Welburn Hall School

Headteacher: Mrs M Best

Child Protection Policy

November 2017

(to be read in conjunction with 'Safeguarding Guide', WHS May 2017)

Review period: Annual
Next review due: Autumn term 2018

As a minimum, this policy is reviewed annually by the Governing Body. However, minor amendments may be made in the interim in response to developments in legislation, guidance, national policy or best practice. In such circumstances, the Governing Body will be informed and advised by the Head of Care.

Named personnel with designated responsibility for Child Protection

Academic year	Designated Safeguarding Lead	Other Safeguarding Team Members	Nominated Governor	Co-Chairs of Governors
2017/2018	Niall Hayton	Sarah Barker Anne Lealman Marianne Best	Rev Alan Payne	Rev Alan Payne Dr Susan Morgan

Policy Review dates

Reviewed	Changes made	By whom	Date Shared with staff
Nov 2017	Updated in regard to fresh guidance and a new NYCC sample policy, (amended to suit WHS).	N Hayton	tbc
Sept 2016	Amended to include recent training.	N Hayton	n/a
Feb 2016	Amended to reflect change in Headteacher.	N Hayton	Feb 2016
Oct 2015	NYCC amendments addressed.	N Hayton	Feb 2016
Dec 2014	Re-structure to accommodate NYCC amendments.	N Hayton	Dec 2014
Nov 2014	No amendments from NYCC, review did not identify a need for alteration.	N. Hayton	Dec 2013

Dates of Staff Training and details of course title and training provider

Whole School	Niall Hayton Designated Safeguarding Lead	Marianne Best Safeguarding Team Member	Sarah Barker Safeguarding Team Member	Anne Lealman Safeguarding Team Member
29th October 2017: *'Introduction to Safeguarding Children'*, North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board; (online, certificated).	21st March 2018: **Designated Senior Person** NYCC – Level 2 Comprehensive Children Protection Pathway	5th May 2016, Safer Recruitment, NYCC *LADO, S Crawford.*	5th May 2016, Safer Recruitment, NYCC *LADO, S Crawford.*	21st November 2017, Safer Recruitment, NYCC *NYSCB*
7th September 2016, *'Safeguarding Report to Staff'*, Internal Training; *N Hayton.*	12th September 2016: "The Toxic Trio", *(drugs, domestic abuse & mental health), NYSCB.*	11th December 2017: **Designated Senior Person** NYCC – Level 2 Comprehensive Children Protection Pathway	11th December 2017: **Designated Senior Person** NYCC – Level 2 Comprehensive Children Protection Pathway	11th December 2017: **Designated Senior Person** NYCC – Level 2 Comprehensive Children Protection Pathway
11th April 2016 *'Safeguarding'*, Internal Training Marianne Best	5th May 2016, Safer Recruitment, NYCC *LADO, S Crawford.*			
11th April 2016 *'PREVENT'*, NYCC Rebecca Mason	15th July 2014 NYCC Training: **'Safeguarding the Children in your School'.** *(NYCC LADOs K Lewis & D Peat)*			

Cath McGill Safeguarding Team Member - Suspended pending training	Rev. Alan Payne Safeguarding Governor
21st March 2018: **Designated Senior Person** NYCC – Level 2 Comprehensive Children Protection Pathway	**11th December 2017:** **Designated Senior Person** NYCC – Level 2 Comprehensive Children Protection Pathway
5th May 2016, Safer Recruitment, NYCC *LADO,* *S Crawford.*	
21st September 2015: 'New to **the Role of Designated** **Officer".** *(Reading Borough Council* *Workforce Development).*	

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

This policy updates the LA Sample policy issued Sept 2016 and is in line with:

- ☐ Sections 175 of the Education Act 2002 and Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014.
- ☐ North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board (NYSCB) Child Protection Procedures and Practice Guidance www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk;
- ☐ *Working Together To Safeguard Children* HM Government 2015 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2
- ☐ *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSiE) DfE 2016 https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2
- • School's duty under the Children Act 2004, to co-operate with other organisations and agencies.
- ☐ *What To Do If You Are Worried A Child is Being Abused* 2015
- ☐ Recommendations from national and local Serious Case Reviews
- • *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage Section 3 – The Safeguarding And Welfare Requirements* March 2017

This policy applies to all adults, including volunteers, working in or on behalf of the school.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is **everyone's** responsibility. **Everyone** who comes into contact with children and their families and carers has a role to play in safeguarding children. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all professionals should make sure their approach is child-centred. This means that they should consider, at all times, what is in the **best interests** of the child.
Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE) DfE 2016

Safeguarding includes the establishment and implementation of procedures to protect children from deliberate harm, however, safeguarding also encompasses all aspects of pupils' health, and safety and well-being (see Appendix K Related school safeguarding policies)

School Commitment

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is **Marianne Best.**

The other members of the Safeguarding Team are: **Catherine Barr, Sarah Barker and Anne Lealman.**

Welburn Hall School is committed to Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of all of its pupils. Each pupil's welfare is of paramount importance. We recognise that some children *may* be especially vulnerable to abuse e.g. those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (ref. KCSiE para 85), those living in adverse circumstances. We recognise that children who are abused or neglected may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth and to view the world in a positive way. Whilst at school, their behaviour may be challenging. We recognise that some children who have experienced abuse may harm others. We will always take a considered and sensitive approach in order that we can support all of our pupils.

Roles & Responsibilities

The Governing Body ensure that:

- the school complies with the Local Authority's arrangements to promote co-operation between itself, the school and relevant partners and organisations who are engaged in activities relating to children
- ☐ the school contributes to inter-agency working in line with statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children
- ☐ there is a clear accountability for the commissioning and / or provision of services designed to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- there is a senior board level lead to take leadership responsibility for the school's safeguarding arrangements (nominated governor)
- ☐ the school has a child protection policy and procedures in place which are provided to and read by all staff, including temporary staff and volunteers, on induction. These are in accordance with government guidance and refer to locally agreed inter-agency procedures put in place by the NYSCB, are updated annually, and available publicly either via the school or college website or by other means
- ☐ all staff read at least part one and Annex A of KCSiE 2016
- ☐ mechanisms are in place to assist staff to understand and discharge their role and responsibilities as set out in Part one of KCSiE 2016.
- ☐ all staff undertake appropriate child protection training
- a senior member of the school's leadership team is designated to take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (Designated Safeguarding Lead). This is explicit in the DSL's job description (Annex B KCSiE) and the need for a deputy DSL is reviewed
- the DSL has the appropriate authority and the time, funding, training, resources and support to provide advice and support to other staff on child welfare and child protection matters, to take part in strategy discussions and inter-agency meetings – and/or to support other staff to do so – and to contribute to the assessment of children

- ☐ information regarding the role of the DSL is provided to all staff and volunteers on induction
- ☐ a designated teacher is appointed to promote the educational achievement of children who are looked after and this person has appropriate training
- ☐ staff have the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to keep looked after children safe
- • appropriate staff have the information they need in relation to a child's looked after legal status
- ☐ the school prevents people who pose a risk of harm from working with children by adhering to statutory responsibilities to check staff who work with children, taking proportionate decisions on whether to ask for any checks beyond what is required and ensuring volunteers are appropriately supervised
- ☐ the school has written recruitment and selection policies and procedures in place
- ☐ at least one person on any appointment panel has undertaken safer recruitment training
- ☐ the school has a staff behaviour policy (code of conduct) which should amongst other things include acceptable use of technologies, staff/pupil relationships and communications including the use of social media. This is provided to all staff, including temporary staff and volunteers, on induction
- • staff and governors adhere to the school's policy on acceptable use of technologies and communication using technologies. Updated guidance http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/online-safety includes a model acceptable use policy for staff and governors to sign
- ☐ the school has a code of conduct for governors https://www.nga.org.uk/codeofconduct2017
- ☐ the school has procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse against staff and volunteers that comply with guidance from Appendix A of the NYSCB and locally agreed inter- agency procedures
- ☐ the chair of governors liaises with the LADO and/or partner agencies in the event of allegations of abuse being made against the head teacher
- ☐ there are procedures in place to make a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) if a person in regulated activity has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns, or would have been had they not resigned
- ☐ children are taught about safeguarding, including online, through teaching and learning opportunities, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum. This may include covering relevant issues through personal, social health and economic education (PSHE), and/or through relationships and sex education (RSE)
- ☐ children are safeguarded from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material. Ref KCSiE Annex C
- • appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place so children are safeguarded from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material being careful that "over blocking" does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what children can be taught with regards to online teaching and

safeguarding (Ref KCSiE para 67, 69). UKCCIS Online safety for schools and colleges
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/562876/Guidance_for_School_Governors_-_Question_list.pdf

- All staff and governors recognise that children may abuse their peers, and that this should not be tolerated or passed off as 'banter' or 'part of growing up. Any allegations of peer abuse and concerns about youth produced sexual imagery, (sexting,) must be reported to the DSL and NYSCB guidance and procedures must be followed. A policy and procedures are in place with regards to peer on peer abuse and followed by all staff (ref KCSiE paras 76-78)
- ☐ the school has due regard to the duties to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism
- ☐ all staff understand the risk factors regarding female genital mutilation and known cases are reported
- appropriate safeguarding responses are in place to children who go missing from education ref KCSiE para 51 including the statutory duty to notify the LA, as appropriate, when a pupil's name is about to be deleted from the school admission register.
- ☐ where services or activities are provided on the school premises by another body, the body concerned has appropriate policies and procedures in place in regard to safeguarding children and child protection and liaises with the school on these matters where appropriate.
- there is an annual review of policies and procedures and the NYSCB Schools' Safeguarding Audit is completed
- ☐ any deficiencies or weaknesses regarding child protection arrangements, whenever identified, are remedied without delay
- when there is a safeguarding concern the child's wishes and feelings are taken into account when determining what action to take
- ☐ staff are aware that children with SEN and disabilities can face additional safeguarding challenges and additional barriers can exist when recognising abuse and neglect in this group of children

The Headteacher should ensure that:

- ☐ the policies and procedures adopted by the Governing Body, particularly concerning referrals of cases of suspected abuse and neglect, are fully implemented and followed by all staff
- ☐ they liaise with the LADO and partner agencies in the event of allegations of abuse being made against a member of staff or volunteer
- ☐ they receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training which is regularly updated

The Designated Safeguarding Lead

DSL, (formerly referred to as DSP) will:

Manage referrals

- Refer cases of suspected abuse to the local authority children's social care as required;
- Support staff who make referrals to local authority children's social care;
- If after a referral the child's situation does not appear to be improving the DSL (or the person that made the referral) should press for re- consideration to ensure their concerns have been addressed and, most importantly, that the child's situation improves;
- ☐ Refer cases to the Channel programme where there is a radicalisation concern as required;
- ☐ Support staff who make referrals to the Channel programme;
- ☐ Report cases of prejudice, hate based incidents or hate crimes to the Local Authority through the online reporting system. Hate crimes should also be reported to the police;
- ☐ Refer cases where a person is dismissed or left due to risk/harm to a child to the Disclosure and Barring Service as required; and
- ☐ Refer cases where a crime may have been committed to the Police as required

Work with others

- ☐ Liaise with the Headteacher to inform them of issues especially ongoing enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police investigations;
- For Looked-After children have available the details of the child's social worker and the name of the virtual school head in the authority that looks after the child
- As required, liaise with the "case manager" (as per KCSiE Part four) and the LADO for child protection concerns (all cases which concern a staff member); and
- ☐ Liaise with staff on matters of safety and safeguarding and when deciding whether to make a referral by liaising with relevant agencies. Act as a source of support, advice and expertise for staff.

Undertake training

- ☐ Undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role. This training should be updated at least every two years.
- ☐ Undertake Prevent awareness training.
- ☐ Refresh their knowledge and skills (this might be via e-bulletins, meeting other DSLs, or simply taking time to read and digest safeguarding developments) at

regular intervals, as required, but at least annually, to allow them to understand and keep up with any developments relevant to their role so they:

- ☐ Understand the assessment process for providing early help and intervention, for example through locally agreed common and shared assessment processes such as early help assessments;
- ☐ Have a working knowledge of how local authorities conduct a child protection case conference and a child protection review conference and be able to attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so;
- • Ensure each member of staff has access to and understands the school's child protection policy and procedures, especially new and part time staff;
- ☐ Are alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and young carers;
- ☐ Are able to keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of concerns and referrals;
- ☐ Understand and support the school or college with regards to the requirements of the Prevent duty, including online safety and are able to provide advice and support to staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation
- ☐ Obtain access to resources and attend any relevant or refresher training courses;
- ☐ Encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings, among all staff, in any measures the school or college may put in place to protect them.

Raise Awareness

- • Ensure the school's child protection policies are known, understood and used appropriately
- ☐ Ensure the school child protection policy is reviewed annually (as a minimum) and the procedures and implementation are updated and reviewed regularly, and work with governing body regarding this
- ☐ Ensure the child protection policy is available publicly and parents are aware of the fact that referrals about suspected abuse or neglect may be made and the role of the school or college in this; and
- ☐ Link with the NYSCB to make sure staff are aware of training opportunities and the latest local policies on safeguarding.

Child protection file

- ☐ Where children leave the school or college ensure their child protection file is transferred to the new school or college as soon as possible. This should be transferred separately from the main pupil file, ensuring secure transit and confirmation of receipt should be obtained
- • Ensure that CP records are retained until the young person's 25th birthday if the school is the final school. School must have regard to any other requirement requiring longer retention period: The current requirement under IICSA

(Independent Inquiry into Child Sex Abuse) is that records of child sex abuse should be retained for the period of the inquiry.
Please see details *https://www.iicsa.org.uk/letter-to-local-authority-ceos*

☐ Ensure that, if a child goes missing or leaves to be educated at home, the child protection file is forwarded to the Safeguarding Unit Manager, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE ensuring secure transit and obtaining confirmation of receipt.

- Ensure that the key worker in Prevention Service or Children's Social Care is informed where the child leaves the school.

Availability

- During term time always be available for staff in the school, college and residential setting to discuss any safeguarding concerns. Whilst ideally the DSL would be expected to be available in person, Welburn Hall's 'Safeguarding Team' approach means that the Headteacher and Head of Education are also able to provide advice. In exceptional circumstances, when only the DSL can address issues, they may be contacted off shift by phone.

☐ Out of normal hours, particularly during residential time, the senior member of staff on-call will be available at any time to provide advice or assistance in regard to safeguarding matters.

☐ In addition to the DSL, there will be at least three other members of the Safeguarding Team trained to the same minimum level.

☐ Whilst the activities of the DSL can be delegated to appropriately trained persons, the ultimate **lead responsibility** for safeguarding and child protection, as set out above, remains with the DSL. This responsibility cannot be delegated.

All staff and volunteers should:

☐ read at least part one and Annex A of KCSiE 2016 and, in particular, will:

1. have due regard to the duty to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism; report known cases of female genital mutilation and follow procedures when a child goes missing from education
2. where there are concerns about another staff member, refer these concerns to the Headteacher/principal
3. where there are concerns about the Headteacher or principal, refer these concerns to the chair of governors or LADO where the Headteacher is also the sole proprietor
4. raise concerns about poor or unsafe practices and potential failures in the school's safeguarding regime
5. be aware of systems within their school or college which support safeguarding. These should be explained to them as part of staff induction. This includes: the school's child protection policy; the school's staff code of conduct, the document: '*Guidance for Safer Working Practice for those*

working with Children and Young People in Education Settings' ; and the identity and role of the DSL.

- ☐ receive appropriate child protection training which is regularly updated
- ☐ receive safeguarding and child protection updates (for example, via email, e-bulletins and staff meetings), as required, but at least annually, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively.
- ☐ be aware of the signs of abuse and neglect so that they are able to identify cases of children who may be in need of help or protection
- • maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned. When concerned about the welfare of a child, staff members should always act in the **best** interests of the child
- ☐ where there are concerns about a child, raise these with the DSL
- • understand that, whilst anyone can make a referral to Children and Families' Service, the correct school procedure is to report any concerns to the DSL in the first instance. If after a referral the child's situation does not appear to be improving the DSL (or the person that made the referral) should press for re-consideration to ensure their concerns have been addressed and, most importantly, that the child's situation improves.
  NYSCB professional resolution procedure
  http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/professional-resolutions
- • in exceptional circumstances, such as in an emergency or a genuine concern that action has not been taken, speak directly to Children and Families' Service. Where referrals are not made by the DSL inform the DSL as soon as possible, that a referral has been made.

Concerns should always lead to help for the child at some point.

Identifying children & young people who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm

Adults in school are well placed to observe any physical, emotional or behavioural signs which indicate that a child may be suffering significant harm. The relationships between staff, pupils, parents and the public which foster respect, confidence and trust can lead to disclosures of abuse, and/or school staff being alerted to concerns.

Definitions

As in the Children Acts 1989 and 2004, a **child** is anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday.

Abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment of a child.   Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting, by those known to them

or, more rarely, by others (e.g. via the internet). They may be abused by an adult or adults, or another child or children

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

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

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

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

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

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

PROCEDURES

All procedures for staff are contained in the document Safeguarding – A guide for Staff May 2017 (Appendix Q)

All staff and volunteers follow the NYSCB Child Protection Procedures and Practice Guidance www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk which are consistent with *Keeping Children Safe in Education July 2016*; *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015* and *What To Do If You Are Worried A Child is Being Abused 2015*

It is *not* the responsibility of the school staff to investigate or determine the truth of any disclosure or allegation of abuse or neglect. This includes allegations of peer abuse. All staff, however, have a duty to recognise concerns and maintain an open mind. They must not assume that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to a child's disability without further exploration. They must remain alert to the fact that children with SEN and disabilities can be disproportionally impacted by things like bullying- without outwardly showing any signs.

Accordingly all concerns indicating possible abuse or neglect will be recorded and discussed with the DSL (or in their absence with the person who deputises) prior to any discussion with parents.

a) Staff must immediately report:

- any suspicion that a child is injured, marked, or bruised in a way which is not readily attributable to the normal knocks or scrapes received in play
- any explanation given which appears inconsistent or suspicious
- any behaviours which give rise to suspicions that a child may have suffered harm (e.g. significant changes in behaviour, worrying drawings or play)
- any concerns that a child may be suffering from inadequate care, ill treatment, or emotional maltreatment
- any concerns that a child is presenting signs or symptoms of abuse or neglect
- any significant changes in a child's presentation, including non-attendance
- any hint or disclosure of abuse or neglect received from the child, or from any other person, including disclosures of abuse or neglect perpetrated by adults outside of the family or by other children or young people
- any concerns regarding person(s) who may pose a risk to children (e.g. staff in school or person living in a household with children present) including inappropriate behaviour e.g. inappropriate sexual comments; excessive one-to-one attention beyond the requirements of their usual role and responsibilities; or inappropriate sharing of images.
- any concerns relating to peer abuse
- any concerns relating to youth produced sexual imagery (sexting)

b) Responding to Disclosure

Disclosures or information may be received from pupils, parents or other members of the public. Our school recognises that those who disclose such information may do so with difficulty, having chosen carefully to whom they will speak. Accordingly all staff will handle disclosures with sensitivity.

Such information cannot remain confidential and staff will immediately communicate what they have been told to the DSL and make a contemporaneous record. If in doubt about recording requirements staff should discuss with the DSL.

c) Principles

Staff will **not** investigate but will, wherever possible, elicit enough information to pass on to the DSL in order that s/he can make an informed decision of what to do next.

Staff will:
- listen to and take seriously any disclosure or information that a child may be at risk of harm
- try to ensure that the person disclosing does not have to speak to another member of school staff
- clarify the information
- try to keep questions to a minimum and of an 'open' nature e.g. 'Can you tell me what happened ?' rather than 'Did x hit you?'
- not ask leading questions
- try not to show signs of shock, horror or surprise
- not express feelings or judgements regarding any person alleged to have harmed the child
- explain sensitively to the person that they have a responsibility to refer the information to the senior designated person
- reassure and support the person as far as possible
- explain that only those who 'need to know' will be told
- explain what will happen next and that the person will be involved as appropriate and be informed of what action is to be taken

d) Action by the DSL (or other Safeguarding Team member in their absence)

The following actions will be taken where there are concerns about significant harm to **any child, including where there is already an open case to Children's Social Care,** (e.g. Looked after Child)

Following any information raising concern, the DSL will consider:

- any urgent medical needs of the child
- whether to make an enquiry to the Customer Contact Centre 01609 780780 to establish if the child is or has been subject of a Child Protection Plan.
- discussing the matter with other agencies involved with the family
- consulting with appropriate persons e.g. Prevention Service, Children's Social Care ref.   at Appendix C
- the child's wishes and any fears or concerns they may have

Then decide:

- wherever possible, to talk to parents, unless to do so may place a child at risk of significant harm, impede any police investigation and/or place the member of staff or others at risk
- whether to make a referral to Children and Families' Service because a child is suffering or is likely to suffer significant harm and if this needs to be undertaken immediately
  - *OR*
- not to make a referral at this stage
- if further monitoring is necessary
- if it would be appropriate to undertake an assessment (e.g. CAF) and/or make a referral for other services

All information and actions taken, including the reasons for any decisions made, will be fully documented. All referrals to Children and Families' Service will be accompanied by a standard referral form http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/worried-about-child

e) Action following a child protection referral

It is the responsibility of all staff to safeguard children. It is the role of the DSL (or appropriately trained deputy) to attend multi-agency meetings and provide reports for these. Other staff in school, however, may be asked to contribute.

The DSL will:
- make regular contact with Children's Social Care
- contribute to the Strategy Discussion and all assessments
- provide a report for, attend and contribute to any subsequent Child Protection Conference
- if the child has a Child Protection Plan, contribute to the Child Protection Plan and attend Core Group Meetings and Review Child Protection Conferences
- where possible, share all reports with parents prior to meetings
- where in disagreement with a decision made e.g. not to apply Child Protection Procedures or not to convene a Child Protection Conference, follow the NYSCB

procedures http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/professional-resolutions

- where there is significant information in respect of a child subject to a Child Protection Plan, **immediately** inform the key worker or their manager in Children's Social Care e.g. any significant changes or concerns, departures from the CP plan, child moves/goes missing/is removed from school or fails to attend school

f) Recording and monitoring

School will record:

- Information about the child : name (aka) address, dob., those with parental responsibility, primary carers, emergency contacts, names of persons authorised to collect from school, any court orders, if a child is or has been subject to a CP Plan.
- Key contacts in other agencies including GP details.
- Any disclosures/accounts from child or others, including parents (and keep original notes).
- Significant contacts with carers/other agencies/professionals.
- All concerns, discussions, decisions, agreements made and actions taken and the reasons for these (dated, timed to include the name and agency/title of the person responsible/ spoken to), the plan to protect the child and arrangements for monitoring/review

All records should be objective and include:

- Statements, facts and observable things (what was seen/heard)
- Diagram indicating position, size and colour of any injuries (not photograph)
- Words child actually uses, (not translated into 'proper' words)
- Non-verbal behaviours

All C.P. documents will be retained in a 'Child Protection' file, separate from the child's main file. This will be locked away and only accessible to the members of the Safeguarding Team. The file will be transferred as soon as possible to any school or setting the child moves to, clearly marked 'Child Protection, Confidential, for attention of DSL.' The file will be transferred separately from the main pupil file, ensuring secure transit and obtaining confirmation of receipt. The final school will retain the C.P. file until the child's 25th birthday.

If the child goes missing from education or is removed from roll to be educated at home then any Child Protection file should be copied and the copy sent to the Safeguarding Unit Manager, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE.

When sharing confidential information about a member of staff or pupil, the school has regard to its responsibilities under the Data Protection Act (DPA) 1998 and where relevant, the Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-practitioners-information-sharing-advice

School will monitor:

Any cause for concern including where there could be serious child welfare concerns e.g.

- Injuries/marks
- Attendance
- Changes e.g. mood/ academic functioning
- Relationships
- Language
- Behaviour
- Demeanour and appearance
- Statements, comments
- Medicals
- Stories, 'news', drawings
- Response to P.E./Sport
- Family circumstances
- Parental behaviour/ care of child

The DSL will review all monitoring arrangements in the timescale and manner determined by circumstances, recorded and clearly understood by all concerned

f) Supporting the Child and Partnership with Parents and Carers

- School recognises that the child's welfare is paramount, however good child protection practice and outcome relies on a positive, open and honest working partnership with parents and carers.

- Whilst we may, on occasion, need to make referrals without consultation with parents and carers, we will make every effort to maintain a positive and supportive working relationship with them whilst fulfilling our duties to protect any child.

- We will provide a secure, caring, supportive and protective relationship for the child.

- Children will be given a proper explanation (appropriate to age & understanding) of what action is being taken on their behalf and why.

- We will endeavour always to preserve the privacy, dignity and right to confidentiality of the child, parents and carers. The DSL will determine which members of staff 'need to know' personal information and what they 'need to know' for the purpose of supporting and protecting the children.

A. Allegations regarding person(s) working in or on behalf of a school

Where an allegation is made against any person working in or on behalf of the school (including where that person is no longer working in or on behalf of the school and/or the allegation is historical) that they have:

a. behaved in a way that has harmed a child or may have harmed a child
b. possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child or
c. behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she would pose a risk of harm to school will apply the same principles as in the rest of this document.

School will always follow:

The NYSCB practice guidance *Managing Allegations against Staff*
http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/managing-allegations-against-staff

DfE Guidance *Keeping Children Safe in Education* 2016
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2

A LADO referral form will be submitted within one working day
http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/managing-allegations-against-staff

Completed LADO Referral Forms should be emailed using secure mail (e.g. gcsx, pnn, cjsm etc.) to social.custodian@northyorks.gcsx.gov.uk. Egress users should email their LADO referral to safeguardingunit@northyorks.gov.uk

Detailed and accurate records will be made to include decisions, actions taken, and reasons for these. Records of all incidents and concerns about staff will be kept in order that historical patterns can be detected. All records will be retained securely by the Headteacher.

Whilst we acknowledge such allegations, (as all others), may be false, malicious or misplaced, we also acknowledge they may be founded. It is, therefore, essential that all allegations are investigated properly and in line with agreed procedures.

Initial Action

- The person who has received an allegation or witnessed an event **MUST** immediately inform the Headteacher and make a record and have regard to the school's whistleblowing procedure.
- In the event that an allegation is made against the Headteacher the matter will be reported to the Chair of Governors who will proceed as the 'Headteacher'

- The Headteacher will take steps, where necessary, to secure the immediate safety of children and any urgent medical needs.
- The member of staff will not be approached at this stage unless it is necessary to address the **immediate** safety of children.
- The Headteacher may need to clarify any information regarding the allegation, however no person will be formally interviewed or asked to write a formal statement at this stage.
- The Headteacher will consult with the Duty LADO (01609 534200) in order to determine if it is appropriate for the allegation to be dealt with by school or if there needs to be a referral to social care and/or the police for investigation
- Consideration will be given throughout to the support and information needs of pupils, parents and staff.
- The Headteacher will inform the Chair of Governors of any allegation.

B. Confidentiality

School has regard to DfE guidance on Information Sharing
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-practitioners-information-sharing-advice

"Where there is a concern that the child may be suffering or is at risk of suffering significant harm, the child's safety and welfare must be the overriding consideration. "

School ensures the child's wishes or feelings are taken into account when determining what action to take and what services to provide to protect individual children through ensuring there are systems in place for children to express their views and give feedback. School ensures that staff members do not promise confidentiality to the child and always act in the interests of the child.

The school confidentiality policy indicates:
  a) when information must be shared with police and Children and Families' Service where the child/young person is / may be at risk of significant harm
  b) when the pupil's and/or parent's confidentiality must not be breached

C. Contacts

PREVENTION SERVICE

Advice and Support from Area Prevention Managers

West

Craven	Caroline Porter	01609 532412
Ripon & Rural Harrogate	Jon Coates	01609 532323
Harrogate Town & Knaresborough	Rachel Yeadon	01609 533446

Central

Richmondshire	Vanessa Handley	01609 535682
Hambleton	Sharon Britton	01609 536468
Selby Town	Pat Scully	01609 532385
Rural Selby	David Fincham	01609 534022

East

Whitby & The Moors	Diane Leith	01609 532479
Ryedale	Simon Osman	01609 798167
Scarborough Town	Liz White	01609 533139
Scarborough South & Filey	Simone Wilkinson	01609 532927

Advice and Referral

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES' SERVICE

Customer Contact Centre	01609 780780

For advice please ask to speak to a social worker in the MAST
Children&families@northyorks.gov.uk

Emergency Duty Team	01609 780780

NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE   101
(Ask for the Serious Crime Team in your area)

Safeguarding Unit

Designated Officers for Managing Allegations (LADOs)

Duty LADO (consultations, new referrals and urgent matters)   **01609 532477**

Susan Crawford	01609 532152	07813 005161
Karen Lewis	01609 534200	07715 540711
Dave Peat	01609 535646	07814 533363
Julie Kaye	01609 532508	07814 533363
Andy Kenyon	01609 534215	07973792398

Manager
Heather Pearson   01609 532301   07715540741

Business Support including CME Coordinator (Children Missing Education)

Safeguardingunit@northyorks.gov.uk   01609 532477

NYCC HUMAN RESOURCES
schoolshradvisory@northyorks.gov.uk   01609 798343

Contact numbers for referral to Children's Social Care in neighbouring Local Authorities:

Redcar & Cleveland	01642 771 500
Stockton on Tees	01642 527 764
Darlington	01325 346 200
Middlesbrough	01642 726 004
Durham	03000 267 979
Cumbria	0333 240 1727
Lancashire	0300 123 6720
Bradford	01274 437 500
Leeds	0113 376 0336
East Yorkshire	01482 395 500
Wakefield	03458 503 503
Doncaster	01302 736 000
York	01904 551 900

D. Curriculum

The school is committed to ensuring that pupils are aware of behaviour towards them that is not acceptable, how they can keep themselves safe, how to share a concern and complain. All pupils are informed that we have a Designated Safeguarding Lead with responsibility for child protection and who this is. We inform pupils of whom they might talk to, both in and out of school, their right to be listened to and heard and what steps can be taken to protect them from harm.

The school is committed to ensuring there are opportunities in the school curriculum, for example through the Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) curriculum and by providing an age-related, comprehensive curriculum, for pupils to be taught about aspects of safeguarding in order to develop the knowledge and skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse, including on-line safety. We do this by:

- developing healthy relationships and awareness of domestic violence, bullying, prejudice based bullying and violence based on a person's sexual orientation, gender, faith or race, hate crime, relationship abuse, and other abuse
- recognising and managing risks including online, cyber bullying, online grooming for sexual exploitation and radicalisation enabling pupils to become safe and responsible users of technologies and the impact of new technologies on sexual behaviour, for example sexting and accessing pornography
- enabling pupils to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes consistent with the promotion of fundamental British values
- recognising how pressure from others can affect their behaviour, including the risks of radicalisation to extremist behaviour
- ensuring pupils have the opportunity to discuss controversial issues and develop tolerance and respect for others
- raising awareness of female genital mutilation and forced marriage
- making available appropriate local and online advice

Additional aspects of safeguarding included in the curriculum are risks associated with:
- substance misuse
- gangs and youth violence
- mental health
- water, fire, roads and railways

The school has updated the curriculum aspects of related policies to ensure that they are aligned to our child protection policy. This includes the school's online safety, relationships and sex education, substance misuse, smoke-free, equalities and anti-bullying policies.

The school recognises the statutory duty, since April 2014, to publish information about the content of our PSHE curriculum on our school website

The school has acknowledged that Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) will be statutory in all schools from September 2019 and is working towards embedding a whole school approach that will safeguard all pupils and meet the statutory requirements. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-rse-and-pshe

The school recognises the importance of using age appropriate curriculum resources and ensuring that there is a safe climate for learning which includes the setting of ground rules.

Parents /carers are invited to view any resources and discuss any concerns they have over any curriculum content within our PSHE curriculum provision. Arrangements can be made by contacting the Head of Education in the first instance.

Training needs of staff are regularly reviewed to ensure that staff delivering safeguarding aspects of PSHE or online safety have the appropriate knowledge and skills.

The school monitors and evaluates the impact of the safeguarding taught curriculum provision through our school based monitoring and evaluation processes which include lesson observation, work scrutiny, feedback from pupils, staff and parents/carers, data from the bi-annual Growing Up in North Yorkshire survey.

The following Information is made available to pupils *(insert e.g. helplines, posters, NSPCC ChildLine)*

School's arrangements for consulting with and listening to pupils are *(insert e.g. Listening/Worry Box, school council, peer support schemes, growing up in North Yorkshire Survey, online anonymous reporting systems)*

We make pupils aware of these arrangements by *(insert arrangements)*

E. Curriculum resources and support

Schools can access the North Yorkshire PSHE and Citizenship Planning and Assessment toolkit which contains the PSHE and Citizenship curriculum entitlement framework for key stages 1-4 along with suggested resources specifically to support the safeguarding aspects of the curriculum by year group. It is accessible from the CYPS Information Site http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/health-wellbeing-phse http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/safeguarding-campaigns

Safeguarding Curriculum Training and consultancy for schools 2017-18

For further information on safeguarding curriculum information, training and support please contact:

- Katharine Bruce, Lead Adviser Vulnerable Learners (0-19) on 01609 535497, katharine.bruce@northyorks.gov.uk
- Clare Barrowman, Health and Wellbeing Adviser 0-19, on 01609 536808, clare.barrowman@northyorks.gov.uk
- Rebecca Swift, Equalities Adviser 0-19, on 01609 798554 Rebecca. Swift@northyorks.gov.uk
- A programme of Safeguarding curriculum training and consultancy is available to schools through North Yorkshire Education Services http://nyeducationservices.co.uk

F. Partnership with Parents and Carers

The school shares a purpose with parents to keep children safe from harm and to have their welfare promoted.

NYSCB *www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk*
NSPCC *www.nspcc.org.uk*
CEOP *https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/*
Internet Matters *http://www.internetmatters.org/*
Parent Zone *http://www.theparentzone.co.uk/parent*
Childnet *http://www.childnet.com/resources/know-it-all-for-parents*
Parents Protect *www.parentsprotect.co.uk*
http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Parents/Schoolslearninganddevelopment/YourChildsWel fareAtSchool/index.htm

We are committed to working with parents positively, openly and honestly. We ensure that all parents are treated with respect, dignity and courtesy. We respect parents' rights to privacy and confidentiality and will not share sensitive information unless we have permission or it is necessary to do so in order to protect a child.

School will share with parents any concerns we may have about their child unless to do so may place a child at risk of harm (see Section 3: 3 Action by Designated Senior Person)
We encourage parents to discuss any concerns they may have with A MEMBER OF THE Safeguarding Team.

The child protection policy is available publicly via the school website.

G. Partnerships with other agencies

The school recognises that it is essential to establish positive and effective working relationships with other agencies .

All schools and colleges should allow access for children and families service staff from the host local authority and, where appropriate, from a placing local authority, for that authority to conduct, or to consider whether to conduct, an assessment including under section 17 or section 47. Consent from the parent and child (where of sufficient age and understanding) is required for assessments by the prevention service or under section 17.

School complies with the requirement under the Children Act 2004 to co-operate with other organisations and agencies in activities relating to children.

H. Peer abuse and Youth Produced Sexual Imagery (sexting)

The school recognises that children are capable of abusing their peers, that this can manifest itself in many ways and may reflect gender issues. Where there are concerns or allegations of peer abuse, the procedures and guidance in Sec 3 of this policy will be followed, in the same way as if the matter was in respect of abuse by an adult.

The school will have regard to DfE guidance Searching Screening and Confiscation when considering where they may need to search for and/or seize items, including, without consent, for safeguarding purposes, where there is reasonable cause to suspect that it has been, or is likely to be, used to commit an offence, or cause personal injury to, or damage

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/5544 15/searching_screening_confiscation_advice_Sept_2016.pdf

Concerns or allegations of all forms of peer abuse must be reported to the DSL, who will have regard to the NYSCB child protection guidance and procedures and make referrals in respect of both the alleged victim and the alleged perpetrator, where appropriate. Where the concerns are of a sexual nature the DSL will have regard to the NYSCB guidance 'Children and Young People Who Display Sexualised Behaviour' http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/YPWSH

Wherever concerns of peer abuse arise the DSL will undertake an immediate risk assessment and put all necessary measures in place to ensure that the alleged victim, perpetrator and all children in the school are safeguarded and their welfare is supported. The Inclusive Education Service, on request, can advise schools in undertaking these risk assessments.

Where there are concerns or allegations of youth generated sexual imagery, (often referred to as 'sexting') these must always be reported to the DSL, who will have regard to the 2017 updated guidance: ' UK Council for Child Internet Safety Guidance ' Sexting In Schools and Colleges Responding to Incidents and Safeguarding Young People'
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/609874/6_2939_SP_NCA_Sexting_In_Schools_FINAL_Update_Jan17.pdf
The DSL, having had regard to this guidance, will make referrals to police and children's social care where appropriate.

The school will make every effort to minimise the risk of peer abuse by teaching pupils, in an age appropriate way about: how to recognise, understand and build healthy relationships; self-respect and respect for others; commitment; tolerance; boundaries; consent; how to manage conflict; and how to recognise unhealthy relationships.

http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/safeguarding-campaigns
http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/children-young-people/consent
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/647389/Overview_of_Sexting_Guidance.pdf

I. Prevent

In order to fulfil the Prevent duty, it is essential that staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified. Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is seen as part of schools' wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children from other harms (e.g. drugs, gangs, neglect, sexual exploitation), whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences.

Schools can also build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values and enabling them to challenge extremist views. The Prevent duty is not intended to stop pupils debating controversial issues. On the contrary, school should provide a safe space in which children, young people and staff can understand the risks associated with terrorism and develop the knowledge and skills to be able to challenge extremist arguments. The statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage sets standards for learning, development and care for children from 0-5, thereby assisting their personal, social and emotional development and understanding of the world.

Roles and responsibilities:

- The strategic Prevent lead in school is the DSL.
- They understand the expectations and key priorities to deliver Prevent and this

is embedded within safeguarding procedure.

- The senior leadership team and governing body are aware of the Prevent Strategy and its objectives.
- There is a clear awareness of roles and responsibilities throughout the school. college, setting regarding Prevent.
- The Prevent agenda and its objectives has been embedded within the appropriate safeguarding processes.
- The school's premises do not give a platform for extremist speakers and events
- School provides a broad and balanced curriculum that helps protect pupils against extremism and promotes community cohesion

Training:

- A training plan is in place so that key staff, including senior leaders, understand the risk of radicalisation and extremism and know how to recognise and refer children who may be vulnerable
- Details of training courses including frequency and availability are cascaded to all relevant staff.
- Further training on the Prevent agenda, such as around Far Right Extremism is made available to the Safeguarding, pastoral and PSHE leads where appropriate.
- There is appropriate staff guidance and literature available to staff on the Prevent agenda.
- Staff are aware of curriculum resources and teaching strategies to teach pupils about extremism and the risk of radicalization.
- All staff in the organisation have accessed appropriate prevent training for their role

A programme of 'Prevent' training and consultancy is available to schools through North Yorkshire Education Services http://nyeducationservices.co.uk

NYSCB http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

Updates on Prevent, including teaching resources are provided through the PSHE and Equalities network.

Referrals:

- An appropriate internal Prevent risk assessment and referral process is in place
- All staff including the Prevent lead/ DSL follows the NYSCB procedures http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/prevent-practice-guidance?v=preview
- Partner agency communication channels are in place
- An audit trail for notification reports/referrals exists
- Prevent referrals/notifications are managed or overseen by The Prevent lead

- A process is in place to identify and develop 'lessons learnt'

J. Pupil Information

In order to keep children safe and provide appropriate care for them the school requires accurate and up to date information regarding:

- Names (including any previous names), address and date of birth of child
- Names and contact details of persons with whom the child normally lives
- Names and contact details of all persons with parental responsibility (if different from above)
- Emergency contact details (if different from above)
- Details of any persons authorised to collect the child from school (if different from above)
- Any relevant court orders in place including those which affect any person's access to the child (e.g. Residence Order, Contact Order, Care Order, Special Guardianship Order, Injunctions etc.)
- If the child is or has been subject to a Child Protection Plan
- Name and contact detail of key persons in other agencies, including GP
- Any other factors which may impact on the safety and welfare of the child

The school will collate, store and agree access to this information

K. Related School Safeguarding Policies

Safeguarding is not just about protecting children from deliberate harm (child protection). It includes:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's health or development
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Safeguarding action may be needed to protect children and learners from:

- bullying, including online bullying and prejudice-based bullying
- racist, disability and homophobic, transphobic and biphobic abuse
- gender-based violence/violence against women and girls
- radicalisation and/or extremist behaviour
- child sexual exploitation and trafficking
- the impact of new technologies on sexual behaviour, for example Youth Produced Sexual Imagery, (sexting) and accessing pornography
- teenage relationship abuse

- peer on peer abuse
- substance/drug misuse
- issues that may be specific to a local area or population, for example gang activity and youth violence
- domestic violence and abuse
- female genital mutilation
- forced marriage
- faith abuse
- hate
- fabricated or induced illness
- mental health issues
- poor parenting, particularly in relation to babies and young children
- going missing from education
- going missing from home or care

It relates to aspects of care and education, including:

- equal opportunities
- promoting positive behaviour
- children's and learners' health and safety and well-being including their mental health
- meeting the needs of children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities
- the use of reasonable force
- meeting the needs of children and learners with medical conditions
- providing first aid
- educational visits
- intimate care and emotional well-being
- online safety and associated issues
- appropriate arrangements to ensure children's and learners' security, taking into account the local context.
- children not collected from school
- lost children

It relates to other policies including:

- Private fostering
- Complaints
- Admissions
- Safer recruitment
- Key person
- Teaching and learning
- Partnership with parents
- Confidentiality

- Record keeping
- Administering medication
- Intimate care
- Disciplinary procedure
- Whistle blowing
- Acceptable use of ICT
- Educational Visits (guidance is available at http://visits.northyorks.gov.uk) (schools will be required to have a Service Level Agreement with NYCC to access this guidance)

NYCC Online Safety Guidance updated 2017 for schools and settings which includes sample acceptable use polices is available at http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/online-safety

Guidance for safer working practice for those working with children and young people in education settings

http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/child-protection-and-safeguarding-schools

NYCC: Guidelines for dealing with and reporting prejudice based incidents, hate incidents and hate crimes in schools and settings (updated July 2017) http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/hate-incidents

L. Safer Recruitment and Selection

The school pays full regard to DfE guidance *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016*; the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012; the Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations 2009 and NYCC Schools' Recruitment procedures and guidance http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/hr-recruitment

We ensure that all appropriate measures are applied in relation to everyone who works in or on behalf of the school who is likely to be perceived by the children as a safe and trustworthy adult and follow NYCC guidance on checking volunteers and contractors, http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/hr-safeguarding and NYCC Education and Skills guidance on checking host families for educational visits and work experience providers http://visits.northyorks.gov.uk

Safer recruitment practice includes scrutinising applicants, verifying identity and academic or vocational qualifications, obtaining professional and character references, checking previous employment history and ensuring that a candidate has the health and physical capacity for the job. When undertaking interviews, the school has regard to the principles of Value Based Interviewing www.nspcc.org.uk

Where appropriate, the school undertakes checks of/has regard to:

- the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)
- the Teacher prohibition list
- the requirements of the Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations 2009

All NYCC school staff are made aware that they are required to notify their line manager of any convictions or cautions during employment with the Council or if they receive a Penalty Notice for Damage or a Penalty Notice for Disorder. For those who drive on business at any point during their employment (Authority's vehicle or own vehicle), this includes all motoring offences dealt with through the courts and penalty points on driving licences - whether awarded by a court or through fixed penalty notices.

Schools must keep a single central record detailing a range of checks carried out on their staff (including supply staff, and teacher trainees on salaried routes) who work at the school.

Statutory requirements are such that:

- an Enhanced DBS check is obtained for all new paid appointments to the school's workforce
- an Enhanced DBS check is obtained for volunteers further to a risk assessment considering the regularity, frequency, duration and nature of contact with children and the level of supervision of the volunteer by another person engaging in regulated activity (see paragraphs 122-128 and Annex F *KCSiE 2016*).
- schools will satisfy themselves that any contracted staff are DBS checked where appropriate (see paragraphs 135-158 *KCSiE 2016*).
- schools will ensure that a check of any teacher prohibitions, including interim orders, is made on all teachers (see paragraphs 97-98 *KCSiE 2016*)
- all new appointments to the school workforce who have lived outside the UK are subject to additional checks as appropriate
- schools must satisfy themselves that agency and third-party staff have undergone the necessary checks by seeking confirmation from the relevant employer
- identity checks must be carried out on all appointments to the school workforce before the appointment is made.

Since 1 January 2010 it has been mandatory that any appointments of maintained school staff are made by a recruitment panel that includes at least one person who has been trained in safer recruitment.

All members of the Senior Leadership Team have undertaken training in Safer Recruitment and one of the above will be involved in all staff and volunteer appointments and arrangements (including, where appropriate, contracted services).

Training is available as follows:

- Bespoke session for individual or groups of schools through North Yorkshire Education Services http://smartsolutions.northyorks.gov.uk/

- E-learning on NYSCB website http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

- NSPCC on line and face to face training https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do/get-expert-training/safer-recruitment-training/

Visitors

"Schools do not have the power to request DBS checks and barred list checks, or ask to see DBS certificates, for visitors (for example children's relatives or other visitors attending a sports day). Head teachers and principals should use their professional judgment about the need to escort or supervise visitors."
KCSiE 2016.

M. Safer Working Practice

"All staff members should be aware of systems within their school which support safeguarding and these should be explained to them as part of staff induction. This includes: the school's child protection policy; the school's staff behaviour policy (sometimes called a code of conduct); and the role of the designated safeguarding lead." *KCSiE 2016*

Staff behaviour policy

Schools are required to have in place a staff behaviour policy, (sometimes called a code of conduct). The school adopts and makes all staff and volunteers aware on induction of the *Guidance for Safer Working Practice for those working with Children and Young People in Education Settings*
http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/child-protection-and-safeguarding-schools
http://www.saferrecruitmentconsortium.org/
and information provided by NSPCC
http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/grooming/ to ensure that staff are aware of behaviours which should be avoided and that staff and children are safe.

Safer working practice ensures that pupils are safe and that all staff:

- are responsible for their own actions and behaviour and should avoid any conduct which would lead any reasonable person to question their motivation and intentions;

- work in an open and transparent way;
- discuss and/or take advice from school management over any incident which may give rise to concern;
- record any incidents or decisions made;
- apply the same professional standards regardless of gender or sexuality;
- are aware that breaches of the law and other professional guidelines could result in criminal or disciplinary action being taken against them;

N. Staff Induction and Training

School governors and proprietors are responsible for ensuring that staff are competent to carry out their responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and creating an environment where they feel able and are supported in their safeguarding role.

Schools should, through training needs analysis, determine what level of training individual staff will require, depending on their roles and responsibilities.

Staff must be able to:
- understand the policy and procedures;
- understand individual staff responsibilities to ensure that concerns for the safety of a child are effectively addressed;
- identify signs of possible abuse and neglect at the earliest opportunity;
- respond in a timely and appropriate way
- communicate appropriately with children
- understand the role of the DSL;
- be aware of external avenues for notifying concerns including the use of escalation and whistle-blowing procedures;
- comply with record-keeping requirements;
- recognise grooming behaviour by adults including inappropriate sexual comments; excessive one-to-one attention or inappropriate sharing of images;
- recognise normal and concerning sexual behaviours of children;
- have up to date knowledge of safeguarding issues

Induction

All staff (including temporary staff, school governors and volunteers) are provided with the school's child protection policy and informed of school's child protection arrangements including the role and identity of the DSL

All staff should read at least part one and Annex A of Keeping Children Safe in Education July 2016

All staff including non-teaching staff and school governors should undergo safeguarding and child protection training

The e-learning Introduction to Safeguarding
http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses
provides a very brief, basic introduction to safeguarding and recognising abuse and neglect. It is aimed at those who have occasional contact with children

The e-learning 'Safeguarding Children in Education' is a more comprehensive module and is considered appropriate induction training for the majority of staff working in schools http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

DSLs and Head teachers should read the NYCC Induction pack available at http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/child-protection-and-safeguarding-schools
and undertake training in order that they can effectively contribute to interagency working. The available NYSCB course is *Comprehensive Child Protection Pathway* (CCPP,) http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

Additional training
Depending on their role and responsibilities some staff will need to undertake additional training to provide them with the relevant skills and knowledge to fulfil that role effectively. http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

Updates
DSLs should update the training specific to this role at least every two years

In addition DSLs should have their knowledge and skills updated at least annually to keep up with any developments relevant to their role, (for example, via accessing the NYSCB website News http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/ following the NYSCB on Twitter
meeting other DSLs.)

All staff should receive regular safeguarding and child protection updates (for example, via email, e-bulletins, staff meetings), as required, but at least annually, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively.

Other Child Protection Training Resources

School governors can access the NYCC training materials *Safeguarding the children in your school* @ http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/child-protection-training-materials

NYSCB online and face to face training http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/training

NYCC Child Protection Whole School training materials with teaching notes to enable DSL to deliver: http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/child-protection-training-materials

Online safety training is available from NYCC Education and Skills team http://nyeducationservices.co.uk

Female Genital Mutilation	http://www.fgmelearning.co.uk/
Domestic Abuse Basic Awareness	www.idas.org.uk/training/index.asp
Forced Marriage	https://www.gov.uk/forced-marriage
Prevent	https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/

Understanding Pathways to Extremism and the Prevent Programme
http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

O.   Supervision, Support and Advice for Staff

All staff are given sufficient time, funding, supervision and support to fulfil their child welfare and safeguarding responsibilities effectively.

At Welburn Hall, supervision provides support, coaching and training for staff and promotes the interests of children and fosters a culture of mutual support, teamwork and continuous improvement which encourages the confidential discussion of sensitive issues.

Supervision provides opportunities for staff to:
• discuss any issues – particularly concerning children's development or wellbeing;
• identify solutions to address issues as they arise; and
• receive coaching to improve their personal effectiveness.

Regular staff appraisals are carried out to review their practice to ensure they improve; identify any training needs and secure opportunities for continued professional development for staff.

Staff will be supported and supervised by their line managers and the DSL, (via their availability and the delivery of Safeguarding Briefings and training).

The DSL will be supported by *the Headteacher.*

P. Vulnerable children:

All staff are particularly sensitive to signs that may indicate possible safeguarding concerns and follow appropriate NYSCB/LA guidance:

- **Children not attending school** http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/elective-home-education

- **Poor or irregular attendance and persistent lateness at school** http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/school-attendance

- **Children Missing Education** https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-missing-education http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/children-missing-education

- **Children Missing from Home or Care** http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/missing / https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-who-run-away-or-go-missing-from-home-or-care

- **Children not collected** http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/child-protection-and-safeguarding-schools

- **Children Privately fostered** http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/private-fostering

- **Child Sexual Exploitation/Grooming** http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/practice-guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-sexual-exploitation-definition-and-guide-for-practitioners

  Online training: http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

- **Children who are Bullied** https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-and-tackling-bullying

- **Children who self-harm and suicidal behaviour** http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/pink-book

  Online training: http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

- **Children who Sexually Harm**
  http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/YPWSH

- **Domestic Abuse and Impact on Children**
  http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/domestic-abuse

  Training: http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

- **Female Genital Mutilation**
  http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/fgm

  https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multi-agency-statutory-guidance-on-female-genital-mutilation

  Online training: http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

- **Forced Marriage** https://www.gov.uk/forced-marriage

  Online training: http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

- **Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking**

  http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/admin//uploads/resources/nyp-modern-slavery-toolkit.pdf

  Online training: http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

- **Parental Mental Health**
  Online Training
   http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/learning-improvement/training-courses

- **Private Fostering**
  http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/professionals/private-fostering

- **Radicalisation to extremist behaviour**
  Prevent Guidance
  https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-children-from-radicalisation-the-prevent-duty

Channel Guidance:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/425189/Channel_Duty_Guidance_April_2015.pdf

DfE Safeguarding advice for schools: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-safeguarding-advice-for-schools- and-childcare-providers

DfE and Home Office Social media guide:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-use-of-social-media-for- online-radicalisation

Online training https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/

Understanding Pathways to Extremism and the Prevent Programme
https://nyscb.safeguardingchildrenea.co.uk

- **Youth Produced Sexual Imagery**
  Sexting- Responding to incidents and safeguarding young people
  https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/551575/6.2439_KG_NCA_Sexting_in_Schools_WEB_1_.PDF

Safeguarding

A Guide for Staff

This document has the status of policy and must be followed by all staff in all instances.

It provides some degree of context, explanation and detail. But its main function is to give all staff a practical reference as to what to do when concerned, or if they have received a disclosure.

It should, however, be read in its entirety when first received; or at induction.

N Hayton, April 2017

Taking Responsibility

As school policy states, we all hold collective responsibility for the safety and wellbeing of children and young people. This means that:

- Safeguarding is:
    o An individual responsibility,
    o an institutional responsibility,
    o part of everything Welburn Hall does.

- Everyone must remain vigilant, (*but not paranoid*), about issues that may need raising for action or discussion.

- Judgements as to whether to report should favour caution. We would much rather 'downgrade' an issue than miss it completely.

- In most cases, the referrer is entitled to have some level of feedback on their concern. Designated Persons must bear this in mind and offer a verbal briefing when a course of action becomes clear.

- Everyone has the right to disagree if they feel a significant risk or issue has been given insufficient attention or action. In such cases, any member of staff can approach the Designated Safeguarding Lead and challenge any decision. The DSL must meet with the Safeguarding Team to review the case.

- If they are still unhappy, the referrer can contact NYCC Social Care and seek advice; or make their own referral. Whether he/she agrees with you or not, the DSL will be available to assist and advise you in doing this.

- For support and advice on safeguarding, the DSL is available, (with reasonable notice), to attend team meetings, meet 1:1; or in small groups.

The Safeguarding Team

Welburn Hall has a team approach to safeguarding, which involves careful discussion and shared decision-making.

Led by the Head of Care, the Safeguarding Team is committed to providing the best possible service to children and young people, but will also attend to its duty of care to staff. It consists of:

Niall Hayton,
Designated Senior Lead, (DSL):

- Responsible for oversight and management of safeguarding across the school and coordination of policy and practice.

- Leads and coordinates the Safeguarding Team.

- The first person to go to if available.

- Will case manage on an ongoing basis whenever necessary.

- Will support line managers and Form Tutors where needed.

The Designated Senior Lead is responsible for ensuring that appropriate information is available to staff, and that mandatory training takes place during induction and at other times. The DSL must also:

- Maintain an oversight of all active welfare/safeguarding concerns and 'cases', (live files for students with ongoing issues).

- Ensure the effectiveness of safeguarding systems, such as databases, files, referral methods and reviews.

- Take action in circumstances when it is apparent that the school's policies and procedures have not been followed.

- Investigate situations in which errors or failures have occurred in the safeguarding of students and make report as necessary.

- Monitor and evaluate the quality of safeguarding policy and practice at the school.

The Safeguarding Team

Marianne Best, Catherine Barr, Cath McGill,
Designated Persons, (DPs):

- Are trained to respond in the absence of the DSL.

- Will take all action necessary by the same process, in accordance with the WHS CP Policy and this guide.

- Can case manage with the support of the DSL.

Designated Persons must respond, in the absence of the DSL, to all concerns that would usually be raised with him/her. In such circumstances, they become the 'case-holder' responsible and will remain so unless, in consultation with the DSL, the decision is made to re-allocate.

All members of the Safeguarding Team *must* take steps to make the DSL aware of all new or changing cases or concerns, even if she/he does not need to be directly involved.

All members of the team must ensure that appropriate, contemporaneous record is made of concerns or issues raised.

Dealing with a Disclosure

Our aim is simple: to foster and maintain a genuinely open and effective culture of awareness. Within this, all staff need to maintain awareness in regard to responding to a disclosure on the part of a student. When a child or young person has chosen you to hear their disclosure it is essential to:

☐ Listen to and take seriously all information that suggests a child may be at risk of harm.

☐ Try to ensure that the person disclosing does not have to speak to another member of school staff.

☐ Clarify the information where necessary.

• Keep questions to a minimum and of an 'open' nature e.g. 'Can you tell me what happened?' rather than 'Did x hit you?'.

☐ try not to show signs of shock, horror or surprise.

☐ Do not express feelings or judgements regarding any person alleged to have harmed the child.

☐ Explain sensitively to the person that they have a responsibility to refer the information to the Designated Senior Lead, or another DP.

☐ Reassure and support the person as far as possible.

• Explain that only those who 'need to know' will be told.

☐ Explain what will happen next, that the person will be involved as appropriate and be informed of what action is to be taken.

Dealing with a Disclosure

You Must **Not** Investigate Because:

You are not trained or employed to do so; In fact you are being told in this guidance not to.

You will probably perpetuate the ordeal of the person, because they will certainly be questioned again if the disclosure is serious.

Without considerable skill, it is too easy to ask leading questions, which are likely to elicit misleading answers.

You might unconsciously introduce your own assumptions about the situation.

You may not be able to hide your own feelings about what is being alleged.

The future defence in court of an alleged abuser could rely upon inconsistencies caused by your untrained intervention.

Dealing with a Disclosure

When a child says something which causes you concern:

- ☐ Listen and be supportive, do not directly question the child.

- ☐ Allow the child to freely recall significant events, do not push the child to tell you more than they wish.

- Record the conversation immediately on a 'Cause for Concern' form.

- ☐ Record time, day, date, location of conversation, and anyone else who was present.

- ☐ Sign your record and give it directly to the DSL or another DP.

- ☐ All subsequent events affecting the child need to be recorded.

DO:

- ☐ Be accessible and receptive

- ☐ Listen carefully

- ☐ Take it seriously

- ☐ Reassure the child that they are right to tell

- ☐ Say what will happen next

- ☐ Consult immediately with the SDP/DP

- ☐ Make a careful record of what was said

- Include a description of the child/young person's demeanour

Dealing with a Disclosure

DON'T:

☐ React strongly e.g saying how disgusting something is

☐ Jump to conclusions especially about the abuser

☐ Speculate or accuse anybody

☐ Tell the child you will keep their secret

☐ Ask leading questions

☐ Make promises you cannot keep

☐ Stop a child who is speaking freely

☐ Ask more questions than is necessary to satisfy you that there is a concern to pass on

Always reassure the child/young person, with phrases such as:

- *'What you are saying is very important and I will treat it as such'*

- *'It's not your fault, you are not blame for what happened'*

- *'I'm glad you were able to tell me/someone'*

- *'I will help you as best I can'*

- *' This is so important I need to speak to someone who can do something about what is happening to you'*

Dealing with a Disclosure

The Right Questions

It must be remembered that the way a question is phrased can profoundly affect the answer given. Below are some of the pitfalls, a caution and one appropriate approach:

Leading questions

Try to lead the respondent to your way of thinking. They can do this in several ways:

- *With an assumption:* "How did Jeremy hurt you?". This assumes that the child has been hurt and that the perpetrator has been identified.

- *By adding a personal appeal to agree at the end:* "Every mummy can hurt accidentally, don't you think?".

- *Phrasing the question so that the "easiest" response is "yes";* "Shall we just see how it goes at the weekend?" is more likely to get a positive response than "Do you want me to talk to the Head of Care?

- **Giving people a choice between limited options, all of which you would be happy with**, rather than the choice of one option or not doing anything at all. Strictly speaking, the choice of "neither" is still available when you ask "What happened, A or B", but most young people will be caught up in deciding between your two preferences.

Closed questions

Usually receive a single word or very short, factual answer. For example, "Are you thirsty?" The answer is "Yes" or "No".

Open questions

Elicit longer answers. They usually begin with what, why, how. An open question asks the respondent for his or her knowledge, opinion or feelings. "Tell me" and "describe" can also be used in the same way as open questions.

When You are Concerned

Where there has not been a disclosure as such, but you are concerned about a child or young person's welfare or safety:

- Don't worry about whether it is 'too minor' or 'not Child Protection'. The school is responsible for giving attention to issues of welfare which are not necessarily serious enough for referral or intervention.

☐ Clarify exactly what it is you are concerned about and why, so that discussions which follow are accurate and without misunderstanding.

☐ Voice your concerns to relevant colleagues in a professional manner, in an appropriate location. Sometimes this will bring out their own concerns and add context.

☐ Ensure your line manager is fully aware of your concerns, and those of others.

☐ **Remember**, you do not need permission from your line manager or the agreement of your colleagues to pass on a concern. If at all unsure; proceed.

- Complete a 'Cause for Concern Form', making sure this is factual and non-judgemental; and follow the process below.

☐ Be available for the Designated Safeguarding Lead, or another DP, to meet with you for further discussion.

☐ Observe appropriate confidentiality.

Possible Concerns

What do we know about bruising?

☐ Bruising is strongly related to mobility.

☐ Once children are mobile they sustain bruises from everyday activities and accidents.

☐ Bruising in a baby who is not yet crawling, and therefore has no independent mobility, is very unusual.

☐ Only one in five infants who is starting to walk by holding on to the furniture has bruises.

☐ Most children who are able to walk independently have bruises.

☐ Bruises usually happen when children fall over or bump into objects in their way.

☐ Children have more bruises during the summer months.

Where would you expect to see bruising from an accidental injury?

☐ The shins and the knees are the most likely places where children who are walking, or starting to walk, get bruised.

- Most accidental bruises are seen over bony parts of the body – such as the knees and elbows – and are often seen on the front of the body.

- Infants who are just starting to walk unsupported may bump and bruise their heads – usually the forehead, nose, centre of their chin or back of the head.

☐ It is common to have fractures, particularly rib or metaphyseal, (cartilage which will mature into bone), fractures, without any bruising.

Possible Concerns

- Accidental bruising in children with a disability can be related to the child's level of mobility, equipment used, muscle tone and learning ability.

When should you be concerned?

- Abusive bruises often occur on soft parts of the body – such as the abdomen, back and buttocks.

☐ The head is by far the commonest site of bruising in child abuse. Other common sites include the ear and the neck.

☐ As a result of defending themselves, abused children may have bruising on the forearm, upper arm, back of the leg, hands or feet.

☐ Clusters of bruises are a common feature in abused children. These are often on the upper arm, outside of the thigh, or on the body.

☐ Bruises which have petechiae (dots of blood under the skin) around them are found more commonly in children who have been abused than in those injured accidentally.

☐ Abusive bruises can often carry the imprint of the implement used or the hand.

☐ Non-accidental head injury or fractures can occur without bruising.

- Severe bruising to the scalp, with swelling around the eyes and no skull fracture, may occur if the child has been "scalped" – ie, had their hair pulled violently.

Can you 'age' a bruise accurately?

The simple answer is 'no'. Estimates of the age of a bruise are currently based on an assessment of the colour of the bruise with the naked eye. The accuracy of observers who estimate the age of a bruise visually is no better than 50 per cent. The evidence is that we cannot accurately age a bruise from an assessment of colour – from either a clinical assessment or a photograph.

Possible Concerns

Implications for practice

A bruise should never be interpreted in isolation and must always be assessed in the context of the child's medical and social history, developmental stage and explanation given. Any child who has unexplained signs of pain or illness should be seen promptly by a doctor.

Bruising that suggests the **possibility** of physical child abuse includes:

☐ bruising in children who are not independently mobile

☐ bruises that are seen away from bony prominences

☐ bruises to the face, back, abdomen, arms, buttocks, ears and hands

☐ multiple bruises in clusters

☐ multiple bruises of uniform shape

• bruises that carry an imprint – of an implement or cord

☐ bruises with petechiae (dots of blood under the skin) around them

At WHS, if you are uncertain about the significance of a particular bruise, you should discuss it with a Designated Person.

Source: NSPCC, (2012).

Concerns About Practice

Individual Practice

All staff should be aware that the school has fully adopted the following document, which forms core expectations in regard to acceptable practice.
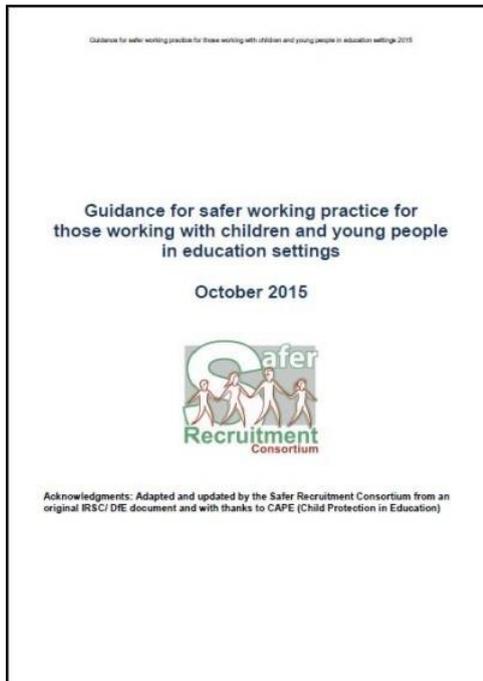
'Guidance for safer working practice for those working with children and young people in education settings'. (2015)

This document:

"seeks to ensure that the responsibilities of educational settings leaders towards children and staff are discharged by raising awareness of illegal, unsafe, unprofessional and unwise behaviour. It should assist staff to monitor their own standards and practice and reduce the risk of allegations being made against them. It is also recognised that not all people who work with children work as paid or contracted employees. The principles and guidance outlined in this document still apply and should be followed by any person whose work brings them into contact with children".

It is our clear expectation that all workers and volunteers new to the school are given a copy of this guidance and asked to read, feedback their understanding and sign to confirm their commitment to following it.

Put simply, this guidance defines the standard of practice expected from all who work on behalf of the school and complements various WHS policies with which it is consistent.

Any member of staff, then, is able to use the processes set out below to alert the Safeguarding Team to the practice of a particular colleague.
However, you will need to exercise some judgement and consider:

Concerns About Practice

☐ Whether you are able to speak with that person yourself.

☐ Whether team meetings could be used to raise matters of practice relevant to your colleague, but without confrontation.

☐ Whether your line manager might be better dealing with the issue.

A Realistic Approach

There is a risk that, as we seek to maintain good working practice, we become too concerned about self-protection and make negative assumptions about school policy.

For example, Welburn Hall does not have a 'zero touch' policy. We need to take into account the extensive neurobiological research and studies relating to attachment theory and child development that identify safe touch as a positive contribution to brain development, mental health and the development of social skills.

As a member of staff you are able to physically guide, touch or prompt children in appropriate ways at the appropriate times. Every member of staff needs to know the difference between appropriate and inappropriate touch. Hence, staff need to demonstrate a clear understanding of the difference.

We may choose to have physical contact with students for a variety of reasons, but in general terms we would normally do so for either comfort or assistance, (to guide or prompt students if they require personal care, assistance with writing, eating, dressing etc). You should be fully aware of practice in our Intimate Care & Physical Contact policy.

At this school, we expect staff who use touch for comfort to use a 'school hug'. This is a sideways on hug, with the adult putting their hands on the child's shoulders. This discourages 'front on' hugging, and the adult's hands on the shoulders limits the ability of the child to turn themselves into you. This can be done either standing or sitting.

Lap-sitting is considered wholly inappropriate. Students should be taught to seek comfort/attention through other means, for example the school hug. If a child attempts to sit on your lap, explain to them that this is not what we do here, and ask them to sit next to you if it is appropriate.

Avoiding Undue Worry

At times, children may be in such crisis or distress that they hold you in a way which is not described as above (eg 'front on' hug/lap-sitting). If this should happen, you should ensure as much as possible that other members of staff have you in sight and that you inform a senior member of staff what has occurred.

You may be asked to make a note, in order to record and monitor the amount of times the student is doing this to staff; to see whether it is a 'controlling' behaviour, or whether the child is displaying distressed behaviour regularly.

It is also important to remember that some children will not want to be touched. Please respect this.

In general, we may use touch with pupils as part of a normal relationship, for example, comforting a child, giving reassurance and congratulating. This might include putting an arm out to bar an exit from a room, taking a child by the hand, patting on the back or putting an arm around the shoulders. The benefit of this action is often proactive and can prevent a situation from escalating.

General Reparative Touch

This is used by staff working with children who are having difficulties with their emotions. Healthy emotional development requires safe touch as a means of calming, soothing and containing distress for a frightened, angry or sad child. Touch used to regulate a child's emotions triggers the release of the calming chemical oxytocin in the body. Reparative touch may include stroking a back or squeezing an arm.

Contact Play

Contact play is used by staff adopting a role similar to a parent in a healthy child-parent relationship. This will only take place when the child has developed a trusting relationship with the adult and when they feel completely comfortable and at ease with this type of contact.
Contact play may include an adult chasing and catching the child or an adult and child playing a game of building towers with their hand.

Concerns About Practice

Institutional/Cultural

Whilst it is clear where individual responsibility lies, you may find it necessary to raise issues of practice that concern you, but appear to be widespread and condoned or ignored by the school's leadership. In such situations, it is important to be able to ask for discussion by the Safeguarding Team and/or Senior Leadership Team; both of which should be open to constructive criticism.

However, we all need to consider our own mistakes and be able to 'own up' in a way which promotes better practice and safety. The chart below describes a simple 'no blame' model of reporting, which the Safeguarding Team intends to develop within the culture of the school.
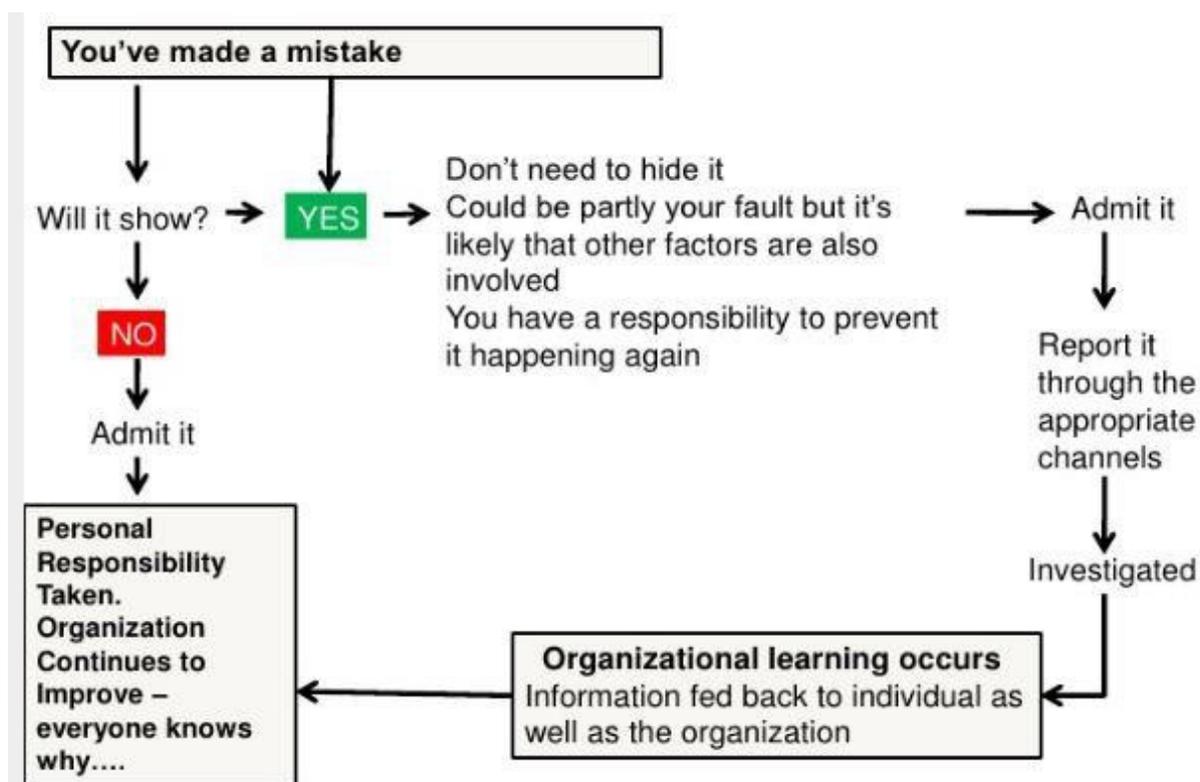
Concerns about a Colleague or Volunteer

All members of staff must take seriously their duty to raise any concerns they may have about the conduct or motivations of a colleague.

Potential Warning Signs:

- A pupil receiving special attention or preferential treatment.

- Excessive time spent alone with a pupil outside of the classroom.

- Frequently spending time with a pupil in private or isolated areas.

- Transporting a pupil possibly to or from school.

- Making friends with a pupil's parents, possibly visiting their home.

- Acting as a particular pupil's 'listening ear'.

- Giving small gifts; money, toys, cards, letters to a pupil.

- Using texts, telephone calls, e-mails or social networking sites to communicate with a pupil.

- Overly affectionate behaviour with a pupil.

- Flirtatious behaviour or the making of suggestive remarks or comments of a sexual nature around a pupil.

- Other pupils are suspicious and make jokes or references.

- Members of staff are reluctant to leave the adult alone with certain children.

Concerns about a Colleague or Volunteer

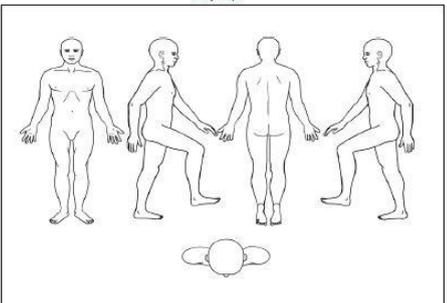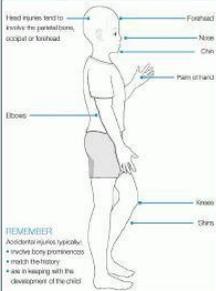**If you have concerns about the practice or conduct of a colleague:**

- Don't think **"what if I'm wrong?** - think: **"what if I'm right?"**.

- Pinpoint what is concerning you and why.

- Write this down and follow the process for **'Reporting Concerns & Disclosures'**.

- Speak directly with the Headteacher, or DSL in his/her absence.

- If there are clear safeguarding issues, the Head **MUST** discuss the matter with the DSL.

- If you are unhappy with the response, speak directly with the Headteacher.

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Important note:

The school has different responsibilities in responding to allegations against a person working on its behalf.

Therefore, if you need to raise a serious issue about the actions of a relevant person, ensure that you DO NOT discuss your concerns with other members of staff, or attempt to take any action yourself.

</div>

Making a Referral to the Safeguarding Team

The *'Cause for Concern'* form:

Use of the 'Cause for Concern' form is essential when reporting. It documents important information such as times, locations, events and those involved. Here, you should be clear about what concerns you, or what you have been told **before** speaking with a designated person.

When you meet with the DSL, Head or other DP, they will have questions about what you have written and should use the lower box to record any clarifications, new information and their own initial actions, plans and intentions.

The 'Cause for Concern' form must be used in every instance and must **never** be passed on by any means other than in person with the designated person.

Below is a flow chart describing the process for reporting concerns and disclosures. It must be followed fully in order to ensure prompt attention by the Safeguarding Team as well as proper responses and recording.

A concern is raised or a disclosure made

Always:

- Be clear about your reasons for being concerned.
- Ensure your account or statements are factual and without assumption or judgement.
- Speak in person with the DSL, or other DPs in her/his absence.
- Respect confidentiality

Never:

- Raise concerns by:
  - note,
  - message,
  - email;

  or any other method which is not in person.
- End your shift without having passed on your concerns.
- Ask another person to raise the concern.
- Leave a 'Cause for Concern' form in a pigeonhole or on a desk.
- Promise a child/young person that you will keep secrets.
- Investigate a matter yourself.
- Express your own feelings, views or assumptions.

Issues with students, families or others

↓

Clarify your concerns in writing (dated & signed)

↓

Seek immediate discussion with the DSL

↓

DSL unavailable / **DSL available**

Find another Designated Person →

Speak in person with the DSL /DP, answering any questions

↓

Carry out any tasks requested by the DSL /Headteacher

Practice (individual or institutional)

↓

Clarify your concerns in writing (dated & signed)

↓

Speak directly with the DSL (HT if DSL is absent)

↓

DSL informs Headteacher, who may seek external advice

↓

DSL, Headteacher or DP proceed in accordance with policy

↓

Carry out any tasks requested by the DSL /Headteacher

Allegation against a person working on behalf of WHS

↓

Clarify your concerns in writing (dated & signed)

↓

Speak directly with the Headteacher DSL if HT is absent)

↓

Carry out any tasks requested by the DSL /Headteacher

This chart must be followed in all instances, whether relating to welfare, practice, safety or child protection.

Reporting Concerns & Disclosures

following the correct process

Following a Referral to the Safeguarding Team

What Happens Next?

The flow chart on the next page illustrates how the team must respond to a concern. It makes clear that a designated person must not act in isolation and must seek discussion with at least one other DP. This is a core principle of the team approach and can never be overridden.

The team maintains a safeguarding database, which includes all students of the school. When a concern is raised, the CfC form is scanned and attached to an entry made in that student's file within the database, which provides an enduring record of events, judgements and actions taken. All contact made or discussion had must be recorded in the database and paper files maintained for hard copies, minutes of meetings, reports, evidence etc.

Where matters need to be addressed, other agencies involved or enduring issues are likely, the student's file will be 'live' for some time. Sometimes, though, a concern is resolved or considered to be mistaken; but the file remains on the system for reference in the event of further concerns being raised.

Oversight:

The Designated Senior Lead is responsible for both general oversight and maintaining an awareness of current issues and the progress of 'live' cases. To enable this, all Designated Persons are required to keep him/her informed about immediate difficulties, significant events or emerging risk.

Additionally, The Head of Care, (DSL), and Family Liaison Manager meet weekly to review all cases and determine progress on each, identifying any tasks outstanding or issues unaddressed. The Headteacher and other DPs are briefed as appropriate by the DSL or FLM.

The Safeguarding Team Process

Designated Person receives a _'Cause for Concern'_ form

1. Issues with students, families/others (whether by observation or disclosure)	**2. Concerns about practice** (individual or institutional)	**3. Allegations against a person working on behalf of Welburn Hall**
DP Speaks directly with the referrer, gaining clarification where necessary	**DP speaks directly with the DSL, Or, if urgent, the HT in their absence**	**DP speaks directly with the HT or DSL**
DP completes & signs the DP section of the _'Cause for Concern'_ form	**DSL or HT assesses importance, urgency, risk and any short term responses**	**HT and DSL discuss, assess risk and decide on a response**
DSL unavailable / **DSL available**	**Safeguarding Team discusses any necessary actions or changes to policy/practice**	**Headteacher seeks external advice**
DP finds another Designated Person / **Discuss in person, assessing risk and making joint decisions**	**Appropriate changes are identified by the DSL**	**Headteacher proceeds in accordance with policy & advice**

All carry out tasks as identified, agreed or allocated

(referrals, meetings with parents/professionals, appropriate recording via the Safeguarding database, review of policy, re-training of groups or individuals)

Notes:

1. If the Designated Senior Lead has not been directly involved, he/she must be informed of any issues arising from a *'Cause for Concern'* being raised.
2. All referrals to the Safeguarding Team regarding sections 1 & 3 **must** be addressed the same day, (and section 2 if urgent).
3. Both the DSL & HT have the same responsibility as DPs to seek the involvement of another member of the Safeguarding Team when dealing with concerns.

Following a Referral to the Safeguarding Team

Feedback to the Referrer:

Whilst the person passing on the concern has often met her or his responsibilities by doing so, the DSL may deem it necessary to give them a level of information regarding outcomes which may serve to reassure. Sometimes, however, this will not be possible and all staff raising concerns need to trust the Safeguarding Team to deal with them; even if no more is heard.

On the other hand, any person making a referral may approach the DSL for information and will be told as much as is appropriate. If he/she is dissatisfied with the information shared, they should speak with the Headteacher.

Information to Staff:

In all cases, the Safeguarding Team must consider what information should be passed to teams or individual members of staff. In doing so, it is important to determine:

1. For what purpose do members of staff need to know about outcomes?

2. How much detail is required?

3. What is the likely impact on the child or their family of the information being shared?

In practical terms, it is likely that some feedback is given, but does not include all of the details or facts of the case. Again, trust in the Safeguarding Team is essential.