



WINGRAVE

Church of England School

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Safeguarding & Prevent Policy

Adopted by the GB at the meeting of the Curriculum, Community & Pupil Committee

Date of meeting: 1st February 2024

Minute number: 12

Signed by: Kate Parfoot (Chair of committee)

Signature:

Where new legislation alters school procedures, the appropriate policies will be updated to reflect new practice at the point of the next review

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| Reviewed by | KP | Review Cycle | 1 | Legally Required | ✓ | Website | ✓ |
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School Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy Framework

This policy underpins the commitment and culture around Child Protection in our school. Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is **everyone's** responsibility. **Everyone** who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all professionals should make sure their approach is child-centred. This means that they should consider, at all times, what is in the **best interests** of the child.

(Keeping Children Safe in Education including updates)

1. Ethos statement

At Wingrave CE School, we recognise the moral and statutory responsibility placed on all staff and stakeholders to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children. We aim to provide a safe and welcoming environment, underpinned by our vision and a culture of openness where: both children and adults feel secure, are able to raise concerns, believe they are being listened to, and that appropriate action will be taken to keep them safe.



2. Introduction

The governing body¹ recognises the need to ensure that it complies with its duties under legislation and this policy has regard to statutory guidance, Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE), Working Together to Safeguard Children and locally agreed inter-agency procedures and partners including Buckinghamshire County Council (www.bucksscp.org.uk), Buckinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Thames Valley Police.

This policy will be reviewed annually, as a minimum, and will be made available publicly via the school website or on request.

¹ In maintained schools the governing body is responsible for ensuring their functions are exercised with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in accordance with section 175 of the Education Act 2002, for pupil referral units it is the management committee, in independent schools, including academies and free schools this duty sits with the proprietor. References to the governing body throughout this policy framework includes management committees.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as: protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's health or development; ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes. We note therefore that any form of harassment, violence or abuse may breach children's rights, as set out in the Human Rights Act.

The school and Governors have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications and support available for pupils with protected characteristics and specific needs. This is part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, take positive action to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

This policy is for all staff, parents, governors, volunteers and the wider school community. It forms part of the child protection and safeguarding arrangements for our school and is one of a suite of policies and procedures which encompass the safeguarding responsibilities of the school. In particular, this policy should be read in conjunction with our:

- Anti Bullying Policy
- Anti Harassment at Work Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Code of Conduct for Parents
- Confidentiality for Parents Policy
- Intimate Care Policy
- Handbook for Staff
- Acceptable use of IT Policy/E-safety
- School Charter
- Whistle Blowing Policy

The aims of this policy are to:

- Provide staff with a framework to promote and safeguard the wellbeing of children and young people and ensure that they understand and meet their statutory responsibilities;
- Ensure consistent good practice across the school.

The governing body expects that all staff will know and understand this child protection and safeguarding policy and their responsibility to implement it. Staff must, as a minimum, have read and understood [Part One of KCSiE](#). Governors will ensure that they have read and understood [Parts One and Two of KCSiE](#).

The governing body will ensure that arrangements are in place for all staff members to receive appropriate safeguarding and e-safety training which is regularly updated.

Compliance with the policy will be monitored by the Headteacher, designated safeguarding leads (DSLs) and named safeguarding governor.

3. Statutory framework

Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 in the case of maintained schools and pupil referral units², Section 157 of the Education Act and the Education (Independent Schools) Regulations 2014 for independent schools (including academies and free schools) place a statutory duty on governing bodies and proprietors to have policies and procedures in place that safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people who are pupils of the school which must have regard to any guidance given by the Secretary of State.

In accordance with statutory guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023, local safeguarding arrangements must be established for every local authority area by the three safeguarding partners (Local Authority, Police and Clinical Commissioning Groups). All three partners have equal and joint responsibility for a range of roles and statutory functions including developing local safeguarding policy and procedures and scrutinising local arrangements. In Buckinghamshire, all professionals including staff in schools should work in accordance with all multi-agency procedures.

4. Key roles and responsibilities

Governing Body/Proprietor

The governing body has a legal responsibility to make sure that there are appropriate policies and procedures in place in order for appropriate action to be taken in a timely manner to safeguard and promote children and young people's welfare, and to monitor that the school complies with them. The governing body should also ensure that the policy is made available to parents and carers by publishing this on the school website or in writing if requested.

The governing body will ensure that the school contributes to multi-agency working in line with statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children and that the school's safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practice of the locally agreed multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in place.

It is the responsibility of the governing body to ensure that staff and volunteers are properly vetted to make sure they are safe to work with the pupils who attend our school and that the school has procedures for appropriately managing allegations of abuse made against members of staff (including the Headteacher and volunteer helpers).

The governing body will ensure that there is a named governor for safeguarding, at least two Designated Safeguarding Leads (including the Headteacher) who have lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection, to promote the educational achievement of children who are looked after or previously looked after, and will ensure that these people have the appropriate training.

The governing body will inform Buckinghamshire County Council annually about the discharge of their safeguarding duties by completing the safeguarding self-assessment audit.

² Section 175, Education Act 2002 – for management committees of pupil referral units, this is by virtue of regulation 3 and paragraph 19A of Schedule 1 to the Education (Pupil Referral Units) (Application of Enactments) (England) Regulations 2007

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

The DSLs should take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety). This should be explicit in the role-holder's job description. (The broad areas of responsibility and activities related to the role of the DSL are set out in Annex B of KCSiE).

The DSLs will have the appropriate status and authority to carry out the duties of the post.

The DSL and any alternate DSLs should liaise with the local authority and work with other agencies in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children.

During term time, a DSL should always be available during school hours for staff to discuss any safeguarding concerns. The DSL will make arrangements for adequate and appropriate cover arrangements for any out of hours/out of term time activities. Out of hours/out of term time contact details for DSLs are held by Buckinghamshire County Council.

The DSLs will undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills to carry out the role. This training will be updated annually.

The DSLs will be aware of pupils who have a social worker and the additional associated risk. When making new referrals, DSLs will provide as much information as possible to ensure social care assessments consider contexts outside the home and enable a contextual approach to harm.

The DSLs will help promote educational outcomes by sharing the information about the welfare, safeguarding and child protection issues with teachers and school staff as appropriate.

Headteacher

The Headteacher will ensure that the policies and procedures adopted by the governing body are fully implemented and that sufficient resources and time are allocated to enable staff members to discharge their safeguarding responsibilities.

All staff

All staff have a responsibility to provide a safe environment in which children can learn.

All staff must read and ensure they understand at least Part One of KCSiE.

All staff must ensure they are familiar with the systems within school which support safeguarding, including the child protection and safeguarding policy, staff handbook, the behaviour policy, the safeguarding response to children who are absent from education (previously missing, CMIE), and the role of the DSL (including the identity of the DSL and any deputies).

All staff should be aware of indicators of abuse and neglect so that they are able to identify cases of children who may be in need of help or protection.

All staff should know what to do if a child tells them he/she is being abused or neglected.

Safeguarding Policy

All staff should be aware of the process for making referrals to children's social care and for statutory assessments under the Children Act 1989 that may follow a referral, especially section 17 (children in need) and section 47 (a child suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm) along with the role they might be expected to play in such assessments.

All staff should be aware of the early help process and understand their role within it. This includes providing support as soon as a problem emerges, liaising with the DSL, and sharing information with other professionals in order to support early identification and assessment, focussing on providing interventions to avoid escalation of worries and needs (see Section 12: Information Sharing). In some cases, staff may be asked to act as the lead professional in undertaking an early help assessment.

Any child may benefit from early help, but all school and college staff should be particularly alert to the potential need for early help for a child who:

- is disabled and has specific additional needs
- has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory Education, Health and Care Plan)
- is a young carer
- is showing signs of being drawn in to anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups
- is frequently absent/goes missing from care or from home
- is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation
- is at risk of being radicalised or exploited
- is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for and/or witnessed by the child, such as drug and alcohol misuse, adult mental health issues or domestic abuse
- is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves
- has returned home to their family from care
- is a privately fostered child

Knowing what to look out for is vital to the early identification of abuse and neglect. If staff are unsure, they should always speak to a DSL. If in exceptional circumstances a DSL is not available, this should not delay appropriate action being taken, and staff will be provided with alternative contact, for example, the DSL from a neighbouring school. Staff should consider speaking to a member of the senior leadership team and/or take advice from children's social care. In these circumstances, any action taken should be shared with the DSL as soon as is practically possible.

| Role: | Name and contact details: |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) | Mr Matt Tomson, Headteacher |
| Alternate DSL | Ms Janet Lee, Assistant Head & Year 6 Teacher |
| Alternate DSL | Miss Shelley Weeks, Assistant Head & EYFS Teacher |
| Named safeguarding governor | Ms Kate Parfoot |
| Chair of Governors | Rev Howard Robson |
| School e-Safety Lead | Mr Jack Seymour |

5. Training

The governing body will ensure that all staff and Governors receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training which is regularly updated. In addition, all staff members will 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.

All new staff members, Governors or volunteers will attend a safeguarding briefing, including e-safety, at induction. Full training will follow as soon as possible and will include training on the school's safeguarding and child protection policy, online safety, the behaviour policy, the safeguarding response to children who are absent from education, and the role of the designated safeguarding lead. Copies of the school's policies, procedures and Part One of KCSiE will be provided to new staff at induction.

The Headteacher will ensure that an accurate record of safeguarding training undertaken by all staff is maintained and updated regularly.

The Governing Body are aware of their obligations under the relevant Acts and ensure that the Headteacher and DSLs have adequate funding, time and resources to carry out their safeguarding and e-safety duties effectively.

6. Recognising concerns - signs and indicators of abuse.

Abuse and Neglect

Knowing what to look for is vital to the early identification of abuse and neglect. All staff should be aware of indicators of abuse and neglect so that they are able to identify cases of children who may be in need of help or protection. If staff are unsure, they should always speak to the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy).

All school and college staff should be aware that abuse, neglect and safeguarding issues are rarely stand-alone events that can be covered by one definition or label. In most cases, multiple issues will overlap with one another.

All staff should be aware that safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours can be associated with factors outside the school or college and/or can occur between children outside of these environments. All staff, but especially the designated safeguarding lead (and deputies) should consider whether children are at risk of abuse or exploitation in situations outside their families. Extra-familial harms take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple harms including (but not limited to) sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, and serious youth violence.

The following indicators of abuse and neglect are not an exhaustive list:

Abuse: a form of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others. Abuse

can take place wholly online, or technology may be used to facilitate offline abuse. Children may be abused by an adult or adults or by another child or children.

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

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

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

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

(Source Keeping Children Safe in Education including updates)

Mental Health: In addition, all staff should be aware that mental health problems can, in some cases, be an indicator that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation. School staff are not expected or trained to diagnose mental health conditions or issues, but may notice behaviours that may be of concern. Where staff have a mental health concern about a child that may also be a safeguarding concern, they should raise the

issue by informing a Designated safeguarding Lead. The school are exploring training to certify a Mental Health Lead.

Social Care Involvement: We recognise that when a child has a social worker, it is an indicator that the child is more at risk than most pupils. This may mean that they are more vulnerable to further harm, as well as facing educational barriers to attendance, learning, behaviour and poor mental health. We take these needs into account when making plans to support pupils who have a social worker. These cases are discussed regularly by the school DSLs and with the safeguarding Governor.

7. Specific safeguarding issues

All staff should have an awareness of safeguarding issues that can put children at risk of harm. Behaviours linked to issues such as drug taking, alcohol abuse, deliberately being absent from education and sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery) put children in danger.

All staff should be aware that safeguarding issues can manifest themselves via child on child abuse. This is most likely to include, but may not be limited to:

- bullying (including cyberbullying)
- physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm
- sexual violence, such as rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault
- sexual harassment, such as sexual comments, remarks, jokes and online sexual harassment, which may be stand-alone or part of a broader pattern of abuse.
- upskirting, which typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttock to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm
- sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery); and
- initiation/hazing type violence and rituals

All staff should be clear about the school's policy and procedures with regards to child on child abuse.

Serious violence

All staff should be aware of the indicators and risk factors which may signal that children are at risk from, or involved with, serious violent crime. These may include:

- increased absence or exclusion from school
- a change in friendships or relationships with older individuals or groups
- a significant decline in performance
- signs of self-harm or a significant change in wellbeing
- signs of assault or unexplained injuries.
- experience of child maltreatment
- involvement in offending, such as theft or robbery
- being male

Unexplained gifts or new possessions could also indicate that children have been approached by, or are involved with, individuals associated with criminal networks or gangs.

Safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours can be associated with factors outside the school and/or can occur between children outside the school. All staff, especially the DSL (or deputy), should be considering the context within which such incidents and/or behaviours occur. This is known as contextual safeguarding. Assessments of children should consider whether wider environmental factors are present in a child's life that are a threat to their safety and/or welfare. It is important that staff provide as much information as possible as part of the referral process. Additional information regarding contextual safeguarding can be found here: [Contextual Safeguarding](#)

Further information about specific forms of abuse and safeguarding issues can be found in Appendix A. All staff should familiarise themselves with this.

8. Curriculum

The governing body will ensure that children and young people are taught about safeguarding, including online safety, through teaching and learning opportunities as part of a broad and balanced curriculum. This is in order to help children stay safe, recognise when they do not feel safe and identify who they might or can talk to.

This may include covering relevant issues through Relationships Education and Relationships and Sex Education (also known as Sex and Relationship Education) and through Personal, Social, Health and Economic education (PHSE).³

The governing body will also ensure there is a comprehensive curriculum response to e-safety issues, enabling children and young people and their parents to learn about the risks of new technologies, communication and social media and how to use these responsibly.

The school will ensure that there are appropriate filters and monitoring systems in place to safeguard children and young people from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material. Our School leadership/DSLs liaise at least annually with our technical support and internet provider around web filtering and monitoring.

9. Online safety

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

The DSLs take lead responsibility for online safety, and filtering & monitoring as part of safeguarding procedures in place. All staff however must understand their roles and responsibilities in this area.

Online safety issues can be categorised into three areas of risk:

- Content: being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material, for example, pornography, fake news, racist or radical and extremist views;
- Contact: being exposed to harmful online interaction with other users, for example, commercial advertising as well as adults posing as children or young adults; and

³ The government has made regulations which will make the subjects of Relationships Education (for all primary pupils) and Relationships and Sex Education (for all secondary pupils) and Health Education (for all pupils in state funded schools) mandatory from September 2020.

- **Conduct:** personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm, for example, making, sending and receiving explicit images, or online bullying.

The governing body has had due regard to the additional guidance and support set out in KCSiE and UKCIS, and will ensure that the school has a whole school approach to online safety and has a clear policy on use of communications technology in and out of school.

The school's internet provider includes a thorough filtering system in order to safeguard all internet use of site. Staff however are aware that all internet use should still be monitored each lesson and children are reminded to report any images or content which concerns them or is inappropriate.

Training is provided to staff, and children are taught about the importance of e-safety through, for example, PSHE lessons, Computing lessons, specialist assemblies and visitors. Workshop opportunities are also provided to parents.

During periods of lockdown or remote-learning, the school provides access to secure platforms and clear safety guidance for parents and children. Regular e-safety information is provided throughout the school year with timely reminders when a specific resource is used. Children are regularly reminded to seek their parent's/carer's permission in all cases.

School staff can access resources, information and support as set out in Annex C of KCSiE.

Incidents of sexual harassment between children online, including mobile and smart technology/networks, will be managed within our behaviour and safeguarding procedures as appropriate to the specific case.

We note the ease of access to mobile internet access however mobile devices are not permitted by pupils in school and clear guidance is issued to staff regarding use of personal devices.

10. Child on child abuse

In most instances, the conduct of pupils towards each other will be covered by the behaviour policy. However, some allegations may be of such a serious nature that they may raise safeguarding concerns. The school is clear that abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as "banter", "just having a laugh" or "part of growing up". The school takes such matters very seriously with a zero-tolerance approach. Staff will challenge inappropriate behaviour, ensuring that pupils involved should not feel ashamed and will be supported. It would be explained, for example, that the laws around this are in place to protect rather than criminalise.

Child on child abuse can manifest itself in many ways and may include sexual violence and sexual harassment, physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm, sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery), initiation/hazing type violence and rituals.

Any incidents of serious child on child abuse will be managed according to school safeguarding procedures which detail measures to minimise the risk of child on child abuse, how allegations of peer abuse will be recorded, investigated and dealt with, and processes for how victims, perpetrators and any other child affected by child on child abuse will be

supported. No everyone subject to abuse considers themselves a victim – terminology around victims and perpetrators will be used appropriately to the context and the age of those involved.

We acknowledge that even if no cases are being reported, child on child abuse could still be taking place and staff will therefore remain vigilant at all times.

11. Procedures

If staff notice any indicators of abuse/neglect or signs that a child or young person may be experiencing a safeguarding issue they should record their concerns online on a CPOMS incident form and this should be brought to the attention of a DSL without delay. A screenshot of the CPOMS incident form is included at Appendix B.

We regularly promote the importance of being safe and happy in school, for example, through PSHE lessons, collective worship and class discussions. Children are encouraged to remain aware of their well-being and that of others and to speak to a trusted adult with any concerns. We acknowledge that children may not find it easy to talk about any abuse verbally and therefore the school's safeguarding culture and approach to such matters is supportive and effective.

Any organisation or party who uses the school premises for private or school-related activities (wraparound care, clubs, lettings etc.) will be required to inform the school of any safeguarding concerns or issues so that that our school procedures are followed and requirements met, including the LADO. Being subject to our school safeguarding procedures is clearly stated in our Lettings Policy which is provided as part of any agreement.

What to do if you are concerned.

If a child makes an allegation or disclosure of abuse against an adult or other child or young person, it is important that you:

- Stay calm and listen carefully;
- Accept what is being said;
- Allow the child/young person to talk freely – do not interrupt or put words in the child/young person's mouth;
- Only ask questions when necessary to clarify, do not investigate or ask leading questions;
- Reassure the child, but don't make promises which it might not be possible to keep;
- Do not promise confidentiality;
- Emphasise that it was the right thing to tell someone;
- Reassure them that what has happened is not their fault;
- Do not criticise the perpetrator;
- Explain what has to be done next and who has to be told;
- Make a written record, which should be signed and include the time, date and your position in school;
- Do not include your opinion without stating it is your opinion;
- Pass the information to a DSL or alternate without delay
- Consider the possible and subsequent health needs that might arise for the child, such as physical, mental and sexual health problems.

- Consider seeking support for yourself and discuss this with the DSL as dealing with a disclosure can be distressing.

As a school we note children may not feel ready or know how to tell someone they are being abused. The nature of speaking to a trusted adult about worries or concerns, and providing a safe space for all children to do this, is a running theme in all school practise.

When a record of a safeguarding concern is logged on CPOMS for the attention of a DSL, the DSL will assess the concern and, taking into account any other safeguarding information known about the child/young person, consider whether it suggests that the threshold of significant harm, or risk of significant harm, has been reached. If the DSL is unsure whether the threshold has been met they will contact the Bucks First response Team for advice (01296 383962). Where appropriate, the DSL will complete and submit a multi-agency referral form (MARF).

Where the DSL believes that a child or young person may be at imminent and significant harm risk of harm they should call the First Response Team immediately and then complete a MARF within 24 hours to confirm the referral. In these circumstances, it is important that any consultation should not delay a referral to First Response.

Where a safeguarding concern does not meet the threshold for completion of a MARF, the DSL should record how this decision has been reached and should consider whether additional needs and feelings of the child have been identified that might be met by a coordinated offer of early help. Equally if an allegation is found to be unsubstantiated, unfounded, false or malicious, the DSL will consider whether the child who has made the allegation is in need of support or may have been abused by someone else.

School staff might be required to contribute to multi-agency plans to provide additional support to children. This might include attendance at child protection conferences or core group meetings. The school is committed to providing as much relevant up to date information about the child as possible, including submitting reports for child protection conferences in advance of the meeting in accordance with county procedures.

Where reasonably possible, the school is committed to obtaining more than one emergency contact number for each pupil.

School staff must ensure that they are aware of the procedure to follow when a child is absent from education. Further information can be found in Appendix A.

Where an external organisation uses the school premises for pupil-based activities or events, the school ensures that appropriate safeguarding and child protection policy procedures are in place. A school-led induction takes place with all non-school staff to ensure their understanding of safeguarding aligns with ours. The school collaborates with all such agencies to ensure that information pertinent to the safeguarding and care of its' pupils is provided as appropriate.

12. Information sharing, record keeping and confidentiality

Information sharing is vital in identifying and tacking all forms of abuse.

As part of meeting a child's needs, the school understands that it is critical to recognise the importance of information sharing between professionals and local agencies and will contribute to multi-agency working in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children.

Where there are concerns about the safety of a child, the sharing of information in a timely and effective manner between organisations can reduce the risk of harm. Whilst the Data Protection Act 2018 places duties on organisations and individuals to process personal information fairly and lawfully, it is not a barrier to sharing information where the failure to do so would result in a child or vulnerable adult being placed at risk of harm. Similarly, human concerns, such as respecting the right to a private family life would not prevent sharing where there are real safeguarding concerns including intra-familial harm and/or impact or support for non-school siblings. Staff should not assume a colleague or another professional will take action and share information that might be critical in keeping children safe. Staff will have regard to the Government guidance: Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services which supports staff who have to make decisions about sharing information. This advice includes the seven golden rules for sharing information and considerations with regard to the Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). If in any doubt about sharing information, staff should speak to a DSL.

Well-kept records are essential to good child protection practice and the use of the CPOMS system supports this. All concerns, discussions and decisions made and the reasons for those decisions will be noted on CPOMS. At Wingrave CE School we introduced the online CPOMS system to manage and track concerns (See Appendix B for a CPOMS incident form screenshot).

Incident forms are allocated categories for tracking and cross-reference purposes by child, family, incident etc. and DSLs are copied in automatically. Relevant staff, actions, documents and communications can all be added/included in an incident form.

If in doubt about recording requirements, staff should discuss with a DSL or contact the school's Data Protection Officer (DPO), Nicola Cook.

The school recognises that confidentiality should be maintained in respect of all matters relating to child protection. Information on individual child protection cases may be shared by the DSLs with other relevant members of staff. This will be on a 'need to know' basis and where it is in the child's best interests to do so.

A member of staff must never guarantee confidentiality to anyone about a safeguarding concern (including parents / carers or pupils), or promise a child to keep a secret which might compromise the child's safety or wellbeing.

The school will always undertake to share its intention to refer a child to Social Care with their parents /carers unless to do so could put the child at greater risk of harm, or impede a criminal investigation. If in doubt, staff will consult with the First Response Team/MASH (Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub).

Where a parent expresses their intention to home educate, the school commits to working with the family and external agencies in the best interest of the child to ensure safety and support is maintained. We acknowledge this is especially important when a child has specific needs, vulnerable or involved with social care.

13. Managing allegations made against members of staff or volunteers

The school recognise the possibility that adults working in the school may harm children including Governors, volunteers and specialist/supply/agency staff. The school's Whistleblowing Policy will be followed if an allegation is made against an adult in a position of trust.

An allegation is any information which indicates that a member of staff /volunteer has:

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

This applies to any child the member of staff/volunteer has contact with in their personal, professional or community life. It also applies regardless of whether the alleged abuse took place in our school.

If any member of staff has concerns that a colleague or volunteer might pose a risk to children, it is their duty to report these to the Headteacher. Where the concerns or allegations are about the Headteacher, these should be referred to the Chair of Governors.

The Headteacher/Chair of Governors should report the concern to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) within one working day on 01296 382070.

The school acknowledges that low-level concerns must still be shared through the appropriate safeguarding procedures even if these do not meet the threshold. A low-level concern is any concern that an adult has acted in a way that:

- is inconsistent with the staff code of conduct, including inappropriate conduct both at and outside of work
- does not meet the allegations threshold or is not considered serious enough to refer to the local authority designated officer (LADO).

Examples of low-level concerns could include:

- being over friendly with children
- having favourites
- taking photographs of children on their mobile phone
- engaging with a child one-to-one in a secluded area or behind a closed door
- using inappropriate sexualised, intimidating or offensive language.

Any low level concern should be reported to the Headteacher or Assistant Headteachers who all hold a DSL position. Concerns which involve non-school staff (e.g. agency staff/teachers) would be reported to their agency and the LADO.

The school acknowledges that lessons can be learnt and procedures improved by any case or concern regardless of evidence or outcome.

14. Whistleblowing

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

Whistleblowing is 'making a disclosure in the public interest' and occurs when a worker (or member of the wider school community) raises a concern about danger or illegality that affects others, for example, pupils in the school or members of the public.

All staff should be aware of their duty to raise concerns, where they exist, about the management of child protection, which may include the attitude or actions/inactions of colleagues, poor or unsafe practice and potential failures in the school's safeguarding arrangements.

The governing body would wish for everyone in the school community to feel able to report any child protection/safeguarding concerns through existing procedures within school, including the whistleblowing procedure adopted by governors/proprietor where necessary. However, for members of staff who do not feel able to raise such concerns internally, there is a NSPCC whistleblowing helpline. Staff can call 0800 028 0285 (line available from 8.00am to 8.00pm, Monday to Friday) or email: help@nspcc.org.uk

15. Useful Contacts:

- Head of Service 01296 382758
- First Response Team 01296 383962
- Social Care, Out of Hours: 0800 999 7677
- Thames Valley Police including Operation Encompass (Domestic Abuse) 101 (999 in case of emergency)
- School Nurse Team bht.schoolhealth-enquiries@nhs.net
- Family Information Service, www.bucksfamilyinfo.org 0845 688 4944
- SchoolsWeb <https://schoolsweb.buckscc.gov.uk>
- Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Professional Helpline: 0345 606 1499
- NSPCC including Female Genital Mutilation 0800 800 5000
- Childline 0800 11 11
- Kidscape Bullying Helpline www.kidscape.org.uk/about-kidscape/contact-us/
- Samaritans 0845 790 9090
- CEOP Safety Centre [CEOP](http://www.ceop.gov.uk) (Child Exploitation and Online Protection)

Safeguarding Policy

- Foreign and Commonwealth Office 0207 008 0151 (Forced Marriages Section)
- Crimestoppers 0800 555 111
- www.gov.uk/government/publications/multi-agency-statutory-guidance-on-female-genital-mutilation
- Channel/Prevent/Protect 020 7340 7264 (Anti-Radicalisation)

16. Appendix A

Further information on specific safeguarding issues (source: Annex A, KCSiE)

Children and the court system

Children are sometimes required to give evidence in criminal courts, either for crimes committed against them or for crimes they have witnessed. There are two age appropriate guides to support children [5-11 year olds](#) and [12-17 year olds](#).

They explain each step of the process and support and special measures that are available. There are diagrams illustrating the courtroom structure and the use of video links is explained.

Making child arrangements via the family courts following separation can be stressful and entrench conflict in families. This can be stressful for children. The Ministry of Justice has launched an online [child arrangements information tool](#) with clear and concise information on the dispute resolution service. This may be useful for some parents and carers.

Children Absent from education

All staff should be aware that children absent from education (previously missing from education), particularly repeatedly, can act as a vital warning sign of a range of safeguarding possibilities. This may include abuse and neglect, which may include sexual abuse or exploitation and child criminal exploitation. It may indicate mental health problems, risk of substance abuse, risk of travelling to conflict zone, risk of female genital mutilation or risk of forced marriage. Early intervention is necessary to identify the existence of any underlying safeguarding risk and to help prevent the risks of a child being absent in future. Staff should be aware of their school or college's unauthorised absence and children absent from education procedures.

Children with family members in prison

Approximately 200,000 children in England and Wales have a parent sent to prison each year. These children are at risk of poor outcomes including poverty, stigma, isolation and poor mental health. [NICCO](#) provides information designed to support professionals working with offenders and their children, to help mitigate negative consequences for those children.

Child sexual exploitation

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

- can affect any child or young person (male or female) under the age of 18 years, including 16 and 17 year olds who can legally consent to have sex
- can manifest differently in girls and boys and may not be recognised by adults and professionals
- can still be abuse even if the sexual activity appears consensual

- can include both contact (penetrative and non-penetrative acts) and non-contact sexual activity
- can take place in person or via technology, or a combination of both
- can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and may, or may not, be accompanied by violence or threats of violence
- may occur without the child or young person's immediate knowledge (e.g. through others copying videos or images they have created and posted on social media)
- can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and children or adults. The abuse can be a one-off occurrence or a series of incidents over time, and range from opportunistic to complex organised abuse; and
- is typified by some form of power imbalance in favour of those perpetrating the abuse. Whilst age may be the most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, sexual identity, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources.

Some of the following signs may be indicators of child sexual exploitation:

- children who appear with unexplained gifts or new possessions
- children who associate with other young people involved in exploitation
- children who have older boyfriends or girlfriends
- children who suffer from sexually transmitted infections or become pregnant
- children who suffer from changes in emotional well-being
- children who misuse drugs and alcohol
- children who are absent for periods of time or regularly come home late; and
- children who regularly miss school or education or do not take part in education.

Child criminal exploitation (CCE): County Lines

Criminal exploitation of children is a geographically widespread form of harm that is a typical feature of county lines criminal activity: drug networks or gangs groom and exploit children and young people to carry drugs and money from urban areas to suburban and rural areas, market and seaside towns. The key to identifying potential involvement in county lines is absent, when the victim may have been trafficked for the purpose of transporting drugs and a referral to the National Referral Mechanism⁴ should be considered. Like other forms of abuse and exploitation, county lines exploitation:

- can affect any child or young person (male or female) under the age of 18 years
- can affect any vulnerable adult over the age of 18 years
- can still be exploitation even if the activity appears consensual
- can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and is often accompanied by violence or threats of violence
- can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and young people or adults; and
- is typified by some form of power imbalance in favour of those perpetrating the exploitation. Whilst age may be the most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources.

Domestic abuse

The cross-government definition of domestic abuse is:

⁴ [National crime agency human-trafficking](#)

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

- psychological
- physical
- sexual
- financial; and
- emotional

Exposure to and witnessing domestic abuse and/or violence can have a serious, long lasting emotional and psychological impact on children. In some cases, a child may blame themselves for the abuse or may have had to leave the family home as a result. Domestic abuse affecting young people can also occur within their personal relationships (including teenage relationships), as well as in the context of their home life.

Advice on identifying children who are affected by domestic abuse and how they can be helped is available at:

[NSPCC-UK domestic-abuse signs symptoms effects](#)

[Refuge what is domestic violence/effects of domestic violence on children](#)

[Safelives: young people and domestic abuse](#)

Homelessness

Being homeless or at risk of becoming homeless presents a real risk to a child's welfare. The designated safeguarding lead (and any deputies) should be aware of contact details and referral routes in to the Local Housing Authority so they can raise/progress concerns at the earliest opportunity. Indicators that a family may be at risk of homelessness include household debt, rent arrears, domestic abuse and anti-social behaviour, as well as the family being asked to leave a property. Whilst referrals and/or discussion with the Local Housing Authority should be progressed as appropriate, this does not, and should not, replace a referral into children's social care where a child has been harmed or is at risk of harm.

The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 places a new legal duty on English councils so that everyone who is homeless or at risk of homelessness will have access to meaningful help including an assessment of their needs and circumstances, the development of a personalised housing plan, and work to help them retain their accommodation or find a new place to live. The following factsheets usefully summarise the new duties. [Homeless Reduction Act Factsheets](#). The new duties shift focus to early intervention and encourage those at risk to seek support as soon as possible, before they are facing a homelessness crisis.

In most cases school and college staff will be considering homelessness in the context of children who live with their families, and intervention will be on that basis. However, it should also be recognised in some cases 16 and 17 year olds could be living independently from their family home, and will require a different level of intervention and support. Children's services will be the lead agency for these young people and the designated safeguarding lead (or a deputy) should ensure appropriate referrals are made based on the child's circumstances. The department and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local

Government have just published joint statutory guidance on the provision of accommodation for 16 and 17 year olds who may be homeless and/or require accommodation: [here](#)

So-called ‘honour-based’ violence (including Female Genital Mutilation and Forced Marriage)

So-called honour-based violence (HBV) encompasses incidents or crimes which have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or the community, including female genital mutilation (FGM), forced marriage, and practices such as breast ironing. Abuse committed in the context of preserving “honour” often involves a wider network of family or community pressure and can include multiple perpetrators. It is important to be aware of this dynamic and additional risk factors when deciding what form of safeguarding action to take. All forms of HBV are abuse (regardless of the motivation) and should be handled and escalated as such. Professionals in all agencies, and individuals and groups in relevant communities, need to be alert to the possibility of a child being at risk of HBV, or already having suffered HBV.

Actions

If staff have a concern regarding a child that might be at risk of HBV or who has suffered from HBV, they should speak to the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy). As appropriate, they will activate local safeguarding procedures, using existing national and local protocols for multiagency liaison with police and children’s social care. Where FGM has taken place, since 31 October 2015 there has been a mandatory reporting duty placed on **teachers**⁵ that requires a different approach (see following section).

FGM

FGM comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs. It is illegal in the UK and a form of child abuse with long-lasting harmful consequences.

FGM mandatory reporting duty for teachers

Section 5B of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 (as inserted by section 74 of the Serious Crime Act 2016) places a statutory duty upon **teachers** along with regulated health and social care professionals in England and Wales, to report to the police where they discover (either through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence) that FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18. Those failing to report such cases will face sanctions. It will be rare for teachers to see visual evidence and they should **not** be examining pupils, but the same definition of what is meant by “to discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out” is used for all professionals to whom this mandatory reporting duty applies. Information on when and how to make a report can be found at: [Mandatory reporting of female genital mutilation procedural information](#).

Teachers **must** personally report to the police cases where they discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out.⁶ Unless the teacher has good reason not to, they should still consider and discuss any such case with the school or college’s designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) and involve children’s social care as appropriate. The duty does not apply in

⁵ Under Section 5B(11)(a) of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003, “teacher” means, in relation to England, a person within section 141A(1) of the Education Act 2002 (persons employed or engaged to carry out teaching work at schools and other institutions in England).

⁶ Section 5B(6) of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 states teachers need not report a case to the police if they have reason to believe that another teacher has already reported the case.

relation to at risk or suspected cases (i.e. where the teacher does not discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out, either through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence) or in cases where the woman is 18 or over. The following is a useful summary of the FGM mandatory reporting duty: [FGM Fact Sheet](#).

Forced marriage

Forcing a person into marriage is a crime in England and Wales. A forced marriage is one entered into without the full and free consent of one or both parties under the age of 18, regardless of the use of violence, threats or any other form of coercion. Threats can be physical or emotional or psychological. This includes unofficial, non-binding marriages.

A lack of full and free consent can be where a person does not consent or where they cannot consent (if they have learning disabilities, for example.) Nevertheless, some communities use religion and culture as a way to coerce a person into marriage, Schools and colleges can play an important role in safeguarding children from forced marriage.

The Forced Marriage Unit has published [statutory guidance](#) and [Multi-agency guidelines](#), with pages 35-36 of which focus on the role of schools and colleges. School and college staff can contact the Forced Marriage Unit if they need advice or information: Contact: 020 7008 0151 or email fmufco.gov.uk.

Preventing radicalisation

Children are susceptible to extremist ideology and radicalisation. Similar to protecting children from other forms of harm and abuse, protecting children from this risk should be a part of a school's or college's safeguarding approach.

[Extremism](#)⁷ is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

[Radicalisation](#)⁸ refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

There is no single way of identifying whether a child is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. Background factors combined with specific influences such as family and friends may contribute to a child's vulnerability. Similarly, radicalisation can occur through many different methods (such as social media) and settings (such as the internet).

However, it is possible to protect susceptible people from ideology and intervene to prevent those at risk of radicalisation being radicalised. As with other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff should use their judgement in identifying children who may be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) making a referral to the Channel programme.

The Prevent duty

⁷ As defined in the Government's Counter Extremism Strategy

⁸ As defined in the Revised Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales

All schools and colleges are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the CTSA 2015), in the exercise of their functions, to have “due regard⁹ to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.¹⁰ This duty is known as the Prevent duty.

The Prevent duty should be seen as part of schools’ and colleges’ wider safeguarding obligations. Designated safeguarding leads and other senior leaders should familiarise themselves with the [Revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales](#), especially paragraphs 57-76 which are specifically concerns with schools (and also covers childcare). The guidance is set out in terms of four general themes: Risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training, and IT policies.

Additional support

The department has published advice for schools on the [Prevent duty](#). The advice is intended to complement the Prevent guidance and signposts other sources of advice and support.

There is additional guidance: [Prevent duty guidance: for further education institutions in England and Wales](#) that applies to colleges.

[Educate Against Hate](#), a website launched by Her Majesty’s Government has been developed to support and equip school and college leaders, teachers, and parents with information, tools and resources (including on the promotion of fundamental British values) to help recognise and address extremism and radicalisation in young people. The platform provides information on and access to training resources for teachers, staff and school and college leaders, some of which are free such as Prevent e-learning, via the Prevent Training catalogue.

Channel

Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being susceptible to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for schools to make referrals, with the individuals consent, if they are concerned that an individual might be susceptible to radicalisation. An individual’s engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages. Guidance on Channel is available at: [Channel Guidance](#), and a Channel awareness e-learning programme is available for staff at: [Channel General Awareness](#).

The school or college’s Designated Safeguarding Leads should be aware of local procedures for making a Channel referral. As a Channel partner, the school or college may be asked to attend a Channel panel to discuss the individual referred to determine whether they are susceptible to being drawn into terrorism and consider the appropriate support required.

Child on child abuse

Children can abuse other children. This is generally referred to as child on child abuse and can take many forms. This can include (but is not limited to) bullying (including cyberbullying); sexual violence and sexual harassment; physical abuse such as hitting,

⁹ According to the Prevent duty guidance ‘having due regard’ means that the authorities should place an appropriate amount of weight on the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism when they consider all the other factors relevant to how they carry out their usual functions.

¹⁰ “Terrorism” for these purposes has the same meaning as for the Terrorism Act 2000 (section 1(1) to (4) of that Act).

kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm; sexting and initiating/hazing type violence and rituals.

Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges

Context

Sexual violence and sexual harassment can occur between two children of **any** age and sex. It can also occur through a group of children sexually assaulting or sexually harassing a single child or group of children.

Children who are victims of sexual violence and sexual harassment will likely find the experience stressful and distressing. This will, in all likelihood, adversely affect their educational attainment. Sexual violence and sexual harassment exist on a continuum and may overlap, they can occur online and offline (both physical and verbal) and are never acceptable. It is important that **all** victims are taken seriously and offered appropriate support. Staff should be aware that some groups are potentially more at risk. Evidence shows girls, children with SEND and LGBTQ+ children are at greater risk.

Staff should be aware of the importance of:

- making clear that sexual violence and sexual harassment is not acceptable, will never be tolerated and is not an inevitable part of growing up;
- not tolerating or dismissing sexual violence or sexual harassment as “banter”, “part of growing up”, “just having a laugh” or “boys being boys”; and
- challenging behaviours (potentially criminal in nature), such as grabbing bottoms, breasts and genitalia, flicking bras and lifting up skirts. Dismissing or tolerating such behaviours risk normalising them.

What is sexual violence and sexual harassment?

Sexual violence

It is important that school and college staff are aware of sexual violence and the fact children can, and sometimes do, abuse their peers in this way. When referring to sexual violence we are referring to sexual offences in the Sexual Offences Act 2003¹¹ as described below:

Rape: A person (A) commits an offence of rape if: he intentionally penetrates the vagina, anus or mouth of another person (B) with his penis, B does not consent to the penetration and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.

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

Sexual Assault: A person (A) commits an offence of sexual assault if: s/he intentionally touches another person (B), the touching is sexual, B does not consent to the touching and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.

¹¹ legislation.gov.uk

What is consent?¹² Consent is about having the freedom and capacity to choose. Consent to sexual activity may be given to one sort of sexual activity but not another, e.g. to vaginal but not anal sex or penetration with conditions, such as wearing a condom. Consent can be withdrawn at any time during sexual activity and each time activity occurs. Someone consents to vaginal, anal or oral penetration only if s/he agrees by choice to that penetration and has the freedom and capacity to make that choice.¹³

Sexual harassment

When referring to sexual harassment we mean ‘unwanted conduct of a sexual nature’ that can occur online and offline. When we reference sexual harassment, we do so in the context of child on child sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is likely to: violate a child’s dignity, and/or make them feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated and/or create a hostile, offensive or sexualised environment.

Whilst not intended to be an exhaustive list, sexual harassment can include:

- sexual comments, such as: telling sexual stories, making lewd comments, making sexual remarks about clothes and appearance and calling someone sexualised names;
- sexual “jokes” or taunting;
- physical behaviour, such as: deliberately brushing against someone, interfering with someone’s clothes (schools and colleges should be considering when any of this crosses a line into sexual violence – it is important to talk to and consider the experience of the victim) and displaying pictures, photos or drawings of a sexual nature; and
- online sexual harassment. This may be standalone, or part of a wider pattern of sexual harassment and/or sexual violence.¹⁴ It may include:
 - non-consensual sharing of sexual images and videos;
 - sexualised online bullying;
 - unwanted sexual comments and messages, including, on social media; and
 - sexual exploitation; coercion and threats; and
 - upskirting

The response to a report of sexual violence or sexual harassment

The initial response to a report from a child is important. It is essential that all victims are reassured that they are being taken seriously and that they will be supported and kept safe. A victim should never be given the impression that they are creating a problem by reporting sexual violence or sexual harassment. Nor should a victim ever be made to feel ashamed for making a report.

If staff have a concern about a child or a child makes a report to them, they should follow the referral process as set out from paragraph 23 in Part 1 of KCSiE. As is always the case, if staff are in any doubt as to what to do they should speak to a DSL.

| Abuse or Safeguarding issue | Link to Guidance/Advice | Source |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Abuse | What to do if you're worried a child is being abused | DfE advice |

¹² It is important school and college staff (and especially designated safeguarding leads and their deputies) understand consent. This will be especially important if a child is reporting they have been raped, More information [here](#)


¹³ [PSHE Teaching about consent](#) from the PSHE association provides advice and lesson plans to teach consent at Key Stage 3 and 4.

¹⁴ [Project deSHAME](#) from Childnet provides useful research, advice and resources regarding online sexual harassment.

Safeguarding Policy

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | Domestic abuse: Various Information/Guidance | Home Office |
| | Faith based abuse: National Action Plan | DfE advice |
| | Relationship abuse: disrespect nobody | Home Office website |
| Bullying | Preventing bullying including cyberbullying | DfE advice |
| Children and the courts | Advice for 5-11 year old witnesses in criminal courts | MoJ advice |
| | Advice for 12-17 year old witnesses in criminal courts | MoJ advice |
| Children missing from education, home or care (To be updated) | Guidance for local authorities | DfE Guidance |
| Children with family members in prison | National Information Centre on Children of Offenders | Barnardo's in partnership with Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) advice |
| Child Exploitation | County Lines: criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults | Home Office guidance |
| | Child sexual exploitation: guide for practitioners | DfE |
| | Trafficking: safeguarding children | DfE and HO guidance |
| Drugs | Drugs: advice for schools | DfE and ACPO advice |
| | Drugs strategy 2017 | Home Office strategy |
| | Information and advice on drugs | Talk to Frank website |
| | ADEPIS platform sharing information and resources for schools: covering drug (& alcohol) prevention | Website developed by Mentor UK |
| "Honour Based Violence" (so called) | Female genital mutilation: information and resources | Home Office |
| | Female genital mutilation: multi agency statutory guidance | DfE, DH, and HO statutory guidance |
| | Forced marriage: statutory guidance and government advice | Foreign Commonwealth Office and Home Office |
| Health and Well-being | Fabricated or induced illness: safeguarding children | DfE, Department for Health and Home Office |
| | Rise Above: Free PSHE resources on health, wellbeing and resilience | Public Health England resources |
| | Medical conditions: supporting pupils at school | DfE statutory guidance |
| | Mental health and behaviour | DfE advice |
| Homelessness | Homelessness: How local authorities should exercise their functions | HCLG |
| Online | Sexting: responding to incidents and safeguarding children | UK Council for Child Internet Safety |
| Private fostering | Private fostering: local authorities | DfE – statutory guidance |
| Radicalisation | Prevent duty guidance | Home Office guidance |
| | Prevent duty advice for schools | DfE advice |
| | Educate Against Hate Website | DfE and Home Office |
| SEND | SEND Code of Practice | DfE and DH |
| Violence | Gangs and youth violence: for schools and colleges | Home Office advice |
| | Ending violence against women and girls 2016-2020 strategy | Home Office strategy |
| | Violence against women and girls: national statement of expectations for victims | Home Office guidance |
| | Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges | DfE advice |
| | Serious violence strategy | Home Office Strategy |
| Remote Learning | Safeguarding Guidance during Covid | DfE Advice |
| Prevent | National College Guidance | National College |
| Safeguarding | Working together to safeguard children 2023 | DfE |

17. Appendix B – CPOMS Incident Form Screenshot

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Student | <input type="text" value="Begin typing a student's name"/> |
| Incident | <input type="text"/> |
| Categories | <input type="checkbox"/> Attendance <input type="checkbox"/> Behaviour <input type="checkbox"/> Contact with External Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Contact with Parents <input type="checkbox"/> Medical <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health and Wellbeing <input type="checkbox"/> Peer on Peer <input type="checkbox"/> Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Safeguarding <input type="checkbox"/> SEND |
| Linked student(s) | <input type="text" value="Begin typing a student's name"/> Type a student's name to link them to this incident. |
| Maps |  |
| Date/Time | <input type="text" value="24/01/2023 13:23"/> |
| Status | <input type="text" value="Active"/> |
| Assign to | <input type="text" value="Begin typing a staff member's name"/> |
| Files | <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Click to browse or drag a file to upload"/> |
| Alert Staff Members | <input type="text" value="Begin typing a staff member's name"/> <input type="button" value="DSLs"/> <input type="button" value="Teachers"/> <input type="button" value="Junior Team"/> <input type="button" value="Infant Team"/> |
| Agency Involved | <input type="text"/> |
| Add to planner | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | <input type="button" value="Submit Incident"/> |