might be wrong and act on it by reporting your concerns



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Specific safeguarding issues you might see in our school



Safeguarding issue 2: county lines

### County lines: what they are, and what to look for

- A form of criminal exploitation where children are forced to store and/or transport illegal drugs
- Children are groomed in person or online (e.g. through social media gang 'influencers') and then threatened into staying
- · Children are usually contacted through cheap 'burner' phones with instructions
- Look out for children:
  - Regularly changing phones and/or having very simple, 'old-fashioned' phones
  - Receiving excessive texts or calls
  - · Having money, clothes, accessories etc. that you wouldn't expect them to be able to afford
  - · Going missing and turning up in areas away from home

Safeguarding issue 4: child-on-child abuse

# Child-on-child abuse: assume it's happening here

- Act immediately on any concerns or reports
- Reassure the child they'll be supported and kept safe
- Don't dismiss or downplay any reports
- consider the needs of the perpetrator too

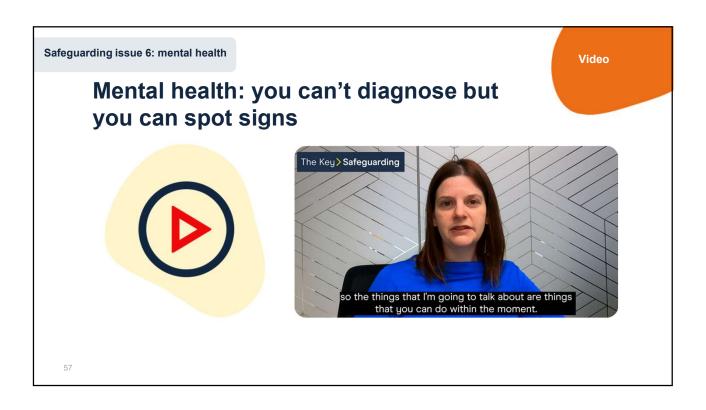
Child-on-child can include bullying, sexual harassment, derogatory language/behaviour, inappropriate sexual actions

IT DOES HAPPEN HERE

\_\_\_









### Act on attendance before children become missing from education

KCSIE has been updated for 2023 with a clearer distinction between

Children absent from education and

Children missing education

our unauthorised absence procedures are:

First day communication by 9.30am. HT/SLT monitoring of ongoing absence. Home visits as necessary

our children missing education procedures are:

Managed by the school office team. Clear protocols in place for joiners and leavers.

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### Your duty to report female genital mutilation

For **known cases** of female genital mutilation (FGM)! 101

- Say you're making a report under the FGM mandatory reporting duty
- Have information about the DSL's contact details and the girl's age and address to hand, as well as your own contact information and available hours
- Take note of the **reference number** you're given

Remember: girls might use terms like 'cut' to tell you what's happened

# Your duty to help prevent children being drawn into terrorism

All staff have a role to play. For you, this duty means:

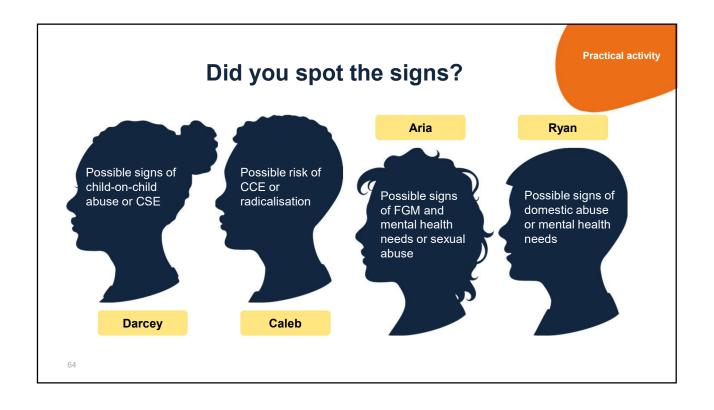
- Spotting signs a child is susceptible to an extremist ideology or being drawn into terrorism
- · Reporting what you've seen
- Challenging extremist ideas



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### More safeguarding issues you should be aware of Child abduction Bullying, including Children and the Children missing and community cyber-bullying court system from home or care safety incidents Children with Fabricated or Forced marriage Faith-based abuse family members Drugs induced illness in prison Honour-based Homelessness Modern slavery Private fostering abuse 62

# Let's practise spotting safeguarding issues Time: 5 minutes What to do: Read your group's scenario – see page 5 of your activity pack Discuss whether there are any signs of safeguarding issues and, if so, what kind(s) Write down your thoughts on page 5 of your activity pack If you have time, look at the other scenarios too



# Key points about specific safeguarding issues to be aware of

- To effectively safeguard children, you need to know about safeguarding issues beyond the 4 main types of abuse
- Make sure you understand the issues in Annex B of KCSIE
- · Remember your duties related to FGM and Prevent
- You don't need to identify exactly what the issue is, just spot signs that something might be wrong



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### Key takeaways from today's training

- Always assume 'it could happen here' and be professionally curious
- Always act in the child's best interests, including alleged perpetrators
- Be on the lookout for signs of abuse, and in particular, for changes in a child
- If you see something, say something including concerns about staff and our safeguarding practice
- Always make a written record too ensure CPOMS is used correctly



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Young Minds, Money and mental health

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