



## **Barwell C of E Academy Safeguarding and Child Protection 2019-2020**

**Love thy neighbour in a flourishing  
school community.**

**Designated Senior Leader – Victoria Newman – Headteacher**  
**Deputy Designated Senior Leader – Jodie Robinson – Family Link Worker**

Deputy Designated Senior Leader – Lisa Stewart – Deputy Headteacher  
Deputy Designated Senior Leader – Marjorie Allen-carter – School Business Manager  
Deputy Designated Senior Leader – Kathryn Harris – ICT Leader  
Deputy Designated Senior Leader – Lita Parker – Pastoral Support

## COVID-19 Safeguarding Policy Addendum

### Safeguarding arrangements during COVID-19:

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we will continue to adhere to Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019 and our priority at all times will be keeping children safe. Below are key points in how we are ensuring that we do this effectively during this difficult time:

- Staff continue to raise concerns they may have about children by using our Concern Form. They should give the concern form to the DSL (Designated Senior Leader) or Deputy Designated Senior Leader) who will triage it in the normal way and log the information on CPOMs and file the concern form as detailed in our policy below. Due to having as few staff in school as possible during this pandemic, we have arranged to have one DSL or DDSL available at all times. Below sets out which DSLs are available during the day
  - 8:00 – 10:00 VN available by phone and 10 minutes away from site
  - 10:00 – 13:00 VN available on site
  - 13:00 – 15:30 MAC available on site
  - FLW is available by phone throughout the day and is 10 minutes away from site
- The DSL and DDSLs will continue to log onto CPOMs daily and keep up to date
- Where possible our vulnerable children are in school. Each day there is a teacher and member of support staff available to the small group of children attending and are available to support children with their mental wellness needs
- Where it is not safe/not practical to have vulnerable children in school, our Family Link Worker is staying in contact with all vulnerable families at least once a week but more frequently in some cases. This contact is logged on CPOMs
- Our FLW is in contact with the social workers who work with our vulnerable families and other outside agencies throughout this time
- Absence – we follow our usual school procedures for chasing absence. If we believe that a child is due to be in, we contact the family to check in with them. If we cannot get hold of the family, we will continue to try. If we are unable to get hold of the family, we will pass our concerns onto relevant outside agencies.
- If any of our DSLs become unwell and are not able to attend, Lisa Stewart provide cover
- If any staff have concerns about another member of staff, they should report this to the Headteacher by using a concern form in the usual way. These concern forms may be emailed if staff are offsite. If any member of staff has concerns about the Headteacher, they should report this to our Chair of Governors ([Maggie Spence mspence@barwellacademy.org](mailto:mspence@barwellacademy.org))
- Our Single Central Record is kept up to date in the usual way

## Named staff and contacts

- Designated Safeguarding Lead: **Victoria Newman (Headteacher)**
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads **Jodie Robinson (Family Link Worker), Lisa Stewart (Deputy Headteacher), Marjorie Allen-Carter (School Business Manager), Lita Parker (Pastoral Support), Kathryn Harris (ICT Leader)**
- Designated Teacher for Children in Care: **Lisa Stewart (Deputy Headteacher)**
- Nominated Safeguarding Governor: **Maggie Spence (Chair of Governors)**  
**Alex Cole (Governor with responsibility for online safety)**
- Safeguarding and Performance Unit contacts:

### **Head of Service – Safeguarding and Performance Service**

Claire Kelda 0116 305 9084/07507686100

### **LADO / Allegations:**

Kim Taylor/Lovona Brown 0116 305 7597

### **Safeguarding Development Officers:**

Simon Genders 0116 305 7750

Ann Prideaux 0116 305 7317

### **First Response Children's Duty (Same Day referrals)**

Telephone 0116 3050005

Email [childrensduty@leics.gov.uk](mailto:childrensduty@leics.gov.uk)

Address First Response Children's Duty  
Room 100b  
County Hall  
Championship Way  
Glenfield  
LE3 8RF

### **All other referrals including Early Help Services**

<http://rsb.org.uk/childreport>

**Early Help Queries and Consultation Line 0116 3058727**

# 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Barwell C of E Academy fully recognises the contribution it can make to protect children and support pupils in school. The aim of the policy is to safeguard and promote our pupils' welfare, safety and health by fostering an honest, open, caring and supportive climate. The pupils' welfare is of paramount importance.

1.2 This policy is consistent with:

- the legal duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, as described in section 175 of the Education Act 2002 [or section 157 of the Education Act 2002 for independent schools and academies] and the Statutory guidance "*Keeping children safe in education – Statutory guidance for schools and colleges*", September 2019 and "*Working Together to Safeguard Children*", 2015.(revision due)
- the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children's Partnership – Multi-agency Safeguarding Arrangements

1.3 There are four main elements to our Child Protection Policy:

- **Prevention** (e.g. positive school atmosphere, teaching and pastoral support to pupils, safer recruitment procedures);
- **Protection** (by following agreed procedures, ensuring staff are trained and supported to respond appropriately and sensitively to Child Protection concerns);
- **Support** (to pupils and school staff and to children who may have been abused);
- **Working with parents** (to ensure appropriate communications and actions are undertaken).

1.4 This policy applies to all staff, governors and visitors to the school. We recognise that child protection is the responsibility of all staff. We will ensure that all parents and other working partners are aware of our child protection policy by mentioning it in our school prospectus, displaying appropriate information in our reception and on the school website and by raising awareness at meetings with parents.

1.5 **Extended school activities**

Where the Governing Body provides services or activities directly under the supervision or management of school staff, the school's arrangements for child protection will apply. Where services or activities are provided separately by another body, the Governing Body will seek assurance in writing that the body concerned has appropriate policies and procedures in place to safeguard and protect children and there are arrangements to liaise with the school on these matters where appropriate.

## **2 SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT**

2.1 The school adopts an open and accepting attitude towards children as part of its responsibility for pastoral care. Staff encourage children and parents to feel free to talk about any concerns and to see school as a safe place when there are difficulties. Children's worries and fears will be taken seriously and children are encouraged to seek help from members of staff.

2.2 Our school will therefore:

- Establish and maintain an ethos where children feel secure and are encouraged to talk, and are listened to;
- Ensure that children know that there are adults in the school whom they can approach if they are worried or are in difficulty;
- Include in the curriculum activities and opportunities for PSHE/Citizenship which equip children with the skills they need to stay safe from abuse (including online), and to know to whom they can turn for help;
- Ensure every effort is made to establish effective working relationships with parents and colleagues from other agencies;
- Operate safer recruitment procedures and make sure that all appropriate checks are carried out on new staff and volunteers who will work with children, including identity, right to work, enhanced DBS criminal record and barred list (and overseas where needed), references, and prohibition from teaching or managing in schools (s.128) etc.

### **2.3 Safeguarding in the Curriculum**

Children are taught about safeguarding in school. The following areas are among those addressed in PSHE and in the wider curriculum:-

Bullying/Cyberbullying

Drugs, alcohol and substance abuse (County Lines)

Online safety

Stranger danger

Fire and water safety

Road safety

## **3 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **3.1 General**

All adults working with or on behalf of children have a responsibility to safeguard and promote their welfare. This includes a responsibility to be alert to possible abuse and to record and report concerns to staff identified with child protection responsibilities within the school.

The names of the Designated Safeguarding Leads for the current year are listed at the start of this document.

## 3.2 GOVERNING BODY

In accordance with the Statutory Guidance “Keeping children safe in education” September 2019, the Governing Body will ensure that:-

- The school has its own child protection/safeguarding policy, procedures and training in place which are effective and comply with the law at all times. The policy is made available publicly.
- The school operates safer recruitment practices, including appropriate use of references and checks on new staff and volunteers. Furthermore, the Headteacher, a nominated Governor and other staff involved in the recruitment process have undertaken Safer Recruitment Training.
- There are procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff and volunteers (see Appendix 2).
- There is a senior member of the school’s leadership team who is designated to take lead responsibility for dealing with child protection (the “Designated Safeguarding Lead”) and there is always cover for this role with appropriate arrangements for before/after school and out of term time activities.
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead undertakes effective Local Authority training (in addition to basic child protection training) and this is refreshed every two years. In addition to this formal training, their knowledge and skills are updated at regular intervals (at least annually) via safeguarding e-briefings etc.
- The Headteacher, and all other staff and volunteers who work with children undertake appropriate training which is updated every year and that new staff and volunteers who work with children are made aware of the school’s arrangements for child protection and their responsibilities (including this policy, Part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education, the pupil Behaviour Policy and how to respond if children go missing). The Local Authority Induction leaflet, “Safeguarding in Education Induction – Child Protection Information, Safer Working Practice” will be used as part of this induction and Annex A from ‘Keeping children safe in education September 2018 is provided to all staff working directly with children.
- Any deficiencies or weaknesses brought to the attention of the Governing Body will be rectified without delay.
- Chair of Governors (or, in the absence of a Chair, the Vice Chair) deals with any allegations of abuse made against the Headteacher, in liaison with the Local Authority Allegations Manager (LADO).
- Effective policies and procedures are in place and updated annually including a behaviour “code of conduct” for staff and volunteers - “Guidance for Safer

Working Practice for those who work with children in education settings October 2015” (revision due). Information is provided to the Local Authority (on behalf of the LSCB) through the Annual Safeguarding Return.

- There is an individual member of the Governing Body who will champion issues to do with safeguarding children and child protection within the school, liaise with the Designated Safeguarding Lead, and provide information and reports to the Governing Body.
- The school contributes to inter-agency working in line with statutory guidance “Working Together to Safeguard Children” 2015 including providing a co-ordinated offer of Early Help for children who require this. This Early Help may be offered directly through school provision or via referral to an external support agency (eg Supporting Leicestershire Families). Safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practice of the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Partnership.

### **3.3 HEADTEACHER**

The Headteacher of the school will ensure that:

- The policies and procedures adopted by the Governing Body are effectively implemented, and followed by all staff;
- Sufficient resources and time are allocated to enable the Safeguarding Lead and other staff to discharge their responsibilities, including taking part in strategy discussions and other inter-agency meetings, and contributing to the assessment of children;
- Allegations of abuse or concerns that a member of staff or adult working at school may pose a risk of harm to a child or young person are notified to the Local Authority Allegations Manager
- All staff and volunteers feel able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice in regard to children, and such concerns are addressed sensitively and effectively in a timely manner. The NSPCC whistle blowing helpline number is also available (0800 028 0285).
- All staff are made aware that they have an individual responsibility to pass on safeguarding concerns and that if all else fails to report these directly to Children’s Social Care (Children’s Services) or the Police.

### **3.4 Designated Safeguarding Lead**

The responsibilities of the Designated Safeguarding Lead are found in Annex B of “Keeping children safe in education” and include:

- Provision of information to the Safeguarding Children Partnership on safeguarding and child protection in compliance with section 14B of the Children Act 2004.

- Liaison with the Governing Body and the Local Authority on any deficiencies brought to the attention of the Governing Body and how these should be rectified without delay.
- Management and Referral of cases of suspected abuse to Specialist Services First Response Children's Duty (and/or Police where a crime may have been committed)
- Act as a source of support, advice and expertise within the school
- To attend and contribute to child protection conferences when required
- Be alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and disability and young carers
- Ensure each member of staff has access to and understands the school's child protection policy especially new or part-time staff who may work with different educational establishments;
- Ensure all staff have induction training covering child protection, the pupil behaviour policy, children who go missing and staff behaviour. Staff will be trained to recognise and report any concerns immediately they arise and will be provided with Part 1 of "Keeping children safe in education" and Annex A to those working directly with children;
- Keep detailed, accurate and secure written records of concerns and referrals;
- Obtain access to resources and effective training for all staff and attend refresher training courses every two years. Keep up to date with new developments in safeguarding by accessing briefings and journals.
- Where children leave the school, ensure their child protection file is handed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and signed for in the new school/college as soon as possible – this will be in advance of the pupil arriving where specific ongoing support is required;
- Maintain and monitor child protection records, including monitoring and acting upon individual concerns, patterns of concerns (e.g. children who repeatedly go missing) or complaints, in accordance with the section on "Records, Monitoring and Transfer" below.

## 4 Records, Monitoring and Transfer

- 4.1 Well-kept records are essential to good child protection practice. All staff are clear about the need to record and report concerns about a child or children within the school using our Concern Forms. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is responsible for such records and for deciding at what point these records should be passed over to other agencies. The DSL triages all Concern Forms and logs them on CPOMs with identified actions and the relevant people tagged. If the child already has a Yellow Folder, the concern form is placed in there. If



they do not have a Yellow Folder, the concern form is placed in the Paper Concern Form Folder in the Child Protection Drawer.

- 4.2 Records relating to actual or alleged abuse or neglect are stored apart from normal pupil or staff records in the locked filing cabinet in the DSLs office.
- 4.3 Child protection records are stored securely in the DSL's office, with access confined to the DSL and Deputy DSLs.
- 4.4 Child protection records are reviewed monthly to check whether any action or updating is needed. This includes monitoring patterns of complaints or concerns about any individuals and ensuring these are acted upon.
- 4.5 When children transfer school their safeguarding records are also transferred. Safeguarding records will be transferred separately from other records and best practice is to pass these directly to a Designated Safeguarding Lead in the receiving school with any necessary discussion or explanation and to obtain a signed and dated record of the transfer. Where a child needs specific ongoing support relevant information will be transferred prior to the child arriving at their new school. In the event of a child moving out of area and a physical handover not being possible then the most secure method should be found to send the confidential records to a named Designated Safeguarding Lead and a photocopy kept. Files requested by other agencies e.g. Police should be copied.

## **5 Support to pupils and school staff**

### **5.1 Support to pupils**

Our school recognises that children who are abused or who witness violence may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth and view the world in a positive way. For such children school may be one of the few stable, secure and predictable components of their lives. Other children may be vulnerable because, for instance, they have a disability, are in care, a care leaver or previously looked after, or are experiencing some form of neglect. Our school seeks to remove any barriers that may exist in being able to recognize abuse or neglect in pupils experiencing Special Educational Needs or Disability. We will seek to provide such children with the necessary support and to build their self-esteem and confidence.

- 5.2 **Peer on Peer Abuse** - This school recognises that children sometimes display abusive behaviour themselves and that such incidents or allegations must be referred on for appropriate support and intervention. Such abuse will not be tolerated or passed off as "banter" or "part of growing up". This abuse could for example include sexual violence and sexual harassment, 'upskirting', initiation/hazing type violence, all forms of bullying, aggravated sexting and physical violence experienced by both boys and girls. However, peer on peer abuse is more likely to be perpetrated by boys on girls. There are separate school and local authority/Safeguarding Children's Partnership guidances and policies to address this including the pupil Behaviour Policy, Anti-bullying Policy, E-safety Policy, "Guidance for schools working with children who display sexually abusive behaviour" (Leicestershire LA Guidance) and DfE guidance 'sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges. Where specific risks are identified, a formal risk assessment will be undertaken in

order to minimise the risk of abuse and to ensure the safety of all staff and pupils. Appropriate support will also be offered to both victim and perpetrator.

- 5.3 **Sexting** - School will always respond if informed that children have been involved in 'sexting' (youth produced sexual imagery). The UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) guidance, "Sexting in schools and colleges: responding to incidents and safeguarding young people" will be used to guide the school's response on a case by case basis.

The key points being:-

- Inform the Headteacher/DSL as soon as possible
- Support the victim as appropriate and in accordance with their best interests
- Inform all parents of involved children unless by doing so you put a child at risk
- Images will not be viewed by school staff
- If school is to deal with the matter, involve parents in ensuring the images are deleted
- If there is evidence of exploitation or the targeting of a vulnerable student, inform the police

- 5.4 **Sexual violence and sexual harassment** – Sexual violence refers to sexual offences as described under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 including rape and sexual assault. Sexual harassment is 'unwanted conduct of a sexual nature' that can occur online and offline and may include sexual name-calling, taunting or "jokes" and physical behaviour, for example, deliberately brushing up against someone or interfering with clothes. 'Upskirting' is now a criminal offence and typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing in order to obtain sexual gratification or to cause humiliation, distress or alarm. Evidence shows that girls, children with SEND and LGBT children are more likely to be victims of sexual violence and harassment and boys are more likely to be the perpetrators. However sexual violence and sexual harassment can occur between children of any gender.

### **Curriculum**

- Planned PHSE and SRE will include 'healthy and respectful behaviours'. This will be appropriate to pupils' age and stage of development. It will also be underpinned by the school's behaviour policy and pastoral support system.

### **Responding to an incident**

- Schools will follow DFE guidance, 'Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges' May 2018
- We will liaise with the police, social care and parents as appropriate
- We will offer support to both the victim(s) and perpetrator(s). Parents will be included in discussions about the format that this support will take.

- 5.5 **Children Missing (including absence from school)** – our school recognises the entitlement that all children have to education and will work closely with the local authority to share information about pupils who may be missing out on full time education or who go missing from education. The local authority will also be informed where children are to be removed from the school register a) to be educated outside of the school system; b) for medical reasons; c) because they have ceased to attend; d) because they are in custody; e) because they have been permanently excluded. We also recognise that children who go missing is a sign that they have been targeted by CSE perpetrators and drug related

criminal (County Lines). Children may also be groomed into participating in other forms of criminal exploitation including cybercrime, serious violence and violent crime. Children who attend an alternative education provision are more likely to be vulnerable to these forms of exploitation.

- 5.6 **Child sexual exploitation** is a form of sexual abuse where children are sexually exploited for money, power or status. It can involve violent, humiliating and degrading sexual assaults. In some cases, young people are persuaded or forced into exchanging sexual activity for money, drugs, gifts, affection or status. A significant number of children who are victims of sexual exploitation go missing from home, care and education at some point or are targeted by criminals involved in the illegal supply of drugs (County Lines) and serious violent crime. Staff training includes raising awareness of this issue and any concerns are passed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead who will make a risk assessment and refer to Local Authority First Response Children's Duty if appropriate.
- 5.7 **Child Criminal Exploitation** of children is a form of harm that can affect children in both a physical environment and online. 'County Lines' involves drug networks or individuals exploiting children and young people into carrying drugs and money between cities, towns and villages. Serious violent crime is associated with this form of criminal activity together with child sexual exploitation. Children may also be exploited into committing cybercrime or money laundering offences. Organised criminal groups or individuals exploit children and young people with enhanced computer skills to access digital networks and/or data for criminal and financial gain. Children with bank accounts may be persuaded to allow criminals to use their banking facilities to launder money.
- 5.8 **So-called 'honour-based' violence** (HBV) encompasses crimes which have been committed to protect or defend the so-called "honour" of the family and/or the community, including Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (see appendix 6), forced marriage, and practices such as breast ironing. All forms of so called HBV are abuse (regardless of the motivation) and concerns will be passed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead for onward referral as required.
- 5.9 **Private fostering arrangements** - Where a child under 16 (or 18 with a disability) is living with someone who is not their family or a close relative for 28 days or more, staff inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead so that a referral to Children's Social Care for a safety check, can be made. (A close relative includes step-parent, grandparents, uncle, auntie or sibling).
- 5.10 Complaints or concerns raised by parents or pupils will be taken seriously and followed up in accordance with the school's complaints process.
- 5.11 Support for Staff

As part of their duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people staff may hear information, either from the child/young person as part of a disclosure or from another adult that will be upsetting. Where a member of staff is distressed as a result of dealing with a child protection concern, he/she should in the first instance speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead about the support they require. The Designated Safeguarding Lead should seek to arrange the necessary support.

## **6 Working with parents/carers**

The school will:

- Ensure that parents/carers have an understanding of the responsibility placed on the school and staff for child protection by setting out its obligations in the school prospectus.
- Undertake appropriate discussion with parents/carers prior to involvement of Children & Family Services Children's Social Care or another agency, unless to do so would place the child at risk of harm or compromise an investigation.

## **7 Other Relevant Policies**

7.1 The Governing Body's statutory responsibility for safeguarding the welfare of children goes beyond simply child protection. The duty is to ensure that safeguarding permeates all activity and functions. This policy therefore complements and supports a range of other policies, for instance

- Pupil Behaviour management Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Racists Incidents
- Anti-Bullying (including Cyberbullying)
- Physical Interventions/Restraint (DfE Guidances "Use of Reasonable Force" and "Screening, searching and confiscation")
- Special Educational Needs and Disability
- Trips and visits
- Induction
- First aid and the administration of medicines
- Health and Safety
- Relationships and Sex Education
- Site Security
- Equal Opportunities
- Toileting/Intimate care
- e-safety
- Extended school activities

The above list is not exhaustive but when undertaking development or planning of any kind the school will consider the implications for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

## **8 Recruitment and Selection of Staff**

8.1 The school's safer recruitment processes follow the Statutory Guidance: *Keeping children safe in education September 2018, Part Three: Safer recruitment.*

8.2 The school will provide all the relevant information in references for a member of staff about whom there have been concerns about child protection / inappropriate conduct. Cases in which an allegation has been proven to be unsubstantiated, unfounded, false or malicious will not be included in employer references. A

history of repeated concerns or allegations which have all been found to be unsubstantiated, malicious etc. will also not be included in a reference.

- 8.3 The school has an open safeguarding ethos regularly addressing safeguarding responsibilities during staff meetings and fostering an ongoing culture of vigilance. All new staff and volunteers receive a safeguarding induction and are briefed on the code of conduct for adults working with children. The Leicestershire County Council induction leaflet is given to all staff and is the basis for the safeguarding induction.
- 8.4 In line with statutory requirements, every recruitment process for school staff will have at least one member (teacher/manager or governor) who has undertaken safer recruitment training either online or by attending the local authority one day Safer Recruitment training course.
- 8.5 Staff and volunteers who provide early years or later years childcare and any managers of such childcare are covered by the disqualification regulations of the Childcare Act 2006 and are required to declare relevant information - see statutory guidance: Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006 (June 2016).

## APPENDIX 1

### PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW IN CASES OF POSSIBLE, ALLEGED OR SUSPECTED ABUSE, OR SERIOUS CAUSE FOR CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD

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#### **A. General**

- 1) The Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Partnership Procedures contain the inter-agency processes, protocols and expectations for safeguarding children. (Available on the website [www.lrsb.org.uk](http://www.lrsb.org.uk): The Designated Safeguarding Lead is expected to be familiar with these, particularly the referral processes.
- 2) It is important that all parties act swiftly and avoid delays.
- 3) Any person may seek advice and guidance from the First Response Children's Duty Professionals Consultation Line, particularly if there is doubt about how to proceed. Any adult, whatever their role, can take action in his/her own right to ensure that an allegation or concern is investigated and can report to the investigating agencies.
- 4) Records, dated (including the day) and signed, must be made as to what has been alleged, noticed and reported, and kept securely and confidentially.
- 5) In many cases of concern there will be an expectation that there have already been positive steps taken to work with parents and relevant parties to help alleviate the concerns and effect an improvement for the child. This is appropriate where it is thought a child may be in need in some way, and require assessment to see whether additional support and services are required. An example might be where it is suspected a child may be the subject of neglect. In most cases the parents' knowledge and consent to the referral are expected, unless there is reason for this not being in the child's interest. However, there will be circumstances when informing the parent/carer of a referral that might put the child at risk, and in individual cases advice from Children's Social Care will need to be taken.

#### **B. Individual Staff/Volunteers/Other Adults – main procedural steps**

- 1) When a child makes a disclosure, or when concerns are received from other sources, do not investigate, ask leading questions, examine children, or promise confidentiality. Children making disclosures should be reassured and if possible at this stage should be informed what action will be taken next.

- 2) As soon as possible make a dated (including the day), timed and signed record on a Concern Form of what has been disclosed or noticed, said or done and report to the Designated Safeguarding Lead in the school.
- 3) If the concern involves the conduct of a member of staff or volunteer, a visitor, a governor, a trainee or another young person or child, the Headteacher must be informed.
- 4) If the allegation is about the Headteacher, the information should normally be passed to the Chair of Governors or the Local Authority Allegations Manager (LADO).
- 5) If this has not already been done, inform the child (or other party who has raised the concern) what action you have taken.

### **C. Designated Safeguarding Lead – main procedural steps**

- 1) Begin a case file which will hold a record of communications and actions to be stored securely (see Section on Records, Monitoring and Transfer).
- 2) Where initial enquiries do not justify a referral to the investigating agencies, inform the initiating adult and monitor the situation. If in doubt, seek advice from the First Response professionals Consultation line.
- 3) Share information confidentially with those who need to know.
- 4) Where there is a child protection concern requiring immediate, same day, intervention from Children's Social Care, the First Response Children's Duty should be contacted by phone. Written confirmation should be made within 24 hours on the Multi-Agency Referral Form to Children's Social Care. All other referrals should be made using the online form (see link <http://rsb.org.uk/childreport>).
- 5) If the concern is about children using sexually abusive behaviour, refer to the separate guidance. "Guidance for school working with children who display harmful sexual behaviour" (Leicestershire LA Guidance)
- 6) If it appears that urgent medical attention is required arrange for the child to be taken to hospital (normally this means calling an ambulance) accompanied by a member of staff who must inform medical staff that non-accidental injury is suspected. Parents must be informed that the child has been taken to hospital.
- 7) Exceptional circumstances: If it is feared that the child might be at immediate risk on leaving school, take advice from the First Response Professionals Consultation line (for instance about difficulties if the school day has ended, or on whether to contact the police). Remain with the child until the Social Worker takes responsibility. If in these circumstances a parent arrives to collect the child, the member of staff has no right to withhold the child, unless there are current legal restrictions in force (eg a restraining order). If there are clear signs of physical risk or threat, First Response Children's Duty should be updated and the Police should be contacted immediately.

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **PROCESS FOR DEALING WITH ALLEGATIONS AGAINST STAFF (INCLUDING HEADTEACHERS) AND VOLUNTEERS**

These procedures should be followed in all cases in which there is an allegation or suspicion that a person working with children has:

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child;
- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child; or
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she would pose a risk of harm to children.

Relevant documents:

- DfE “Keeping children safe in education: Statutory guidance for schools and colleges” September 2019 (part 4: Allegations of abuse made against teachers and other staff)

#### **1) Individual Staff/Volunteers/Other Adults who receive the allegation:**

- i. Write a dated and timed note on a Concern Form of what has been disclosed or noticed, said or done.
- ii. Report immediately to the Headteacher.
- iii. Pass on the written record.
- iv. If the allegation concerns the conduct of the Headteacher, report immediately to the Chair of Governors. Pass on the written record. (If there is difficulty reporting to the Chair of Governors, contact the Allegations Manager, Safeguarding and Improvement Unit as soon as possible.)

#### **2) Headteacher (or Chair of Govenors)**

- i. If there is no written record, write a dated and timed note of what has been disclosed or noticed, said or done.
- ii. Before taking further action notify and seek advice from the Allegations Manager (LADO), Safeguarding and Improvement Unit on the same day.
- iii. You may be asked to clarify details or the circumstances of the allegation, but this must not amount to an investigation.
- iv. Report to First Response Children’s Duty if the Allegations Manager so advises or if circumstances require a referral concerning a child.
- v. Ongoing involvement in cases:



- Liaison with the Allegations Manager (LADO)
- Co-operation with the investigating agency's enquiries as appropriate.
- Consideration of employment issues and possible disciplinary action where the investigating agencies take no further action.
- Possible referral to the DBS or The Teaching Regulation Agency, depending on the outcome.

## **APPENDIX 3**

### **Safeguarding pupils who are vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation**

Our school recognises the duties placed on us by the Counter Terrorism Bill (July 2015) to prevent our pupils being drawn into terrorism.

These include:

- Assessing the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism
- Working in partnership with relevant agencies under the Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures
- Appropriate staff training
- Appropriate online filtering

Our school is committed to actively promoting the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. The pupils are encouraged to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

There is a current threat from terrorism in the UK and this can include the exploitation of vulnerable young people, aiming to involve them in terrorism or to be active in supporting terrorism.

Our school seeks to protect children and young people against the messages of all violent extremism including but not restricted to those linked to Islamic Ideology, Far Right / Neo Nazi / White Supremacist ideology etc. Concerns should be referred to the Single Point Of Contact (SPOC) who have local contact details for Prevent and Channel referrals. They will also consider whether circumstances require Police to be contacted.

## **APPENDIX 4**

### **Female Genital Mutilation**

Section 5B of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 and section 74 of the Serious Crime Act 2015 places a mandatory duty on teachers along with social workers and healthcare professionals to report to the police where they discover that FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18. The mandatory reporting duty commenced in October 2015. Teachers will follow the established safeguarding procedure by reporting any such concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and a report must also be made to the Police.

There will be a considered safeguarding response towards any girl who is identified as being at risk of FGM (eg there is a known history of practising FGM in her family, community or country of origin) which may include sensitive conversations with the girl and her family, sharing information with professionals from other agencies and/or making a referral to Children's Social Care. If the risk of harm is imminent there are a number of emergency measures that can be taken including police protection, an FGM protection order and an Emergency Protection Order.

This policy should be reviewed annually:

Signed .....

Full Governing Body .....

Date .....