



Perry Hall Multi- Academy Trust

EMPLOYEE, GOVERNOR AND TRUSTEE SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Document Control Table

Title	PHMAT Safeguarding Policy
Author	Amarjit Cheema (Trust CEO)
Date Ratified by PHMAT Trust Board	September 2025
Approved By Name	Andrew Brocklehurst (Chair of Trustees)
Signature of Approval	
Next Review Date	Annual or if there is updated guidance

Document History

Throughout document	Names and roles of staff updated in line with roles and responsibility 2025-26
Page 4 - 8	Contact details of all Local Authority professionals updated
Page 15	Alternative Provision details added
Page 18, 52	Addition of kinship care
Page 21	bisexual, or gender questioning
Page 60	Explanation of online -safety categorisation into four areas of risk Use of generative AI by staff, students, and pupils
Page 62	All school policies and procedures have been updated to include roles and responsibilities, as well as details of other relevant professionals.
Throughout document	All referenced policies now reflect their correct and updated dates

This policy has been fully consulted on with the following trade unions NAHT, ASCL, NASUWT, Unison, NEU and GMB and was implemented by Perry Hall Multi-Academy Trust (PHMAT) on the above date.

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Other safeguarding policies can also be found on our school website:

- Medical Needs
- Intimate Care
- Physical Intervention
- Use of Mobile Phones/Cameras/ I-pads – Parents and Employees
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1. Safeguarding Contact Information

Perry Hall Multi-Academy Trust

- Andrew Brocklehurst – Chair of Trustees and Safeguarding Lead for the Trust
- Amarjit Cheema – DSL (CEO)
- Darryl Asbury – DSL Executive Leader
- Rekha Kohli – DSL Executive Leader
- Marcia Edwards – Vice chair of Trustees

Perry Hall Primary

- Rekha Kohli – DSL
- Lee Fellows – DSL
- Narinder Heer – DDSL
- Carol Russell – DDSL
- Michelle Dodd – DDSL
- Gurbinder Robinson – DDSL
- Darren Collinswood – Safeguarding Governor

Berrybrook Primary

- Darryl Asbury – DSL
- Gary Darby – DDSL
- Kayleigh Penny – DDSL
- Amie Worthy – DDSL
- Victoria Tustin – DDSL
- Carrie Saunders - DDSL
- Andrew Fisher – Safeguarding Governor

Dunstall Hill Primary

- Rekha Kohli – DSL
- Reena Chander – DSL
- Dawn Cummings – DDSL
- Stacey Keating – DDSL
- Zoe Ayton - DDSL
- Anisa Khan – DDSL
- Vicky Tustin – DDSL
- Andrew Fisher– Safeguarding Governor

Birds Bush Primary

- Rekha Kohli – DSL
- Michelle Day – DSL
- Scott Brockhurst – DDSL
- Dawn Hall – DDSL
- Ann Brown – Safeguarding Governor

Woodthorne Primary

- Rekha Kohli - DSL
- Tom Hinkley – DSL
- Lucy Hodgkiss DDSL
- Laura Swann - DDSL
- Tom Johnston - DDSL
- Nicola Pocock – DDSL
- Victoria Baker – Safeguarding Governor

Stanley Road Primary

- Darryl Asbury – DSL
- Lorraine Adams - DSL
- Claire Alviti - DDSL
- Craig Morgan – DDSL
- Hannah Walton - DDSL
- Donna Marshall – DDSL
- Rosie Venner – Safeguarding Governor

Forest Hills Primary

- Darryl Asbury – DSL
- Sarah Powell – DSL
- Jess Cross - DDSL
- Ann Kelly - DDSL
- Ian Goodwin – Safeguarding Governor

Mesty Croft Primary

- Rekha Kohli – DSL
- Lucy Bray– DSL
- Richard Shaw – DDSL
- Shilpa Aggarwal – Deputy DSL
- Dimple Dhanda – Deputy DSL
- Claire Hodgkins – Safeguarding Governor

Sledmere Primary

- Darryl Asbury – DSL
- Emily Redding - DSL (Currently on MAT leave)
- Faye Dudley – DDSL - DSL whilst Emily Redding on MAT leave
- Alistair Smith – DDSL
- Esther Cooper - DDSL
- Lauren Price - DDSL
- Jennifer Shingler – DDSL
- Hayley Sharma - Safeguarding Governor

Tillington Manor Primary

- Darryl Asbury - DSL
- Kelly Brockhurst– DSL
- Lesley Rogers – DDSL
- Natalie Hall – DDSL
- Chris Tucker – DDSL
- Simon Rowland - Safeguarding Governor

Wolverhampton Safeguarding Contact Information

Role/Agency	Name	Telephone (01902)	E-mail
MASH	Social Care	555392	
Social Care out of hours	Social Care	552999	
Children's Disability Team	Social Care	550911	childrenandyoungpeople's.disabilityservice@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Adult's Disability	Social Care	553653 or 556780	ssdisabilityteam@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Team			
Designated Officer/LADO	Kelly Matthews	550661	LADO@wolverhampton.gov.uk LADO@secure.wolverhampton.gov.uk
Prevent Counter-Terrorism Team (CTU)	PCs Holder, Nixon and Hall Safeguarding Board Prevent Co-ordinator	101 opt 3 871 3036 551214	
FGM	Police	101 or 999	
Police	Police	101 Option 3 for WMP or 999	
Wolverhampton Virtual School Head	Darren Martindale	556951	Darren.Martindale@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Wolverhampton Exploitation Lead	Amy Cooper	550477 - TBC	Amy.Cooper@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Forced Marriage Unit		02070080151	fmfu@fco.gov.uk
Wolves Safeguarding Partnership			https://www.wolverhamptonsafeguarding.org.uk/

Staffordshire Safeguarding Contact Information

Role/Agency	Name	Telephone (01902)	E-mail
MASH	SCAS	0300 111 8007	Online form I am a professional - Staffordshire County Council
Social Care out of hours	Duty Team	0345 604 2886	
Education Safeguarding Advice Service	ESAS	01785 895836	esas@staffordshire.gov.uk
Children's Disability Team	Social Care Aim High	01785 278072	aimhigh@staffordshire.gov.uk
Adult's Disability Team		01782 485020	ALDTNorthduty@staffordshire.gov.uk ALDTSouthduty@staffordshire.gov.uk
Designated Officer/LADOs	Linda Hancock Mandy Parkinson Fran Twigg Abigail Bower Vikki Radlow	0800 131 3126	Staffordshire.lado@staffordshire.gov.uk Online referral form
Prevent Counter-Terrorism Team		01785 232054	prevent@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk

(CTU)		0800 011 3764	
FGM	Police	101 or 999	
Police		101 or 999 or <u>0800 555 111</u>	
Employees Virtual School Head	Sarah Rivers	01785 854 195	sarah.rivers@staffordshire.gov.uk
Employees CSE Lead	Stacey Black		Stacey.Black@staffordshire.gov.uk
Forced Marriage Unit		+44 (0) 2070080151	fm@fco.gov.uk
Employees Safeguarding Partnership			www.employeeessscb.org.uk
Education Safeguarding Leads	Viki Hulme	07866 912681 0800 1313 126	Viki.hulme@staffordshire.gov.uk

Worcestershire Safeguarding Contact Information

Role/Agency	Name	Telephone (01902)	E-mail
Family Front Door		01905 822 666	Worcestershire Children First Level 4 Social Care (worcschildrenfirst.org.uk)
Social Care out of hours		01905 768020	
Children's Disability Team	Claire Foster	01905 845719	cfoster2@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk
Local Safeguarding Partners	Worcester		http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20377/safeguardingchildren
Adult's Disability Team	Jill Hughes	(01905) 845530	jhughes2@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk
Designated Officer/LADO	John Hancock	01905 846 221	LADO@worcestershire.gov.uk
Prevent Counter- Terrorism Team (CTU)	P Kinsella		pkinsella@worcestershire.gov.uk
FGM	Police	101 or 999	
Police		101 or 999	
Worcestershir e Virtual School Head	Collette Maynard	01905 678 149	cmaynard@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk
Worcestershir e CSE Lead	Get Safe Judy Mayo	01905 844431	jmayo3@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk
Forced Marriage Unit		+44 (0) 2070080151	fm@fco.gov.uk

Dudley Safeguarding Contact Information

Role/Agency	Name	Telephone	E-mail
MASH / Dudley Children's Front Door		0300 555 0050	Dudley Children's Portal
MASH Out of Hours		0300 555 8574	Dudley Children's Portal
Children's disability Team		0300 555 0050	Children with disabilities Dudley Council dds@dudley.gov.uk
Adult's Disability Team		0300 555 0050	Dudley Adults Portal
Local Authority Designated Officer - LADO	Yvonne Nelson-Brown — Sukhchandan Kaur	01384 813110 01384 813066 General line: 01384 81306	allegations@dudley.gov.uk Yvonne.Nelson-Brown@dudley.gov.uk Sukhchandan.Kaur@dudley.gov.uk
Prevent/ Counter Terrorism		999	PREVENT dudleysafeandsound
Lead Prevent, Hate and Community	Mark Wilson		Mark.Wilson@dudley.gov.uk
FGM			
Police		999 or 101	
Early Help Police Officer	PC Catherine Purser		catherine.purser@westmidlands.police.uk
Early Help Enablers	Matt Richards Linda Hartland		Matthew.Richards@dudley.gov.uk Linda.Hartland@dudley.gov.uk
Dudley Virtual School	Emma Thomas	01384 813493/01384 813494	Dudley Virtual School Dudley Council Emma.Thomas@dudley.gov.uk
Forced Marriage		999	Dudley's community safety partnership dudleysafeandsound.org
Dudley Exploitation Hub			CS.Hub@dudley.gov.uk
Dudley Safeguarding Partnership	Sam Anderson (Partnership Manager)		Home - Dudley Safeguarding People Partnership
Lead for Safeguarding in Education	Jane Dickens	01384 810000	Jane.Dickens@dudley.gov.uk

Sandwell Safeguarding Contact Information

Role/Agency	Name	Telephone	E-mail
MASH	Sandwell Children's Trust	0121 569 3100	Access_Team@sandwellchildrenstrust.org
Social Care out of hours	Sandwell Children's Trust	0121 569 2355	Access_Team@sandwellchildrenstrust.org
Children's Disability Team	Sandwell Children's Trust	0121 569 5616	Trust_contact@sandwellchildrenstrust.org
Local Safeguarding Partners	Sandwell Children's Safeguarding Partnership (SCSP)	0121 569 4800	SCSP_business@sandwell.gov.uk
Adult Social Care	Sandwell Council	0121 569 2266	sandwell_enquiry@sandwell.gov.uk
Designated Officer/LADO	Michelle Pinnock Ouma	0121 569 4770	sandwell_lado@sandwellchildrenstrust.org
Prevent Counter-Terrorism Team (CTU)	Pardeep Brar Strategic Prevent Coordinator Matthew Dyson Prevent CTU Police Officer	0121 569 4725 07500 129348 101 Ext: 871 3037 07825 862128	Pardeep_Brar@sandwell.gov.uk m.dyson@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk
FGM	Police	101 or 999	
Police		101 or 999	
Sandwell Virtual School Head	Balwant Bains	0121 569 2770	LACE_Team@sandwell.gov.uk
Sandwell CSE Lead	DC Chrissie Fitzgerald	101 ext. 811 3323	c.a.fitzgerald@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk
Forced Marriage Unit		+44 (0) 2070080151	fm@fco.gov.uk

2. Safeguarding Definition

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as;

- providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Safeguarding is what we do for all children and young people to keep them safe whilst in our care. Child protection is part of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and is defined as:

- Activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suspected to be suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes harm that occurs inside or outside of the home, including online.
- Effective safeguarding means practitioners should understand and be sensitive to factors, including economic and social circumstances and ethnicity, which can impact children and families' lives.

At PHMAT we are committed to safeguarding children and young people and we expect everyone who works in our Trust to share this commitment.

Adults working in the schools within our Trust take all welfare concerns seriously and encourage children and young people to talk to us about anything that may worry them.

Victims and alleged perpetrator(s)

For the purposes of this policy, we, in places, use the term 'victim'. It is a widely recognised and understood term. It is important that we recognise that not everyone who has been subjected to abuse considers themselves a victim or would want to be described in this way. Ultimately, we will be conscious of this when managing any incident and be prepared to use any term with which the individual child is most comfortable.

For the purpose of this policy, we, in places, use the term 'alleged perpetrator(s)' and where appropriate 'perpetrator(s)'. These are widely used and recognised, however, we will think very carefully about terminology, especially when speaking in front of children, not least because in some cases the abusive behaviour will have been harmful to the perpetrator as well. The use of appropriate terminology will be determined as appropriate, on a case-by-case basis.

3. Legislation and guidance

The Local Governing Bodies (LGB) and Trustees (T) of PHMAT recognises and is committed to fulfilling its statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in accordance with the following legislation and guidance:

- The Education Act 2002 (section 175/157)
 - Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 requires local education authorities and the governors of maintained schools and further education (FE) colleges to make arrangements to ensure that their functions are carried out with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

- Section 157 of the same act and the Education (Independent Schools Standards) (England) Regulations 2003 require proprietors of independent schools (including academies and city technology colleges) to have arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are pupils at the schools within the Trust.

4. Supporting documents and guidance

- Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, Dudley and Worcestershire Safeguarding Partnership - Inter Agency Procedures
- Thresholds of Support to Children and Families in Wolverhampton
- Worcester's Multi agency levels of need
- Accessing the right help at the right time in Staffordshire
- DSPP Support level guidance and framework
- Dudley Threshold guidance
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (Dec 2023)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (Sept 2025)
- Multi-agency statutory guidance on female genital mutilation (23 October 2018)
- Promoting the education of looked-after and previously looked-after children (26th Feb 2018) statutory guidance
- Supervision of activity with children (10 September 2012) statutory guidance
- Information sharing advice for safeguarding practitioners (May 2024)
- What to do if you are worried a child is being abused (March 2015)
- Sections 26 & 29 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Prevent Duty Guidance (Dec 2023)
- Section 5B of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Children Act 1989 & 2004 – court order (17 April 2014) statutory guidance, care planning, placement and case review
- Disqualification Under the Children Act (31 August 2018)
- Children Missing in Education (5th September 2016)
- Working together to improve school attendance (Aug 2023)
- Related policies

Our policy relates to safeguarding and child protection concerns and sits within a suite of other safeguarding policies. Our policy applies to all employees (teaching and non-teaching), governors and volunteers, temporary and supply employees working in our Trust. It will be reviewed at least annually by the Board of Trustees and is in line with our Safeguarding Partnerships' local procedures and the expectations of Ofsted which inspects schools' safeguarding arrangements. The LGB of schools within the Trust will adopt these policies

5. Related policies

Other policies that may be referred to within this policy include:

- Acceptable Usage Policy
- Attendance and punctuality
- Admissions
- Anti-bullying
- Code of Conduct
- Safer Recruitment
- Behaviour Policy
- Equal Opportunity
- PSHE
- Online Safety
- Whistleblowing

- British Values
- Intimate Care
- Physical Intervention
- Medical Needs
- SEND

6. Our policy aims and purpose

- To provide employees with the framework to promote and safeguard the wellbeing of children and in so doing ensure they meet their statutory responsibilities;
- To ensure consistent good practice across the Trust; and
- To demonstrate our commitment to protecting and supporting our vulnerable children, children who need support through early help, children in need and children who have a child protection plan.

Principles and values

We recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children.

We make every effort to provide a safe and welcoming environment underpinned by a culture of openness where both children and adults feel secure, able to talk and believe that they are being listened to.

We maintain an attitude of “it could happen here” where safeguarding is concerned.

We will adopt a ‘child-centred’ approach to safeguarding and child protection, and we will act in the ‘best interests’ of our children.

We ensure that everyone is aware of their safeguarding responsibilities.

We provide employees, volunteers and governors with the framework, training and support they need in order to keep children safe and secure in the schools within our Trust, and to inform parents and guardians how we will safeguard their children whilst they are in our care.

Successful outcomes for children depend on strong partnership working between parents/carers and the practitioners working with them. We should take a child centred approach to meeting the needs of the whole family.

7. Roles and responsibilities

A) Local Governing Body & Trustees (PART TWO - KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION)

The Chair of Governors within our Trust are:

Perry Hall Primary – Darren Collinswood

Dunstall Hill Primary – Andrew Fisher

Berrybrook Primary – Andrew Fisher

Birds Bush Primary – Pete Hollis

Woodthorne Primary – Christopher Mackintosh

Stanley Road Primary - Louise Griffiths/Andrea Southall

Forest Hills Primary – Ashley Knibbs

Mesty Croft Primary – Claire Hodgkins

Tillington Manor Primary – Simon Rowland

Sledmere Primary School – Hayley Sharma

Our LGB and Board of Trustees will have a strategic leadership responsibility for the safeguarding arrangements and will ensure they comply with their duties under legislation, they will have regard to 'Keeping Children safe in Education' to ensure that the policies, procedures and training in our Trust are effective and comply with the law at all times.

Our LGBs will ensure that they facilitate a whole school approach to safeguarding. This will ensure that safeguarding and child protection are at the forefront and underpin all relevant aspects of process and policy development. They will ensure that all systems, processes and policies operate with the best interests of the child at their heart.

Our Local Governing Bodies will have a senior board level lead to take leadership responsibility for our Schools' safeguarding arrangements, including filtering and monitoring systems for online safety.

Our LGBs and Board of Trustees will ensure that all governors and trustees receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection (including online which, amongst other things, includes an understanding of the expectations, applicable roles, and responsibilities in relation to filtering and monitoring) training at induction. This training should equip them with the knowledge to provide strategic challenge to test and assure themselves that the safeguarding policies and procedures in place in our schools are effective and support the delivery of a robust whole school approach to safeguarding. Their training will be regularly updated.

Our LGBs and Board of Trustees should be aware of their obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equality Act 2010, (including the Public Sector Equality Duty), Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK GDPR and their local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

Our LGBs will ensure:

Safeguarding policies:

- Appropriate policies and procedures are in place in order for appropriate action to be taken in a timely manner to safeguard and promote children's welfare. These policies will include an effective safeguarding/child protection policy, a code of conduct for adults which will amongst other things include - low level concerns, allegations against employees, whistle blowing plus acceptable use of technologies, employees/pupil relationships and communications including the use of social media;
- Safeguarding policies and procedures will be transparent, clear, and easy to understand for employees, pupils, students, parents, and carers.
- These policies, along with part one of Keeping children safe in education and information regarding the role of the designated safeguarding lead, will be provided to all employees on induction. Our LGB will take a proportional risk-based approach to the level of information that is provided to temporary employees and volunteers;
- Our safeguarding/child protection policy will describe procedures which are in accordance with government guidance and refer to locally agreed inter- agency procedures put in place by the Local Safeguarding Partnerships, be updated annually (as a minimum), and be available publicly either via websites for the schools within our Trust or by other means;

- That the above policies and procedures, adopted by our LGB, particularly concerning referrals of cases of suspected abuse and neglect, are followed by all employees; and
- Appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place for children who are absent from school, particularly for repeated/prolonged periods and those missing education, to help identify the risk of abuse and neglect including sexual abuse or exploitation and to help prevent the risks of their going missing in future.
- Where reasonably possible, our schools will hold more than one emergency contact number for each pupil or student.
- Reflect the whole school/academy approach to child-on-child abuse. Includes policies reflected elsewhere e.g. online safety and SEND.
- The behaviour policy will include measures to prevent bullying (including cyberbullying, prejudice-based and discriminatory bullying).

Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputies (DSL):

- That they appoint an appropriate senior employee, from each of our school's leadership teams, to the role of designated safeguarding lead. The designated safeguarding lead will take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection matters (including online safety and understanding the filtering and monitoring systems and processes in place). Their role will be made explicit in the role-holder's job description (see Annex C of KCSIE which describes the broad areas of responsibility and activities related to the role);
- They should ensure the designated safeguarding lead has the appropriate status and authority within the school or college to carry out the duties of the post. The role carries a significant level of responsibility and the postholder should be given the additional time, funding, training, resources, and support needed to carry out the role effectively.
- They will have more than one deputy designated safeguarding lead(s) as appropriate. Any deputies appointed will be trained to the same standard as the designated safeguarding lead.
- That whilst the activities of the designated safeguarding lead can be delegated to appropriately trained deputies, the ultimate lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection, as set out above, remains with the designated safeguarding lead. This responsibility will not be delegated.
- That the designated safeguarding lead and any deputies will liaise with the three local safeguarding partners and work with other agencies in line with "Working Together to Safeguard Children". NPCC – When to call the police should help designated safeguarding leads to understand when they should consider calling the police and what to expect when they do;
- That during term time the designated safeguarding lead and or a deputy will always be available (during school hours) for employees in the school to discuss any safeguarding concerns. Our LGB will arrange, in liaison with the Head/DSL, adequate and appropriate cover arrangements for any out of hours/out of term activities; and
- The designated safeguarding lead and any deputies will undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role. The training will be updated every two years. The DSL will attend Prevent training including referral to Channel training. In addition to their formal training, as set out above, their knowledge and skills will be updated, (for example via e-bulletins, meeting other designated safeguarding leads, or taking time to read and digest safeguarding developments), at regular intervals, but at least annually.

Multi-agency working:

- That our Trust contributes to multi-agency working in line with statutory guidance Working together to safeguard children. Our Trust will work with social care, the police, health services and other services to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. This includes providing a co-ordinated offer of early help when additional needs of children are identified and contributing to inter-agency plans to provide additional support to children subject to child protection plans. Our Trust will allow access for children's social care from the host local authority and, where appropriate, from a placing local authority, for that authority to conduct, or to consider whether to conduct, a section 17 or a section 47

assessment;

- That our safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practice of the local authority as part of the multi-agency safeguarding procedures set up by the local safeguarding partnerships. This will include understanding and reflecting local protocols

for assessment and the local safeguarding partnerships' threshold document along with supplying information as requested by the local safeguarding partners; and

- *Information is shared appropriately between professionals and local agencies.*

Employees training:

- That all employees undergo safeguarding and child protection training at induction including online safety, which includes an understanding of the expectations, applicable roles, and responsibilities in relation to filtering and monitoring. The training will be regularly updated. Our induction and training will be in line with advice from the local safeguarding partnerships. In addition, all employees will receive regular safeguarding and child protection updates (for example, via email, e-bulletins, employees meetings), as required, but at least annually, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively; and
- Our Board of Trustees recognise the expertise employees build by undertaking safeguarding training and managing safeguarding concerns on a daily basis. Opportunity will therefore be provided for employees to contribute to and shape safeguarding arrangements and child protection policy.
- Safeguarding training, including online safety training, is integrated, aligned, and considered as part of the whole school safeguarding approach and wider employees training and curriculum planning.
- Whilst consider training requirements there will be regard to the Teachers' Standards which set out the expectation that all teachers manage behaviour effectively to ensure a good and safe educational environment and requires teachers to have a clear understanding of the needs of pupils.

Online safety:

- Appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place and take care that "over blocking" does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what children can be taught with regards to online teaching and safeguarding.
- Remote learning - Where children are being asked to learn online at home our school will refer to and use the links and resources provided by the DfE: safeguarding in schools colleges and other providers and safeguarding and remote education.
- Technology and the risks and harms associated with it evolve rapidly. We will review our approach to online safety annually, supported by an annual risk assessment.
- Our schools meet the DfE filtering and monitoring standards and cyber security standards.

Filtering and monitoring

At PHMAT we:

- identify and assign roles and responsibilities to manage filtering and monitoring systems
- review filtering and monitoring provision at least annually, ensuring that they are informed in part by the Prevent Duty
- block harmful and inappropriate content without unreasonably impacting teaching and learning
- have effective monitoring strategies in place that meet their safeguarding needs.

Information security and access management

We have the appropriate level of security protection procedures in place in order to safeguard our

systems, employees and learners and review the effectiveness of these procedures periodically to keep up with evolving cyber-crime technologies.

Alternative provision

If we place a pupil with an alternative provision provider, we continue to be responsible for the safeguarding of that pupil and should be satisfied that the placement meets the pupil's needs.

We will obtain written information from the alternative provider that appropriate safeguarding checks have been carried out on individuals working at their establishment (i.e. those checks that school would otherwise perform on our own staff). This includes written confirmation that the alternative provider will inform our school of any arrangements that may put the child at risk (i.e. staff changes), so that we can ensure ourselves that appropriate safeguarding checks have been carried out on new staff.

Our school will always know where a child is based during school hours. This includes having records of the address of the alternative provider and any subcontracted provision or satellite sites the child may attend. We will regularly review the alternative provision placements we make. Reviews should be frequent enough (at least half termly) to provide assurance that the child is regularly attending and the placement continues to be safe and meets the child's needs. Where safeguarding concerns arise, the placement will be immediately reviewed, and terminated, if necessary, unless or until those concerns have been satisfactorily addressed.

Opportunities to teach safeguarding:

- Children are taught about safeguarding, including online safety, through teaching and learning opportunities, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum. This may include covering relevant issues through personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE), SRE, and British Values.
- Our PSHE/SRE curriculums consist of a planned programme of learning where the children acquire the knowledge, understanding and skills that they need to keep themselves healthy and safe.
- From Sept 2020 Relationships Education is compulsory in all Primary Schools. Statutory Guidance: relationships education, relationships and sex education and health education.
- Our PSHE/RSE curriculums have been designed in consultation and are reflective of our individual school communities. Our curriculums are delivered within our schools from years 1 to year 6 and are predominantly part of our Personal, Social, Health & Economic (PSHE) education programme of study.
- As a trust, we define RSE as lifelong learning about personal, physical, moral and emotional development. The policies for RSE and Safeguarding complement each other as they are integral in the teaching of RSE and in keeping children safe.
- We recognise that a one size fits all approach may not be appropriate for all children, and a more personalised or contextualise approach for more vulnerable children, victims of abuse and some SEND children might be needed.
- We teach about online challenges and hoaxes and share this information about this with parents and carers
- Preventative education is most effective in the context of a whole-school approach that prepares our pupils for life in modern Britain and creates a culture of zero tolerance for sexism, misogyny/misandry, homophobia, biphobic and sexual violence/harassment. We will have a clear set of values and standards, upheld and demonstrated throughout all aspects of school life. These will be underpinned by each school's behaviour policy and pastoral support system, as well as by a planned programme of evidence-based RSHE delivered in regularly timetabled lessons and reinforced throughout the whole curriculum. The programme will be fully inclusive and developed to be age and stage of development appropriate (especially when considering

the needs of children with SEND and other vulnerabilities). This program will tackle at an age-appropriate stages issues such as:

- healthy and respectful relationships
- boundaries and consent
- stereotyping, prejudice and equality
- body confidence and self-esteem
- how to recognise an abusive relationship, including coercive and controlling behaviour
- the concepts of, and laws relating to- sexual consent, sexual exploitation, abuse, grooming, coercion, harassment, rape, domestic abuse, so called honour-based violence such as forced marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), and how to access support, and what constitutes sexual harassment and sexual violence and why these are always unacceptable

Inspection

- They are familiar with the Ofsted's Education Inspection Framework and safeguarding: Inspecting safeguarding in early years, education and skills settings.
- Our teams know how to access the Ofsted news YouTube channel in order to support preparation for the inspection.

Safer Recruitment:

- They prevent people who pose a risk of harm from working with children by adhering to statutory responsibilities to check employees who work with children, taking proportionate decisions on whether to ask for any checks beyond what is required; and ensuring volunteers are appropriately supervised
- Our Trust has written recruitment and selection policies and procedures, which will be monitored to ensure that they are embedded and effective and
- At least one person on any appointment panel has undertaken appropriate safer recruitment training.
- They will ensure that the SCR is regularly audited by an appropriate member of staff

Managing concerns and allegations:

- There are procedures in place to manage safeguarding concerns, or allegations against employees (including supply employees and volunteers) that might indicate they would pose a risk of harm to children. Such allegations will be referred to the designated officer(s) at the local authority by the appropriate person;
- "Lower level" concerns will be addressed as set out in Section 2 of Part 4 of KCSIE. Procedures are in place to make a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) if a person in regulated activity has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns or would have been had they not resigned. Our LGB is aware that this is a legal duty and failure to refer when the criteria are met is a criminal offence.
- Employees will understand the process and procedures to follow if they have a safeguarding concern about another employee.

Allegations of abuse made against other children

- That employees should recognise that children are capable of abusing their peers (including online). Our LGB and Trustees will ensure that our safeguarding/child protection policy includes procedures to minimise the risk of child-on-child abuse and sets out how allegations of child-on-child abuse will be investigated and dealt with.

Our policy includes:

1. Procedures to minimise the risk of child-on-child abuse;
2. Systems in place (and they are well promoted, easily understandable and easily accessible) for children to confidently report abuse, knowing that their concerns will be treated seriously
3. Sets out how allegations of child-on-child abuse will be recorded, investigated and dealt with;
4. Recognition that even if there are no reported cases of child-on-child abuse, such abuse may still be taking place and is simply not reported.
5. Clear processes as to how victims, perpetrators and any other child affected by child-on-child abuse will be supported;
6. A statement that makes clear there should be a zero-tolerance approach to abuse and it will never be tolerated or passed off as “banter” “just having a laugh” or “part of growing up”
7. Recognition of the gendered nature of child-on-child abuse, that all child-on-child abuse is unacceptable and will be taken seriously;
8. The different forms of child-on-child abuse, such as: bullying - including cyberbullying, prejudice-based and discriminatory bullying; sexual violence and harassment, physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm; up-skirting; consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi-nude images and/or videos; causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent; abuse in intimate relationships between peers and initiation/hazing type violence and rituals

The child's wishes

- The child's wishes and feelings are taken into account when determining what action to take and what services to provide. Systems are in place for children to express their views and give feedback. Systems and processes will operate with the best interests of the child at their heart.

Children potentially at greater risk of harm (both online and offline)

Children who need a social worker (Child in Need and Child Protection Plans)

- Children may need a social worker due to safeguarding or welfare needs. Local Authorities should share the fact a child has a social worker, and the Designated Safeguarding Lead should hold and use this information so that decisions can be made in the best interests of the child's safety, welfare and educational outcomes.
- Where children need a social worker, this should inform decisions about safeguarding (e.g. responding to unauthorised absence or missing education where there are known safeguarding risks) and about promoting welfare (e.g. considering the provision of pastoral and/or academic support, alongside action by statutory authorities).
- Findings from the Children in Need review “improving the educational outcomes of Children in Need of help and protection contains further information and the conclusion of the review “Help, protection, education” sets out action Government is taking to support this.

Looked after children and previously looked after children

- That employees have the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to keep looked after children and previously looked after children safe and that appropriate employees have the information they need in relation to a child's looked after legal status (whether they are looked after under voluntary arrangements with consent of parents or on an interim or full care order) and contact arrangements with birth parents or those with parental responsibility. They should also have information about the child's care arrangements and the levels of authority delegated to the carer by the authority looking after him/her. The designated safeguarding lead should have details of the child's social worker and the name of the virtual school head in the authority that looks after the child.

The designated teacher

- They appoint a designated teacher to promote the educational achievement of children who are looked after and to ensure that this person has appropriate training and follows the guidance Promoting the Education of looked after and previously looked after children Feb 2018. This role will also be included in the post holders job description

Virtual school heads

- The designated teacher works with the virtual school head to discuss how looked after children funding can be best used to support the progress of looked after children in the school and meet the needs identified in the child's personal education plan. Also working with them to promote the educational achievement of those children in kinship care.

Care leavers

Our Designated safeguarding leads will have details of the local authority Personal Advisor appointed to guide and support the care leaver and will liaise with them as necessary regarding any issues of concern affecting the care leaver.

Children with special educational needs and disabilities or health issues

- Our safeguarding/child protection policy reflects the fact that additional barriers, both online and offline, can exist when recognising abuse, neglect and exploitation in children with special educational needs and disabilities.

This can include:

- Assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to the child's disability without further exploration;
- Being more prone to peer group isolation or bullying (including prejudice-based bullying) than other children;
- Children with SEN and disabilities or certain medical conditions can be disproportionately impacted by things like bullying- without outwardly showing any signs; and
- Communication barriers and difficulties in overcoming these barriers.
- Cognitive understanding – being unable to understand the difference between fact and fiction in online content and then repeating the content/behaviours in schools or colleges or the consequences of doing so.

We will ensure we have appropriate mechanisms in place to assist these children. Any reports of abuse involving children with SEND will therefore require close liaison with the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) and the SENCO.

We will consider extra pastoral support and attention for these children, along with ensuring any appropriate support for communication is in place.

Children requiring mental health support

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. Our LGBs should ensure that they have clear systems and processes in place for identifying possible mental health problems, including routes to escalate and clawer referral and accountability systems.

Supporting children with mental health issues:

PHMAT recognises that all children and young people need the foundation of positive mental health to benefit fully from all of the opportunities available to them.

- 1 in 10 children and young people aged 1 – 15 years have a clinically recognisable mental disorder in any one year.
- 1 in 4 adults will experience mental health difficulties; at least half of these difficulties can be traced back to childhood.

The mental health of children and young people, adults in schools, parents and carers and the wider whole school community will impact on all areas of development, learning, achievement, attendance and experiences.

All children and young people have the right to be educated in an environment that supports and promotes positive mental health for everybody. All adults have the right to work in an environment that supports and promotes positive mental health for everybody.

PHMAT recognises these needs and rights and is committed to raising awareness, increasing understanding and ensuring that all schools can and do make a difference by providing a place where all children and young people feel safe, secure and able to achieve and experience success and well-being.

All schools within the Trust should offer a learning environment that promotes and enhances positive mental health. A consistent approach means that the school environment and Trust ethos all promote the mental health of the whole Trust community.

Healthy relationships underpin positive mental health and have a significant

impact. A mentally healthy environment has:

- A clear and agreed ethos and culture that accords value and respect to all
- A commitment to being responsive to children and young people's needs
- Clearly defined mental health links in school policies
- Clear guidelines for internal and external referrals
- Strong links with external agencies to provide access to support and information
- A named lead for mental health promotion with the expectation that there is support and involvement and an ethos that 'mental health is everyone's business'

A mentally healthy environment is a place where children and young people:

- Have opportunities to participate in activities that encourage belonging
- Have opportunities to participate in decision making
- Have opportunities to celebrate academic and non-academic achievements
- Have their unique talents and abilities identified and developed
- Have opportunities to develop a sense of worth through taking responsibility for themselves and others
- Have opportunities to reflect
- Have access to appropriate support that meets their needs
- Have a right to be in an environment that is safe, clean, attractive and well cared for
- Are surrounded by adults who model positive and appropriate behaviours, interactions and ways of relating at all times

A mentally healthy environment is a place where employees:

- Have their individual needs recognised and responded to in a holistic way

- Have a range of strategies that support their mental health, e.g. a named person to speak to, signposting
- Have recognition of their work-life balance
- Have the mental health and well-being of the employees reviewed regularly
- Feel valued and have opportunities to contribute to decision making processes
- Celebrate and recognise success
- Are able to carry out roles and responsibilities effectively
- Are provided with opportunities for CPD both personally and professionally
- Have their unique talents and skills recognised and opportunities are provided for development
- Have time to reflect
- Can access proactive strategies and systems to support them at times of emotional

needs in both the short term and the long term

A mentally healthy environment is a place where parents/carers:

- Are recognised for their significant contribution to children and young people's mental health
- Are welcomed, included and work in partnership with schools and agencies
- Are provided with opportunities where they can ask for help when needed
- Are signposted to appropriate agencies for support
- Are clear about their roles and expectations of their responsibilities in working in partnership with schools
- Opinions are sought and valued and responded to
- Strengths and difficulties are recognised, acknowledged and challenged

appropriately.

A mentally healthy environment is a place where the whole Trust community:

- Is involved in promoting positive mental health
- Is valued for the role it plays in promoting positive mental health
- Contributes towards the ethos of the school

A healthy learning environment provides opportunities that promote positive mental health, through the standard curriculum and extended provision.

The implementation of the policy for promoting positive mental health in schools:

- Will give schools a cohesive and co-ordinated approach to mental health
- Should underpin all policies and practices currently used in schools
- Will raise awareness as to how the whole school community can look after their own mental health and that of others
- Will help to de-stigmatise mental health
- Will support people and provide opportunities that enable everyone to reach their potential
- Will strengthen relationships and provide opportunities for different ways of working
- Will provide foundations for life-long learning
- Will promote and strengthen resilience throughout the whole school community and empower everyone to face life's challenges

Measuring Impact

This policy offers opportunities to measure the impact in a variety of ways:

- School policies
- The school's ethos
- Child/Employees/Volunteer well-being
- Employees/Governor/class and school council meetings

- Feedback from the whole school community via questionnaires and verbally, formally and informally
- The number of external referrals, Gateway, Health Service, Social Care
- Training and development internally, for example 'Safeguarding, Mental Health and Wellbeing' inset
- Induction and professional development of Employees and Volunteers

The promotion of positive mental health for children and young people is everyone's responsibility.

Elective home education

Many home educated children have an overwhelmingly positive leaning experience. PHMAT expects the parents' decision to home educate to be made with their child's best education at the heart of the decision. Where a child has an EHCP the LA will need to review the plan, working closely with parents/carers.

Where a parent/carer has expressed their intention to remove a child from school with the view to educating at home a meeting between the LA, school and other key professionals and parents/carers will take place. This meeting is particularly important where a child has SEND, is vulnerable and/or has a social worker.

Children who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or gender questioning

The fact that a child or a young person may be LGBT is not in itself an inherent risk factor for harm. However, children who are LGBT can be targeted by other children. In some cases, a child who is perceived by other children to be LGBT (whether they are or not) can be just as vulnerable as children who identify as LGBT.

Risks can be compounded where children who are LGBT lack a trusted adult with whom they can be open. It is therefore vital that employees endeavour to reduce the additional barriers faced and provide a safe space for them to speak out or share their concerns with employees.

Children who are absent from education

Children being absent from education for prolonged periods and/or on repeat occasions can act as a vital warning to a range of safeguarding issues including neglect. At PHMAT we have clear procedures to respond to persistently absent pupils and children missing education.

Our schools monitor attendance regularly and we address any issues that may cause concern and where attendance fails to meet the expected level in line with our attendance policy. We follow guidance set out in Working together to improve school attendance (August 2024) and in partnership with the Local Authority we will:

- **Expect** high standards of attendance for all pupils
- **Monitor** attendance rigorously
- **Listen and Understand** barriers to attendance and agree how to resolve them
- **Facilitate support** to ensure all barriers are removed which may be outside the school setting
- **Formalise support**, when necessary, through attendance contracts
- **Enforce** attendance through statutory intervention when appropriate

The use of 'reasonable force'

We know and understand there are circumstances when it is appropriate for our employees to use

reasonable force to safeguard children and young people. The term 'reasonable force' covers the broad range of actions used by employees that involve a degree of physical contact to control or restrain children. This can range from guiding a child to safety by the arm, to more extreme circumstances such as breaking up a fight or where a young person needs to be restrained to prevent violence or injury. 'Reasonable' in these circumstances means 'using no more force than is needed'. The use of force may involve either passive physical contact, such as standing between pupils or blocking a pupil's path, or active physical contact such as leading a pupil by the arm out of the classroom.

Our schools do not adopt a 'no contact' policy, we have a policy which allows and supports our employees to make appropriate physical contact that enables employees to fully support and protect our children/pupils/students. The decision on whether or not to use reasonable force to control or restrain a child/pupil/student is down to the professional judgement of the employees concerned and will always depend on individual circumstances.

When using reasonable force in response to risks presented by incidents involving children with SEN or disabilities or with medical conditions, our school/academy will consider the risks carefully and recognise the additional vulnerability of these groups. We will also consider our duties under the Equality Act 2010 in relation to making reasonable adjustments, non-discrimination and our Public Sector Equality Duty. By planning positive and proactive behaviour support, for instance through drawing up individual behaviour plans for more vulnerable children, and agreeing them with parents and carers, our school/academy can reduce the occurrence of challenging behaviour and the need to use reasonable force.

Use of school premises for non-school/college activities

- Governors will ensure that the appropriate arrangements are in place to keep children safe when organisations/individuals rent/ hire school facilities.
- The GB will seek assurance that the renter/hirer has the appropriate safeguarding and child protection policies in place (including inspection these if needed) and ensure that there are arrangements in place to liaise with the school on these matters if needed. Safeguarding arrangements will be included in any transfer of control agreement/lease or hire agreements, as a condition of use and occupation. Agreements will be terminated if there is failure to comply.
- If we receive an allegation relating to an incident that happened when an individual or organisation was using their school premises for the purposes of running activities for children, as with any safeguarding allegation, we will follow the school's safeguarding policies and procedures, including informing the LADO.

B) Designated Safeguarding Lead (Annex C KCSIE)

The designated safeguarding lead will take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety and understanding the filtering and monitoring systems and processes in place). Their responsibilities will be explicit in the role holder's job description.

Our designated safeguarding lead may delegate safeguarding activities to the deputy safeguarding lead however the designated safeguarding lead will retain the lead responsibility for child protection and safeguarding (including online safety and understanding the filtering and monitoring systems and processes in place). This responsibility will not be delegated.

At PHMAT the designated lead in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education is expected to:

Manage referrals

The designated safeguarding lead is expected to:

- refer cases of suspected abuse to the local authority children's social care as required;
- make appropriate referrals to external services to support children at Early help level;

- support employees who make referrals to local authority children's social care;
- refer cases to the Channel programme where there is a radicalisation concern as required;
- support employees who make referrals to the Channel programme;
- refer cases where a person is dismissed or left due to risk/harm to a child to the Disclosure and Barring Service as required; and
- refer cases where a crime may have been committed to the Police as required.

Work with others

The designated safeguarding lead is expected to:

- Liaise with the CEO/Executive Leaders/Head to inform him or her of issues especially on-going enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police investigations. This will include being aware of the requirement for children to have an Appropriate Adult (PACE Code C 2019)
- Act as a point of contact with the safeguarding partners;
- As required, liaise with the "case manager" (as per Part four) and the designated officer(s) at the local authority for child protection concerns in cases which concern a employee;
- Liaise with employees (especially pastoral support employees, school nurses, IT Technicians, and SENCOs or the named person with oversight for SEN in a college and Senior Mental Health Leads) on matters of safety and safeguarding (including online and digital safety) and when deciding whether to make a referral by liaising with relevant agencies so that children's needs are considered holistically.
- Act as a source of support, advice and expertise for all employees.
- Liaise with the senior mental health lead and, where available, the Mental Health Support Team, where safeguarding concerns are linked to mental health;
- Promote supportive engagement with parents and/or carers in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, including where families may be facing challenging circumstances;
- Work with the CEO/Executive Leaders/Head and relevant strategic leads, taking lead responsibility for promoting educational outcomes by knowing the welfare, safeguarding and child protection issues that children in need are experiencing, or have experienced, and identifying the impact that these issues might be having on children's attendance, engagement and achievement at school or college.

This includes:

- ensure that the school or college knows who its cohort of children who have or have had a social worker are, understanding their academic progress and attainment, and maintaining a culture of high aspirations for this cohort; and,
- support teaching employees to provide additional academic support or reasonable adjustments to help children who have or have had a social worker reach their potential, recognising that even when statutory social care intervention has ended, there is still a lasting impact on children's educational outcomes.

Training, knowledge and skills

The designated safeguarding lead (and any deputies) should undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role. This training should be updated at least every two years.

The designated safeguarding lead should undertake Prevent awareness training and referral training for Channel.

Training should provide designated safeguarding leads with a good understanding of their own role,

how to identify, understand and respond to specific needs that can increase the vulnerability of children, as well as the specific harms that can put children at risk, and the processes, procedures and responsibilities of other agencies, particularly children's social care so they:

- understand the assessment process for providing early help and statutory intervention, including local criteria for action and local authority children's social care referral arrangements;
- have a working knowledge of how local authorities conduct a child protection case conference and a child protection review conference and be able to attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so;
- understand the importance of the role the designated safeguarding lead has in providing information and support to children social care in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children;
- understand the lasting impact that adversity and trauma can have, including on children's behaviour, mental health and wellbeing, and what is needed in responding to this in promoting educational outcomes;
- are alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), those with relevant health conditions and young carers;
- understand the importance of information sharing, both within the school and college, and with the safeguarding partners, other agencies, organisations and practitioners;
- understand and support the school with regards to the requirements of the Prevent duty and are able to provide advice and support to employees on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation;
- are able to understand the unique risks associated with online safety and be confident that they have the relevant knowledge and up to date capability required to keep children safe whilst they are online at school
- can recognise the additional risks that children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) face online, for example, from online bullying, grooming and radicalisation and are confident they have the capability to support children with SEND to stay safe online;
- obtain access to resources and attend any relevant or refresher training courses; and,
- encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings, among all employees, in any measures the school or college may put in place to protect them.

Raise Awareness

The designated safeguarding lead should:

- ensure the school or college's child protection policies are known, understood and used appropriately, especially new and part-time employees;
- ensure the school or college's child protection policy is reviewed annually (as a minimum) and the procedures and implementation are updated and reviewed regularly, and work with governing bodies or proprietors regarding this;
- ensure the child protection policy is available publicly and parents are aware of the fact that referrals about suspected abuse or neglect may be made and the role of the school or college in this; and
- link with the local safeguarding partners to make sure employees are aware of any training opportunities and the latest local policies on local safeguarding arrangements.
- Help promote educational outcomes by sharing the information about the welfare, safeguarding and child protection issues that children, including children with a social worker, are experiencing, or have experienced, with teachers and school and college leadership employees. Their role could include ensuring that the school or college, and their employees, know who these children are,

understand their academic progress and attainment and maintain a culture of high aspirations for this cohort; supporting teaching employees to identify the challenges that children in this group might face and the additional academic support and adjustments that they could make to best support these children.

Information Sharing and the Child Protection file

The designated safeguarding lead is responsible for ensuring that child protection files are kept up to date.

Information should be kept confidential and stored securely. It is good practice to keep concerns and referrals in a separate child protection file for each child.

Records should include:

- a clear and comprehensive summary of the concern;
- details of how the concern was followed up and resolved;
- a note of any action taken, decisions reached and the outcome

They should ensure the file is only accessed by those who need to see it and where the file or content within it is shared, this happens in line with information sharing advice as set out in Part one and Part two of KCSIE.

Where children leave the school or college (including in year transfers) the designated safeguarding lead should ensure their child protection file is transferred to the new school or college as soon as possible, **and within 5 days for an in-year transfer or within the first 5 days of the start of a new term.** This should be transferred separately from the main pupil file, ensuring secure transit, and confirmation of receipt should be obtained. Receiving schools and colleges should ensure key employees such as designated safeguarding leads and SENCOs or the named person with oversight for SEN in colleges, are aware as required.

Lack of information about their circumstances can impact on the child's safety, welfare and educational outcomes. In addition to the child protection file, the designated safeguarding lead should also consider if it would be appropriate to share any additional information with the new school or college in advance of a child leaving to help them put in place the right support to safeguard this child and to help the child thrive in the school or college. For example, information that would allow the new school or college to continue supporting children who have had a social worker and been victims of abuse and have that support in place for when the child arrives.

Availability

During term time the designated safeguarding lead (or a deputy) should always be available (during school or college hours) for employees in the school or college to discuss any safeguarding concerns. Whilst generally speaking the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) would be expected to be available in person, it is a matter for individual schools and colleges, working with the designated safeguarding lead, to define what "available" means and whether in exceptional circumstances availability via phone and or Skype or other such media is acceptable.

It is a matter for individual schools and colleges and the designated safeguarding lead to arrange adequate and appropriate cover arrangements for any out of hours/out of term activities.

Providing support to employees

Training should support the designated safeguarding lead in developing expertise, so they can

support and advise employees and help them feel confident on welfare, safeguarding and child protection matters. This includes specifically to:

- ensure that employees are supported during the referrals processes; and
- support employees to consider how safeguarding, welfare and educational outcomes are linked, including to inform the provision of academic and pastoral support.

Understanding the views of children

It is important that children feel heard and understood. Therefore, designated safeguarding leads should be supported in developing knowledge and skills to:

- encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings, among all employees, and in any measures the school or college may put in place to protect them; and
- understand the difficulties that children may have in approaching employees about their circumstances and consider how to build trusted relationships which facilitate communication.

Holding and sharing information

The critical importance of recording, holding, using and sharing information effectively is set out in Parts one, two and five of KCSIE, and therefore the designated safeguarding lead should be equipped to:

- understand the importance of information sharing, both within the school and college, and with other schools and colleges on transfer including in-year and between primary and secondary education, and with the safeguarding partners, other agencies, organisations and practitioners;
- understand relevant data protection legislation and regulations, especially the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR); and
- be able to keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of concerns and referrals, including justifications for decisions that have been made to meet the needs of a child or young person and understand the purpose of this record-keeping.

C) All Employees

The Teacher Standards (2012) state that teachers, including the CEO/Executive Leaders/Head should safeguard children's wellbeing and maintain public trust in the teaching profession as part of their professional duties. We extend this level of duty to include all of the employees, supply employees and volunteers who work within Perry Hall Multi-Academy Trust.

- All employees have a responsibility to provide a safe environment in which children can learn;
- All employees have a responsibility to identify children who may be in need of extra help or who are suffering, or are likely to suffer, significant harm. All employees have a responsibility to take appropriate action, working with other services as needed;
- In addition to working with the designated safeguarding lead employees should be aware that they may be asked to support social workers to take decisions about individual children;
- During induction all employees will be made aware of the systems within our Trust which support safeguarding, and these will be explained to them as part of their induction. This includes: the safeguarding/child protection policy, which includes the policy and procedures to deal with child-on-child abuse; the employees behaviour policy/code of conduct; KCSIE, role of the DSL and the names of the designated safeguarding lead and deputies; and the school behaviour policy, which includes measures to prevent bullying,

including cyberbullying, prejudice-based and discriminatory bullying; safeguarding response to children who go missing from education. (Please refer to our Induction policy and procedures);

- All employees will receive appropriate safeguarding/child protection updates regularly, but at least annually. Including online safety which, amongst other things, includes an understanding of the expectations, applicable roles and responsibilities in relation to filtering and monitoring.
- All employees will be made aware of the signs of abuse, neglect and exploitation so that they are able to identify cases of children who may be in need of help or protection;
- Employees working with children are advised to maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned. When concerned about the welfare of a child, employees should always act in the best interests of the child and talk to the DSL;
- Employees should ensure that if a child has made a disclosure, they are aware that the information will only be shared with the DSL and other adults that wish to keep them safe, in an age-appropriate manner. Under no circumstances, should employees agree to keep information a secret, even if they intend to share it;
- All employees should be able to reassure victims 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 abuse, sexual violence, or sexual harassment. Nor should the victim be made to feel ashamed for making the report.
- All employees should be aware that children may not feel ready or know how to tell someone that they are being abused, exploited, or neglected, and/or they may not recognise their experiences as harmful. For example, children may feel embarrassed, humiliated, or being threatened. This could be due to their vulnerability, disability and/or sexual orientation or language barriers. This should not prevent employees from having a professional curiosity and speaking to the DSL if they have concerns about a child. It is also important that employees determine how best to build trusted relationships with children and young people which facilitate communication.
- All employees should be aware that technology is a significant component in many safeguarding and wellbeing issues

A child absent from an education setting is a potential indicator of abuse, neglect or exploitation. Employees should follow the Trust procedures for dealing with children who are absent, particularly on repeat occasions. This includes reporting concerns of absence.

All employees should be aware of the child protection referral procedure to MASH and where the trust policy cannot be followed for any reason then they should make a referral to children's social care should a child be considered at risk of or have suffered significant harm, not being able to pass concerns on to the DSL or their deputy is not an excuse for allowing a child to remain at risk.

D) Supply employees, volunteers, work experience and students

The DSL and/or the CEO/Executive Leaders/Head will explain the responsibility of reporting any concerns about children's safety and welfare to the DSL. Further, they will be briefed on the Trust's confidentiality policy and the code of conduct that we expect from all within our Trust. Therefore: volunteers and students have the responsibility to:

- Work within the Trust's code of conduct, KCSIE safeguarding/child protection policy and confidentiality/information sharing expectations; and
- Immediately share any concerns about a child's welfare with the DSL.

E) Parental responsibilities

At PHMAT we have an open door policy where we encourage parents to share any concerns regarding their own children or any other child/children who they feel may be at risk of harm. All concerns will be explored in a sensitive and timely manner. We will always ask for consent from parents to seek additional support from partner agencies to meet the needs of the child/young

person and family. If gaining consent would put the child/young person at risk of significant harm, this won't be sought.

Parents /carers should ensure their child attends school and that they arrive on time and are collected on time. Should a pupil not be collected on time, we will ensure that safeguarding arrangements are in place and the pupil will always be supervised by a member of staff until parents/carers arrive. In exceptional circumstances, we will speak with social care for support and advice to ensure the child can get home safely (this may involve professionals supporting from partner agencies and/or the child being transported by a trusted adult other than the parent/carer).

We expect parents/carers to notify us of any changes in family circumstances and inform us of any changes of address and contact numbers.

F) Children's responsibilities

In our Trust we respect our children. The safeguarding culture within our Trust is one that encourages all children to do their best and to talk freely about any concerns or worries. We provide opportunities that enable our children to take and make decisions for themselves. Children will always be taken seriously and listened to if they seek help from an employee. Our Trust encourages all pupils to share any worries or concerns with any adult in the Trust at any time.

8. Confidentiality and information sharing

Our Trust schools adopt the principles outlined in the DfE Information Sharing Guidance (May 2024)

Data protection legislation (the Data Protection Act 2018 (the DPA 2018) and UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)) does not prevent the sharing of information for the purposes of safeguarding children, when it is necessary, proportionate, and justified to do so. In fact, data protection legislation provides a framework which enables information sharing in that context. The first and most important consideration is always whether sharing information is likely to support the safeguarding of a child.

We recognise that all matters relating to child protection are confidential. The CEO/Executive Leaders/Head or DSLs will disclose any information about a child to other employees on a need-to-know basis only. All employees must be aware that they have a professional responsibility to share information with other statutory agencies in order to safeguard children.

All employees must be aware that they cannot promise a child to keep secrets which might compromise the child's safety or wellbeing. If a child wishes to confide in an employee/volunteer and requests that the information is kept secret, the employee/volunteer will tell the child, in an appropriate manner to the individual needs of the child, that they cannot promise confidentiality and may need to pass the information on to help keep the child or other children safe. All information and data is stored securely and any information or data is shared on a need-to-know basis. GDPR is not a barrier to sharing concerns regarding children's welfare. "Data protection: toolkit for schools" offers guidance to support the schools with data protection activity, including compliance with GDPR.

9. Communication with parents

Our Trust school's will always discuss concerns with parents/carers and consent for any referrals should be sought unless to do so would:

- Place the child at risk of significant harm or further risk of significant harm;

- Place a vulnerable adult at risk of harm; and
- Compromise any enquiries that need to be undertaken by children's social care or the police.

The Trust schools will endeavour to ensure that parents have an understanding of the responsibilities placed on the school's and employees for safeguarding children.

In the best interests of safeguarding children there may be occasions when the school's within our Trust must consult with other agencies without a parent or carer's prior knowledge. Our first concern and responsibility is the child's welfare and we have a duty to protect children first and always. Such consultation may result in a formal referral, which could prompt visits from social care and/or the police. We

fully understand that this can be a very distressing set of circumstances. Our Trust will follow the procedures required by the Local Safeguarding Partnership.

Our Trust will employ the services of an interpreter if required.

10. Types and indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation

All employees and volunteers are familiar with the types and indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation, they are aware that abuse, neglect, exploitation and safeguarding issues are rarely standalone events that can be covered by one definition or label. In most cases multiple issues will overlap with one another.

All will understand that children can be at risk of harm inside and outside of home and online. They will exercise professional curiosity and know what to look for to identify abuse and neglect early.

All employees are expected to be vigilant at all times, taking account of the following.

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 (e.g. via the internet). They may be abused by an adult or adults or 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.

Some signs:

- Bruising of various ages
- Bite marks
- Burns and scalds
- Fractures in non-mobile children
- Injuries in unusual areas or with well - defined edges
- Old injuries or scars
- Refusal to discuss injuries
- Inconsistent explanations
- Talk of punishment which seems excessive
- Arms and legs kept covered in hot weather
- Reluctance to remove clothing for PE or swimming

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 participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber-bullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, although it may occur alone.

Some indicators:

- Physical, mental or emotional development delay
- Abnormal attachment to parents/carers
- Low self-esteem
- Lack of confidence
- Over-reaction to making mistakes
- Fear of new situations
- Fear of parents being contacted
- Self-harm

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

Some indicators:

- Aggression
- Withdrawn
- Self-harming, including eating disorders
- Distrust of familiar adult
- Wetting or soiling day and night
- Fear of undressing for sport or swimming
- Sleep disturbances or nightmares
- Apparent secrecy about social activities or special friends
- Inappropriate sexualized conduct
- Drawings of sexual behaviours
- Sexually explicit behaviour

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 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.

Some indicators:

- Provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment)
- Protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger;
- Ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers)
- Ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment
- Neglect of or unresponsiveness to a child's basic emotional needs
- Under weight for age
- Hungry

- Tired
- Poor state of clothing for the child's size, weather or time of year
- Persistently dirty with a body odour
- Frequent lateness or non-attendance
- Compulsive stealing or scavenging
- Poor health and untreated medical problems
- Lack of immunisations
- Frequently missed medical

appointments The list of indicators is not

an exhaustive list.

If employees recognise any of these indicators, they should not presume that the child is being abused but **MUST** report their concerns to the DSL or TRUSTEE.

a) Contextual safeguarding

At our Trust we know that safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours can be associated with factors outside our schools and/or can occur between children outside our schools. All employees, but especially the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) will consider the context within which such incidents and/or behaviours occur. This is known as contextual safeguarding, which simply means assessments of children will consider whether wider environmental factors are present in a child's life that are a threat to their safety and/or welfare. Our DSL/deputy DSLs will 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.

Children's social care assessments should consider such factors, so our schools will provide as much information as possible as part of the referral process. This will allow any assessment to consider all the available evidence and the full context of any abuse.

b) Serious violence

All employees should be aware of indicators which may signal that children are at risk from or involved with serious violent crime. These may include increased absence from school, a change in friendships or relationships with older individuals or groups, a significant decline in performance, signs of self-harm or significant change in well-being, or signs of assault or unexplained injuries. 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. All employees should be aware of the associated risks and understand the measures in place to manage these.

There are a number of indicators, which may signal children are at risk from, or are involved with, serious violent crime. These may include:

- increased absence 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, or signs of assault or unexplained injuries
- 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 and may be at risk of criminal exploitation.

The likelihood of involvement in serious violence may be increased by factors such as:

- being male
- having been frequently absent or permanently excluded from school

- having experienced child maltreatment and having been involved in offending, such as theft or robbery

Employees should also be aware that violence can often peak in the hours just before or just after school, when pupils are travelling to and from school. These times can be particularly risky for young people involved in serious violence.

c) Domestic Abuse

Children living with domestic abuse and violence are supported through various means, including referring the child and their family to 'Strengthening Families' workers, Early Help Assessments, 1-1 emotional support in school and wishes and feelings work with the Trust's AEP.

Domestic violence and abuse are:

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 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, as well as in the context of their home life.

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 received Royal Assent on 29 April 2021. The Act introduces the first ever statutory definition of domestic abuse and recognises the impact of domestic abuse on children, as victims in their own right, if they see, hear or experience the effects of abuse.

Domestic abuse can encompass a wide range of behaviours and may be a single incident or a pattern of incidents. That abuse can be, but is not limited to, psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional. Children can be victims of domestic abuse. They may see, hear, or experience the effects of abuse at home and/or suffer domestic abuse in their own intimate relationships (teenage relationship abuse). All of which can have a detrimental and long-term impact on their health, well-being, development, and ability to learn.

Young people can also experience domestic abuse within their own intimate relationships. This form of child-on-child abuse is sometimes referred to as 'teenage relationship abuse'. Depending on the age of the young people, this may not be recognised in law under the statutory definition of 'domestic abuse' (if one or both parties are under 16). However, as with any child under 18, where there are concerns about safety or welfare, child safeguarding procedures should be followed and both young victims and young perpetrators should be offered support.

Operation Encompass - Operation Encompass operates in all police forces across England. It helps police and schools work together to provide emotional and practical help to children. The system ensures that when police are called to an incident of domestic abuse, where there are children in the household who have experienced the domestic incident, the police will inform the key adult (usually the designated safeguarding lead) in school before the child or children arrive at school the following day. This ensures that the school has up to date relevant information about the child's circumstances and can enable support to be given to the child according to their needs.

Our schools will make use of the advice and links available in Keeping Children Safe in Education (Annex B) to identify and support children who are affected by domestic abuse and how they can be helped.

d) Children who are absent from education

All employees should be aware that children being absent from school, particularly repeatedly and/or for prolonged periods, and children missing education, 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 zones, 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 going missing in future. Employees should be aware of their school or college's unauthorised absence and children missing from education procedures.

Our Trust will notify the local authority if it is to remove a pupil from its register for any of the five grounds above. This will be done as soon as these grounds for removal from the register are met, and in any event no later than removing the pupil's name from the register.

Our Trust will inform the local authority of any pupil who fails to attend school regularly, or has been absent without the school's permission for a continuous period of 10 school days or more, at such intervals as are agreed between the school and the local authority.

e) Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)

Both CSE and CCE are forms of abuse that occur where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance in power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into taking part in sexual or criminal activity, in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator and/or through violence or the threat of violence. CSE and CCE can affect children, both male and female and can include children who have been moved (commonly referred to as trafficking) for the purpose of exploitation.

CCE

Some specific forms of CCE can include children being forced or manipulated into transporting drugs or money through county lines, working in cannabis factories, shoplifting or pickpocketing. They can also be forced or manipulated into committing vehicle crime or threatening/committing serious violence to others.

Children can become trapped by this type of exploitation as perpetrators can threaten victims (and their families) with violence, or entrap and coerce them into debt. They may be coerced into carrying weapons such as knives or begin to carry a knife for a sense of protection from harm from others. As children involved in criminal exploitation often commit crimes themselves, their vulnerability as victims is not always recognised by adults and professionals, (particularly older children), and they are not treated as victims despite the harm they have experienced. They may still have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears to be something they have agreed or consented to.

It is important to note that the experience of girls who are criminally exploited can be very different to that of boys. The indicators may not be the same, however professionals should be aware that girls are at risk of criminal exploitation too. It is also important to note that both boys and girls being criminally exploited may be at higher risk of sexual exploitation.

CSE is a form of child sexual abuse

Sexual abuse may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or nonpenetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing, and touching outside clothing. It may include noncontact activities, such as involving children in the production of sexual images, forcing children to look at sexual images or watch sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways or grooming a child in preparation for abuse including via the internet.

CSE can occur over time or be a one-off occurrence and may happen without the child's immediate knowledge e.g. through others sharing videos or images of them on social media.

CSE can affect any child, who has been coerced into engaging in sexual activities. This includes 16- and 17-year-olds who can legally consent to have sex. Some children may not realise they are being exploited e.g. they believe they are in a genuine romantic relationship.

We know that different forms of harm often overlap, and that perpetrators may subject children and young people to multiple forms of abuse, such as criminal exploitation (including county lines) and sexual exploitation.

In some cases, the exploitation or abuse will be in exchange for something the victim needs or wants (for example, money, gifts or affection), and/or will be to the financial benefit or other advantage, such as increased status, of the perpetrator or facilitator.

Children can be exploited by adult males or females, as individuals or in groups. They may also be exploited by other children, who themselves may be experiencing exploitation – where this is the case, it is important that the child perpetrator is also recognised as a victim.

Whilst the age of the child may be a contributing factor for an imbalance of power, there are a range of other factors that could make a child more vulnerable to exploitation, including gender, sexual identity, cognitive ability, learning difficulties, communication ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources.

Some of the following can be indicators of both child criminal and sexual exploitation where children:

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

Children who have been exploited will need additional support to help maintain them in education. CSE can be a one-off occurrence or a series of incidents over time and range from opportunistic to complex organised abuse. It can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and may, or may not, be accompanied by violence or threats of violence.

Some additional specific indicators that may be present in CSE are children who:

- have older boyfriends or girlfriends; and
- suffer from sexually transmitted infections, display sexual behaviours beyond expected sexual development or become pregnant

f) 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. Key to identifying potential involvement in county lines are missing episodes, when the victim may have been trafficked for the purpose of transporting drugs and a referral to the National Referral Mechanism 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.

g) 'Honour Based Abuse'

So-called 'honour-based' abuse (HBA) encompasses incidents and 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. All forms of so called HBA are abuse (regardless of the motivation) and will be handled and escalated as such. If employees have any concerns they will speak to the designated safeguarding lead.

h) Female Genital Mutilation (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. Section 5B of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 (as inserted by section 74 of the Serious Crime Act 2015) 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 disciplinary 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. Unless the teacher has a good reason not to, they should also still consider and discuss any such case with the school's designated safeguarding lead and involve children's social care as appropriate. The duty does not apply in 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. In these cases, teachers should follow local safeguarding procedures. The following is a useful summary of the FGM mandatory reporting duty: FGM Fact Sheet

At PHMAT teachers must also report their concerns and share the information with the DSL following the Trust's procedures for recording and reporting. The teacher then will be supported by the DSL to fulfil their duty to report FGM cases to the police and social care.

Our employees will call contact the

police on 101 Some warning signs:

- Difficulty walking, sitting or standing;
- Unusual behaviour after an absence from school;
- Age of the young girl (0-15 years);
- A young girl may visit the bathroom more frequently or spend more time than usual in the bathroom;
- A young girl may have frequent, urinary, menstrual or stomach problems;
- Prolonged or repeated absence from school;
- A young girl may try to avoid PE lessons;

- Travel to a country known to practise FGM (School holiday times);
- An Elder family member visiting from a country known to practise FGM;
- Over hearing conversations related to FGM;
- A young girl may disclose, ask questions or ask for advice;
- Reluctance to undergo normal medical examination; and
- Girls that are withdrawn from PSHE or SRE.

i) Forced Marriage

Forcing a person into a 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 and where violence, threats or any other form of coercion is used to cause a person to enter into a marriage. Threats can be physical or emotional and psychological. 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. It is a crime to carry out any conduct whose purpose is to cause a child to marry before their 18th birthday, even if violence, threats or another form of coercion are not used. This applies to non-binding, unofficial “marriages” as well as legal marriages.

The Forced Marriage Unit has published multi-agency guidelines, with pages 32-36 focusing on the role of schools and colleges. Trust employees can contact the Forced Marriage Unit if they need advice or information. Contact: 020 7008 0151 or email: fmu@fco.gov.uk.

Further Guidance and Information on HBA, FGM and Forced Marriage - indicators and actions

There are a range of potential indicators that a child may be at risk of HBA. Guidance on the warning signs that FGM or forced marriage may be about to take place, or may have already taken place, can be found on pages 38-41 of the Multi agency statutory guidance on FGM (pages 59-61 focus on the role of schools and colleges) and pages 13-14 of the multi-agency guidelines:

Handling case of forced marriage.

If employees have a concern regarding a child that might be at risk of HBA they should activate local safeguarding procedures, using existing national and local protocols for multi-agency liaison with police and children’s social care.

Schools can play an important role in safeguarding children from forced marriage. Our employees are familiar with the issue of forced marriage, Honour Based Abuse and FGM.

If employees have any concerns regarding FGM, Forced Marriage and Honour Based Abuse they will report to the DSL. The DSL will support the individual teacher to fulfil their duty to report to the police and/or social care.

j) Preventing Radicalisation

From 1 July 2015 specified authorities, including all schools (and since 18 September 2015 all colleges) as defined in the summary of this guidance, 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 regard” to the need to prevent people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism”. This duty is known as the Prevent duty. It applies to a wide range of public-facing bodies. Bodies to which the duty applies must have regard to statutory guidance issued under section 29 of the CTSA 2015. Paragraphs 57-76 of the statutory “Revised Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales” (for schools) summarises the requirements on schools in terms of four general themes:

At PHMAT we will:

- Assess the risk of children being susceptible to radicalisation into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology;
- Work in partnership with parents, children, families and statutory agencies;
- Assess the risk in our local area and as a minimum our DSL will undertake Prevent

- awareness training to provide advice and support to other employees on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation;
- Our DSL/DDSL will complete training for Channel referrals
- Our school will hold a Prevent risk assessment/Action plan (in line with the Prevent Duty guidance 2023), which will be reviewed annually
- Ensures that suitable filtering and monitoring is in place on all staff and pupil devices. Our pupils are taught to stay safe on-line. Our E-safety is integral to the schools' IT curriculum.

Early indicators of whether a child is likely to be susceptible of radicalisation into extremism may include:

- Showing sympathy for extremist causes;
- Glorifying violence, especially to other faiths or cultures;
- Making remarks or comments about being at extremist events or rallies outside school;
- Evidence of possessing illegal or extremist literature;
- Advocating messages similar to illegal organisations or other extremist groups;
- Out of character changes in dress, behaviour and peer relationships (but there are also very powerful narratives, programmes and networks that young people can come across online so involvement with particular groups may not be apparent);
- Secretive behaviour;
- Online searches or sharing extremist messages or social profiles;
- Intolerance of difference, including faith, culture, gender, race or sexuality;
- Graffiti, art work or writing that displays extremist themes;
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others;
- Verbalising anti-Western or anti-British views; and
- Advocating violence towards others.

At Perry Hall Multi-Academy Trust, we aim to build the children's resilience to radicalisation by providing a safe environment and through particular aspects of the curriculum including SMSC, British Values, PSHE, SRE and Citizenship.

Training on Prevent will be delivered as required to the relevant employees.

The Department for Education has also 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. The Government has launched 'Educate against hate' a website designed to equip school and college leaders, teachers and parents with the information, tools and resources they need to recognise and address extremism and radicalisation in young people. The website provides information on training resources for teachers, employees and school and college leaders, such as Prevent e-learning, via the Prevent Training catalogue.

Channel

Our employees should understand when it is appropriate to make a referral to the Channel programme. Channel guidance is available at: [Channel Guidance](#).

E-learning channel awareness programme for employees is available at: [Channel General Awareness](#).

Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being at risk of being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for schools to make referrals 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. An individual will be required to provide their consent before any support delivered through the programme is provided.

In addition to information sharing, if an employee makes a referral to Channel, they may be asked to attend a Channel panel to discuss the individual referred to determine whether support is required

Our employees will co-operate with local Channel panels as required.

k) Child-on-child abuse

At PHMAT we believe that all children have a right to attend school and learn in a safe environment. Children should be free from harm by adults in the school and other children. We recognise that some children will sometimes negatively affect the learning and wellbeing of others and their behaviour will be dealt with under the Trust's relevant policy e.g. behaviour policy.

ALL employees recognise that children can abuse their peers and that it can happen inside and outside of school.

All employees should be clear as to the policy and procedures with regard to child-on-child abuse and the important role they have to play in preventing it and responding where they believe a child may be at risk from it.

ALL allegations will be taken seriously, in PHMAT schools we understand that 'abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as "banter" or "part of growing up". We have a zero-tolerance approach to this behaviour. ALL allegations will be carefully considered, and all decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis in consultations with social care. Referral under safeguarding arrangements may be necessary, key specific considerations will include:

- The age, maturity and understanding of the children; and
- Any disability or special needs of the children

Allegations against other children which are safeguarding issues

Some allegations may be of such a serious nature that they may raise safeguarding concerns. These allegations may include physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse and criminal and sexual exploitation, causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent; and consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images/videos.

Other gender issues that can be prevalent when dealing with child-on-child abuse could, for example, include girls being sexually touched or assaulted or boys being subject to initiation or hazing type violence. It is also likely that incidents may involve older students and their behaviour towards younger students or those who are vulnerable.

It is likely that, to be considered a safeguarding allegation against a child, some of the following features will be found.

If the allegation:

- Is made against an older child and refers to their behaviour towards a younger child or a more vulnerable child;
- Is of a serious nature, possibly including a criminal offence;
- Raises risk factors for other children in the school;
- Indicates that other children may have been affected by this child; and
- Indicates that young children outside the school may be affected by this child.

Examples of safeguarding issues against a child could include:

Physical abuse

- Violence, particularly pre-planned;
- Forcing others to use drugs or alcohol; and
- Initiation and hazing violence.

Emotional abuse

- Blackmail or extortion;
- Threats and intimidation; and
- Cyber-bullying.

Sexual abuse including sexting and gender based violence

- Indecent exposure, indecent and inappropriate touching or serious sexual assaults;
- Forcing others to watch pornography or to share consensual or non-consensual nude or semi-nude image/videos; and
- Initiation and hazing violence.
- Causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent
- Abuse in intimate personal relationships between children (sometimes known as ‘teenage relationship abuse’)

Sexual exploitation

- Encouraging other children to engage in inappropriate sexual behaviour (For example - having an older boyfriend/girlfriend, associating with unknown adults or other sexually exploited children, staying out overnight); and
- Photographing or videoing other children performing indecent acts.

Prevention, assessing and minimising the risks

Within PHMAT school's we will minimise the risk of allegations against other children by:

- Providing a developmentally age appropriate PSHE, SRE, British Values curriculum which develops children's understanding of acceptable behaviour and keeping themselves safe;
- Having clear systems in place for any child to raise concerns with employees, knowing that they be taken seriously
- Delivering targeted work on assertiveness, protective behaviours and keeping safe to those children identified as being at risk;
- Developing robust risk assessments & providing targeted work for children identified as being a potential risk to other children; and
- Training and awareness sessions will be provided for employees.
- Employees recognising, acknowledging or understanding the scale of harassment and abuse and not downplaying some behaviours related to abuse which can lead to a culture of unacceptable behaviour, an unsafe environment and in worst case scenario a cultural that normalises abuse and leading to children accepting it as normal and not coming forward to report it report it.

Procedure to manage child -on- child allegations

- When an allegation is made by a child against another child, employees should consider whether the complaint raises a safeguarding concern. If there is a safeguarding concern the designated safeguarding lead (DSL) will be informed;
- A factual record should be made of the allegation, but no attempt at this stage should be made to investigate the circumstances;
- The DSL should contact social care/multi-agency agency safeguarding hub (MASH) to discuss the allegation and seek advice;
- The DSL will follow through the outcomes of the discussion and make a referral where appropriate;
- If the allegation indicates that a potential criminal offence has taken place, this will be referred to the multi-agency agency safeguarding hub MASH where the police will become involved;
- Following advice from Social Care and/or the police, parents of both the child being complained about and the alleged victim, should be informed and kept updated on the progress of the referral;

- The DSL will make a record of the concern, the discussion and any outcome and keep a copy in the files of both children's files;
- It may be appropriate to exclude the pupil being complained about for a period of time according to the Trust's behaviour policy and procedures;
- Where neither social services nor the police accept the complaint, a thorough school investigation should take place into the matter using the Trust's usual behaviour procedures;
- In situations where the school considers a safeguarding risk is present, a risk assessment should be prepared along with a preventative, supervision plan; and
- The plan should be monitored, and a date set for a follow-up evaluation with everyone concerned.
- Abuse that occurs online or outside of school will not be downplayed and will be treated equally seriously.

Support and care

Within PHMAT Schools, we recognise and understand that child-on-child allegations will be very distressing situations for all concerned - children, family members and employees. We will seek to provide any support required and make any necessary referrals for counselling and support services.

l) Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment between children in Schools and Colleges

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) inside or outside of school and are never acceptable. It is important that **all** victims are taken seriously and offered appropriate support. Employees should be aware that some groups are potentially more at risk. Evidence shows girls, children with SEND and LGBT children are at greater risk.

We take a zero-tolerance approach, and any inappropriate behaviour will be addressed, even if it appears to be relatively innocuous.

Employees should be aware of the importance of:

- making clear that there is a zero-tolerance approach to sexual violence and sexual harassment, that it is never acceptable, and it will not be tolerated. It should never be passed off as "banter", "just having a laugh", "a part of growing up" or "boys being boys". Failure to do so can lead to a culture of unacceptable behaviour, an unsafe environment and in worst case scenarios a culture that normalises abuse, leading to children accepting it as normal and not coming forward to report it.
- recognising, acknowledging, and understanding the scale of harassment and abuse and that even if there are no reports it does not mean it is not happening, it may be the case that it is just not being reported.
- challenging physical behaviour (potentially criminal in nature) such as grabbing bottoms, breasts and genitalia, pulling down trousers, flicking bras and lifting up skirts. Dismissing or tolerating such behaviours risks normalising them.

m) Upskirting

The Voyeurism (offences) Act, which is commonly known as the Upskirting Act came into force on April 12th 2019. Upskirting is where someone takes a picture under a person's clothing (not necessarily a skirt) without their permission and/or knowledge. With the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks (with or without underwear) to obtain sexual gratification or cause the victim humiliation distress or alarm. It is a criminal offence, and any gender can be a victim.

Whilst it is important for our employees to be vigilant regarding the types and signs of abuse at all times it does not necessarily mean that a child or young person has been abused because the signs have been noted or observed. However, ALL concerns MUST be shared with the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

n) 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. Our school will use the age-appropriate guides to support children, 5-11year olds and 12-17year olds. Making child arrangements via the family courts following separation can be stressful and entrench conflict in families. This can be stressful for children. Our school will use the Ministry of Justice online child arrangements information tool to support this process and will make this information available to parents and carers if they require our assistance.

o) Children with family members in prison

Some children who attend our school may have a parent who has been sent to prison. Our school will utilise the information NICCO provides designed to support professionals working with offenders and their children, to help mitigate negative consequences for those children.

p) Modern slavery and the National Referral Mechanism

Modern slavery encompasses human trafficking and slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour. Exploitation can take many forms, including sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery, servitude, forced criminality and the removal of organs.

For children this is a safeguarding issue and should be reported to the DSL. A referral will then be made to social care who will make the referral to the NRM.

q) Cybercrime

Cybercrime is criminal activity committed using computers and/or the internet. It is broadly categorised as either 'cyber-enabled' (crimes that can happen off-line but are enabled at scale and at speed on-line) or 'cyber dependent' (crimes that can be committed only by using a computer). Cyber-dependent crimes include;

- unauthorised access to computers (illegal 'hacking'), for example accessing a school's computer network to look for test paper answers or change grades awarded;
- denial of Service (Dos or DDoS) attacks or 'booting'. These are attempts to make a computer, network or website unavailable by overwhelming it with internet traffic from multiple sources; and
- making, supplying or obtaining malware (malicious software) such as viruses, spyware, ransomware, botnets and Remote Access Trojans with the intent to commit further offence, including those above

Children with particular skill and interest in computing and technology may inadvertently or deliberately stray into cyber-dependent crime. If there are concerns about a child in this area, the designated safeguarding lead (or a deputy), will consider referring into the Cyber Choices programme.

Our school takes Cyber Security seriously and ensures that we meet the required DFE Cyber security standards for schools. All staff have appropriate training in Cyber Security.

r) Child abduction and community safety incidents

Child abduction is the unauthorised removal or retention of a minor from a parent or anyone with legal responsibility for the child. Child abduction can be committed by parents or other family members; by people known but not related to the victim (such as neighbours, friends and acquaintances); and by strangers.

Other community safety incidents in the vicinity of a school can raise concerns amongst children and parents, for example, people loitering nearby or unknown adults engaging children in conversation.

As children get older and are granted more independence (for example, as they start walking to school on their own) it is important they are given practical advice on how to keep themselves safe. Many schools provide outdoor-safety lessons run by teachers or by local police employees. It is important that lessons focus on building children's confidence and abilities rather than simply warning them about all strangers.

Other types of abuse to be aware of include:

- Bullying
- Children Missing from home or care
- Drugs
- Fabricated and Induced illness
- Faith abuse
- Gangs and youth violence
- Gender based violence/violence against women and girls
- Hate

11. Private fostering arrangements

A private fostering arrangement is one that is made privately (without the involvement of the local authority) for the care of a child under the age of 16 years (under 18 if disabled) who is cared for by someone who is not their parent or a 'close relative'. This is a private arrangement made between a parent and a carer; for 28 days or more. Close relatives are defined as step-parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, uncles or aunts, (whether of full blood, half blood, or marriage/affinity.)

Trust employees will notify the designated safeguarding lead when they become aware of private fostering arrangements. The designated safeguarding lead will speak to the family of the child involved to check that they are aware of their duty to inform the LA. Our Trust is aware that we need to report any private fostering arrangements that we become aware of to the Local Authority.

On admission to each school within the Trust, we will take steps to verify the relationship of the adults to the child who is being registered.

12. Advice - What to do if a child discloses

All employees within the Trust will also refer to 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused' DfE March 2015

DO'S

- Keep an open mind;

- Reassure;
- Listen carefully;
- Work at the child's pace;
- Where appropriate, ask only open questions in a non-leading way – clarifying the facts, don't interrogate;
- Explain your actions;
- Record accurately and quickly using child's words/action;
- Pass all the information on to the DSL, or the deputy DSL immediately/soon as possible or the same day;
- At all times, keep children and young people safe;
- Treat everyone with respect;
- Create an environment in which people feel comfortable in pointing out attitudes and behaviours they don't like;
- Report all inappropriate and/or abusive activities, including ridicule or bullying;
- Familiarise yourself with the Trust's code of conduct, and other related policies;
- Demonstrate positive behaviours you wish others to follow;
- Treat all health and safety concerns as emergencies and report them immediately;
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting safeguarding and welfare concerns;
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting all allegations against employees, carers and volunteers; and
- Look after yourself – ask for support.

DON'TS

- Make false promises;
- Interrupt/Interrogate/Investigate;
- Assume e.g. this child tells lies/good imagination;
- Make suggestions about what is being said;
- Speculate or accuse anyone;
- Show anger, shock etc;
- Tell the child to go and speak to someone else;
- Discuss with parent/carers without speaking to the DSL, or their deputy;
- Forget to record accurately and/or pass on to DSL, or the deputy
- Discuss with any other employees before speaking to DSL, or deputy;
- Leave any related written information laying around;
- Jump to conclusions about people's behaviour without knowing the facts;
- Investigate an allegation of child protection concern yourself;
- Make suggestive (what could be seen as suggestive) remarks or gestures, tell jokes of a sexual nature or engage in inappropriate verbal banter with or in front of children and/or young people;
- Create 'intense' personal relationships with a child/young person/s;
- Give any personal details about yourself or others, to a child/young person, unless this has been agreed with a senior employee for a specific reason;
- Allow children/young people to have access to your personal activities, including social networking sites;
- Have inappropriate physical contact with children/young people, this includes whilst playing games;
- Engage in any sexual activity (even consensual) with a child/young person under the age of 18 years who is attending any educational establishment;
- Intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine others; and
- Believe that safeguarding matters are someone else's business and responsibility – it is... and it's also yours.

13. Recording and reporting concerns and disclosures

Most schools within the MAT are currently use an online system called CPOMs.

During the transitional period to ensure continuity DSLs and Heads will ensure there is no confusion and continue to use the paper-based system in place until they online system is securely in place.

While still using the paper based system, any incident reported to you by a child or employee should be recorded on the following form:



Perry Hall Primary Multi-Academy Trust - Incident Log

Surname:.....Forenames:.....Year Group:.....Class:.....DOB:.....

Name of School.....Log completed by:.....Date completed:.....

(If applicable – all Child Protection core group minutes, Early Help Assessment and Looked After Children's review meeting logs etc. can be found in the individual pupil confidential files situated in the SLT room)

Date	Incident	When occurred	Dealt with by whom	Parents informed (✓ or X)	Action taken (e.g. phase leader informed, parents informed, card issued, report card, etc)

If after initial disclosure a referral needs to be made the following form will be completed.

Safeguarding and Promoting Children's Welfare – Record of Initial Concern

Child's Details

Name			
Date of Birth			
Address			
Name of Mother		Telephone Number	
Name of Father		Telephone Number	

Nature of Concern (Tick all that apply)

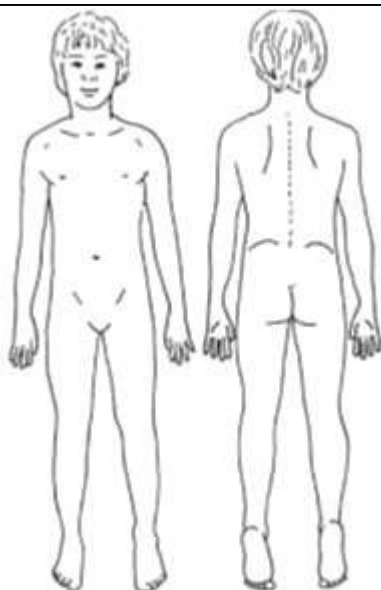
Learning ☐ Behavioural ☐ Attendance ☐ Health ☐
Welfare ☐ Child Protection ☐ Other (specify).....

Details of Concern

Date of Incident		Time	
Other children Present			
Employees Present (The employee reporting concern must sign and date the form)			

Incident Record (Please ensure that the information recorded is factual and based upon clear observations – distinguish fact from opinion. If the information is third party make this clear).

Continue on separate sheet if required and attach securely to form.



Description of the marks seen.

Date: / /

Name of child:

DOB: / /

Name of reporter:

Signature:

Witnesses:

Child's views, wishes and feelings

Where the child has been spoken to in respect of the concern – accurately record the details of the discussion, particularly in respect to what the child wishes to happen next.

Name (Print).....

Date.....

Designation.....

Signature.....

Information Sharing Decision

(To be completed by Designated Senior Person or Senior Manager)

Has consent been obtained from the child to share information?	Yes [] No [] If no, why not?
Has the child's parent/carer been advised of the concern?	Yes [] No [] If yes, what are their views, wishes and feelings?
Has consent been obtained from parent/carer to share information?	Yes [] No [] If no, why not? Date:

Date information shared	
Name of Individual with whom information was shared	
Contact Details	Address: Telephone:
Action(s) Arising (Detailing who is responsible for action)	

Name (Print)..... Date.....

Designation..... Signature.....

14. Child protection procedures

Upon receipt of a school concern form the DSL will make a decision and seek advice to determine whether the concern/disclosure meets a threshold for support

The DSL will consider:

Is this a child with unmet needs where health, development or achievement may be affected? Advice is to complete an Early Help Assessment (EHA) when:

- Age appropriate progress is not being made and the causes are unclear; or
- The support of more than one agency is needed to meet the child or young person's needs.

If this is a child with additional needs the DSL or deputy will discuss the issues with the child's parents/carers. The DSL will obtain parental consent for an Early Help Assessment to be completed.

Is this a child in need? Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 says:

- The child is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have opportunity to achieve or maintain a reasonable standard of health or development;
- The child's health or development is likely to be impaired, or further impaired without the provision of such services; and
- The child has a disability.

Is this a Child Protection matter? Section 47 of the Children Act 1989 says:

- Children at risk or who are suffering significant harm;
- Children suffering the effects of significant harm; and
- Serious health problems.

All concerns, child with unmet needs, Child in Need and Child Protection matters, should be discussed with the Designated Safeguarding Lead and will need to be assessed and referred using the correct channels by the school as soon as possible. It is important to recognise anybody can make a referral where they believe a child to be in imminent danger or at risk of harm

Where a case reaches the 'significant harm' threshold that justifies statutory intervention into family life. A professional making a child protection referral under Section 47 must therefore provide information which clearly outlines that a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm.

It is not possible to rely on one absolute criterion when judging what constitutes significant harm. Consideration of the severity of ill-treatment may include the extent of the harm suffered, the context within which it occurred and its duration.

Significant harm may also arise from a combination of significant events which are both acute and long standing and which impair the child's physical, psychological and social development. In order to both understand and establish significant harm, it is necessary to consider the family context, together with the child's development within their wider social and cultural environment. It is also necessary to consider any special needs, e.g. medical condition, communication difficulties or disability that may affect the child's development and care within the family. The nature of harm, in terms of ill-treatment or failure to provide adequate care also needs consideration alongside the impact on the child's health and development and the adequacy of care provided.

Making a referral

If, a child is in immediate danger or is at risk of harm a referral should be made to children's social care and /or the police immediately.

Anybody can make a referral. Although, where a child is registered at school, consultation should take place with the school's DSL or Deputy, who will often be the most appropriate person to initiate any referral. A written record of the concerns should be made using the schools internal recording form. This should be used to aid in the decision making process if a referral is needed to the MASH/Central Referral Hub.

For referral to the MASH/Central Referral Hub and speak to a social worker. Any action will need to be followed up with a written confirmation on the MARF (Multi Agency Referral form).

15. Voice of the child

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

16. Record keeping

At PHMAT all records of concerns and safeguarding/child protection files are stored separately from the child's school file or on CPOMs. Paper logs are locked in a secure location.

If a child moves school, our school will transfer the files, wherever possible, this will be done in person if not the file will be transferred securely and our school will obtain a receipt from the receiving school.

17. Looked after children, previously looked after children and the virtual school Headteacher

Our Looked After Children Leads are:

- Berrybrook – Kayleigh Penny
- Dunstall Hill – Parmjit Showker
- Perry Hall – Carol Russell
- Stanley Road – Craig Morgan
- Woodthorne – Rebecca Greybanks
- Bird's Bush – Ann Kelly
- Mesty Croft – Richard Shaw
- Forest Hills – Jess Cross
- Sledmere – Jennifer Shingler
- Tillington Manor – Natalie Hall

Our LAC lead will undertake any relevant training to update their skills, understanding and knowledge enable them to keep our looked after children safe. Our Looked after children lead will promote the educational, physical, social and emotional welfare of children who are looked after.

Our LAC Lead will ensure:

- They are aware of the legal status (interim care order, full care order, voluntary arrangements of any looked after child within the Trust;
- They obtain information regarding, contact arrangements with birth parents or those with parental responsibility;
- They obtain information about the child's care arrangements and the levels of authority delegated to the carer by the authority looking after him or her;
- They obtain the name of the child's social worker;
- They obtain the name and contact details of the virtual head in the local authority that looks after the child; and
- They liaise with the virtual school headteacher to discuss how the funding for that child can be best used to support the child's need outlined in the personal education plan and to promote the educational achievement of all children in kinship care.
-

18. Children with special educational needs and disabilities or health issues

At PHMAT we are aware that children with special educational needs and disabilities may or certain medical issues face additional safeguarding challenges both online and offline. Barriers can exist when recognising abuse and neglect in this group of children.

These can include:

- Assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to the child's disability without further exploration;
- Children with SEN and disabilities and certain medical conditions can be disproportionately impacted by things like bullying- without outwardly showing any signs;
- Being more prone to peer group isolation or bullying (including prejudice-based bullying) than other children; and
- Communication barriers and difficulties in overcoming these barriers.
- Cognitive understanding – being unable to understand the difference between fact and fiction in online content and then repeating the content/behaviours in schools or colleges or the consequences of doing so.

We will ensure we have appropriate mechanisms in place to assist these children.

Any reports of abuse involving children with SEND will therefore require close liaison with the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) and the SENCO.

We will consider extra pastoral support and attention for these children, along with ensuring any appropriate support for communication is in place.

Examples of mechanisms:

- Suitably qualified professionals (Inclusion manager and send lead)
- Suitable training
- Referrals to specialist agencies
- Use of communication packages
- Use of signs and symbols
- One to one support for communication
- Appropriate IT aides

19. Induction

All employees and governors will undergo safeguarding and child protection training at induction, including online safety which, amongst other things, includes an understanding of the expectations, applicable roles, and responsibilities in relation to filtering and monitoring. The training will be regularly updated. Induction and training provided will be in line with advice from the Local Safeguarding Partnership. Upon appointment and starting the new post, new employees, supply employees, students and volunteers will be issued with an induction pack, safeguarding policy, Keeping Children Safe in Education -Part 1, annex B and annex C Whistleblowing policy, code of conduct and other relevant safeguarding information. They will sign to say that they have received it, read and understood it. A meeting will be arranged on appointment to clarify and check understanding and to respond to any questions. Governors to make a decision as to whether Annex A the condensed version of Part 1 can be read by employees who do not have direct contact with children instead of part 1.

20. Training

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Our designated safeguarding lead (and any deputies) will undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role. This training will be updated at least every two years.

Our designated safeguarding lead will undertake Prevent awareness training including referral training to Channel. In addition to the formal training set out above, their knowledge and skills will be refreshed (this might be via e-bulletins, meeting other designated safeguarding leads, or simply taking time to read and digest safeguarding developments) at regular intervals, as required, but at least annually, to allow them to understand and keep up with any developments relevant to their role so they:

- understand the assessment process for providing early help and statutory intervention, including local criteria for action and local authority children's social care referral arrangements;
- have a working knowledge of how local authorities conduct a child protection case conference and a child protection review conference and be able to attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so;
- understand the importance of the role the designated safeguarding lead has in providing information and support to children social care in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children;
- understand the lasting impact that adversity and trauma can have, including on children's behaviour, mental health and wellbeing, and what is needed in responding to this in promoting educational outcomes;
- are alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), those with relevant health conditions and young carers;
- understand the importance of information sharing, both within the school and college, and with the safeguarding partners, other agencies, organisations and practitioners;
- understand and support the school with regards to the requirements of the Prevent duty and are able to provide advice and support to employees on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation;
- are able to understand the unique risks associated with online safety and be confident that they have the relevant knowledge and up to date capability required to keep children safe whilst they are online at school
- can recognise the additional risks that children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) face online, for example, from online bullying, grooming and radicalisation and are confident they have the capability to support children with SEND to stay safe online;
- obtain access to resources and attend any relevant or refresher training courses; and,
- encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings, among all employees, in any measures the school or college may put in place to protect them.
- understand the expectations, applicable roles and responsibilities in relation to filtering and monitoring

Employees training

All employees will receive regular (termly) safeguarding and child protection updates (for example, via email, e-bulletins, employees meetings), as required, but at least annually, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively. Trust and LGB recognise the expertise employees build by undertaking safeguarding training and managing safeguarding concerns on a daily basis.

Opportunity will therefore be provided for employees to contribute to and shape safeguarding arrangements and child protection policy.

Governor training

All Governors are invited and encouraged to attend safeguarding training. This will be updated on a regular basis.

Safer recruitment training

Our Trust will ensure that at least one member of any recruitment panel has received safer recruitment training.

21. Safer working practices

Our Trust has a code of conduct, all employees, supply employees and volunteers are issued with this at induction.

You should seek to keep your personal contact with children under review and seek to minimise the risk of any situation arising in which misunderstandings can occur. The following sensible precautions can be taken when working alone with children:

- Work in a room where there is a glass panel in the door or leave the door open;
- Make sure that other adults visit the room occasionally;
- Avoid working in isolation with children unless thought has been given to safeguards;
- Must not give out personal mobile phone numbers or private e-mail addresses;
- Must not give pupils lifts home in your cars;
- Must not arrange to meet them outside of school hours; and
- Must not chat to pupils on the social websites.

Under the Sexual offences Act 2003 it is a criminal offence for anyone working in an education setting to have a sexual relationship with a pupil even when the pupil is over the age of consent.

Any use of physical force or restraint of pupils will be carried out and documented in accordance with the relevant physical restraint policy. If it is necessary to use physical action to prevent a child from injury to themselves or other's parents will be informed.

22. Safer recruitment

In order to create a safe environment for our children our Trust will adopt the safer recruitment procedures that help deter, reject or identify people who might abuse children, outlined in part 3 of Keeping Children Safe in Education. We will monitor to ensure that the policy and procedures are embedded and effective.

Our Trust will ensure that at least one member of any recruitment panel has received safer recruitment training.

Our Trust adheres to statutory responsibilities to check employees who work with children, making decisions on whether to ask for any checks beyond what is required; and ensuring volunteers are appropriately supervised.

All shortlisted candidates will be asked to complete a self-declaration of their criminal record or information that would make them unsuitable to work with children.

We expect all employees to have a responsibility to maintain public confidence in their ability to safeguard the welfare and best interests of children. They should adopt high standards of personal conduct in order to maintain confidence and respect of the general public and those with whom they work.

There may be times where an individual's actions in their personal life come under scrutiny from the community, the media or public authorities, including with regard to their own children, or children or adults in the community. Employees should be aware that their behaviour, either in or out of the workplace, could compromise their position within the work setting in relation to the protection of children, loss of trust and confidence, or bringing the employer into disrepute. Such behaviour may also result in prohibition from teaching by the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) a bar from engaging in regulated activity, or action by another relevant regulatory body.

Our Trust understands that it is a criminal offence to allow any individual who is barred to carry out any form of regulated activity. Our Trust will comply with the legal duty to refer to the DBS anyone who has harmed, or poses a risk of harm, to a child or vulnerable adult; where the harm test is satisfied in respect of that individual; where the individual has received a caution or conviction for a relevant offence, or if there is reason to believe that individual has committed a listed relevant offence; and that individual has been removed from working (paid or unpaid) in regulated activity, or would have been removed had they not left.

Our Trust makes decisions about the suitability of any prospective employees based on checks and evidence including; criminal record checks (DBS), barred list checks and prohibition checks together with references and interview information.

In addition, as part of the shortlisting process we will consider carrying out an online search as part of our due diligence on the shortlisted candidates, candidates will be informed if this is going to happen. This may help identify any incidents or issues that have happened, and are publicly available online, which we might want to explore with the applicant at interview.

Consideration is given to the regulated activity prospective employees will be engaged in. In summary, a person will be considered to be engaging in regulated activity if as a result of their work they:

- Will be responsible, on a regular basis in a school, for teaching, caring for or supervising children;
- Will carry out paid or unsupervised unpaid, work regularly in a school where that work provides an opportunity for contact with children; and
- Engage in intimate or personal care or overnight activity, even if this happens only once.

For all other employees who have opportunity for regular contact with children who are not engaging in regulated activity, the Trust requires an enhanced DBS certificate, which does not include a barred list check.

For anyone appointed to carry out teaching work, an additional check will be undertaken to ensure they are not prohibited from teaching.

It is the responsibility of all employees to self-disclose under the Childcare Act 2006 to the Trust regarding living with or being associated with a barred or prohibited person.

For anyone appointed to a management position an additional check will be undertaken, called Section 128 direction, to ensure they are not prohibited or restricted from taking part in the management of the school.

Our Trust keeps a Single Central Record for each school that complies with all the requirements. The Single Central Record is held within the Business Team and is made accessible to and monitored by the CEO/Executive Leaders/Head/Chair of The Trustees and named safeguarding governor at regular intervals.

The Single Central Record covers the following people:

- all employees (including supply employees, and teacher trainees on salaried routes) who work at the school: in colleges, this means those providing education to children;
- for independent schools, including academies and free schools, all members of the proprietor body;
- volunteers;
- Governors; and agency and third-party employees

The following information will be recorded on the Single Central Record:

- An identity check. Best practice is to check the birth certificate, where it is available;
- A standalone children's barred list check;

- An enhanced DBS check/certificate;
- A prohibition from teaching check;
- A section 128 check for management positions
- Further checks on people who have lived or worked outside the UK;
- A check of professional qualifications; and
- A check to establish the person's right to work in the United Kingdom.

Since 01 January 2021 the TRA Teacher Services system no longer maintains a list of those teachers who have been sanctioned in EEA member states. Schools will apply the same approach for any individuals who have lived or worked outside the UK regardless of whether or not it was in an EEA country or the rest of the world.

These checks could include, where available:

- criminal records check for overseas applicants - Home Office guidance can be found on GOV.UK; and for teaching positions
- obtaining a letter (via the applicant) from the professional regulating authority in the country (or countries) in which the applicant has worked confirming that they have not imposed any sanctions or restrictions, and or that they are aware of any reason why they may be unsuitable to teach.

Applicants can find contact details of regulatory bodies in the EU/EEA and Switzerland on the Regulated Professions database. Applicants can also contact the UK Centre for Professional Qualifications who will signpost them to the appropriate EEA regulatory body.

These checks are part of a wider safeguarding regime which will carry on following appointment.

Our Trust will obtain written confirmation that the employment business supplying employees has carried out the relevant checks and obtained the appropriate certificates.

All applicants MUST show their current original DBS certificate to the school as soon as they take up post.

23. Safeguarding concerns and allegations about employees, supply teachers, volunteers and contractors

It is important that all our employees understand the process and procedures to follow if they have a safeguarding concern about another employees.

Our Trust has adopted the LA 'Grey Book' Managing Allegations Policy.

Our Trust policy complies with the guidance set out in Part four of Keeping Children Safe in Education.

All allegations of abuse of children carried out by any employees or volunteer or supply employees will be taken seriously. If an allegation is made regarding an employee or volunteer, the following will be considered:

- Has the employee/volunteer:
- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child?
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child?
- Behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she would pose a risk of harm to children or
- Behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children

If an allegation is made against an employee or volunteer the CEO/Executive Leaders/Head must be informed immediately or as soon as possible within 1 working day and he or she must contact the Designated Officer immediately to discuss the allegation to consider the nature, content and context of the allegation and agree a course of action.

If an allegation is made against the CEO/Executive Leaders/Head, the chair of the LGB, and in the case of the CEO the chair of the Board of Trustees must contact the Designated Officer immediately or as soon as possible within 1 working day to discuss the allegation to consider the nature, content and context of the allegation and agree a course of action.

Whilst the school is not the employer of a supply teacher, the school will ensure that allegations are dealt with properly. We will not cease a supply teacher due to safeguarding concerns, without finding out the facts and liaising with the local authority designated officer (LADO) to determine a suitable outcome. The LGB should discuss with the supply agency whether it is appropriate to suspend the supply teacher, or redeploy them to another part of the school, whilst they carry out their investigation. The supply agency should be fully involved and cooperate in any enquires from the LADO. Police and /or children's social care. The schools will take the lead on investigations. Schools will provide any supply agencies they work with about their process for managing allegations. The agency's HR manager or equivalent should be invited to any meetings and kept up to date where possible.

If an allegation is received relating to an incident that happened when an individual or organisation was using our school premises for the purpose of running activities for children, then we will follow our safeguarding policies and procedures, including informing the LADO.

Our procedures and approach to dealing with allegations will be applied with sensitivity and common sense. Our Trust will exercise its duty of care to employees; we will act appropriately to manage and minimise the stress inherent in the allegation process. Our Trust will make every effort to maintain confidentiality and guard against unwanted publicity while an allegation is being investigated or considered.

Within our Trust Schools we understand that there is a legal requirement for employers to make a referral to the DBS where we think that an individual has engaged in conduct that harmed (or is likely to harm) a child; or if a person otherwise poses a risk of harm to a child. If the accused person resigns, or ceases to provide their services, this will not prevent an allegation being followed up and a referral to the DBS *must* be made, if the criteria are met (outlined in KCSiE Part 4).

As part of our whole school approach to safeguarding, we will ensure that we promote an open and transparent culture in which all concerns about all adults working in or on behalf of the school or college (including supply teachers, volunteers and contractors) are dealt with promptly and appropriately. Employees should feel comfortable to discuss matters both within, and where it is appropriate, outside of the workplace (including online), which may have implications for the safeguarding of children. We have policies and processes to deal with concerns (including allegations) which do not meet the harm threshold.

Low level – concerns

If employees have a safeguarding concern or an allegation about another employee (including supply employees, volunteers or contractors) that does not meet the harm threshold, then this should be shared in accordance with the low-level concerns policy.

At PHMAT we create a culture in which all concerns about adults (including allegations that do not meet the harms threshold are shared responsibly and with the right person, recorded and dealt with appropriately, is critical.

The term 'low-level' concern does not mean that it is insignificant, it means that the behaviour towards a child does not meet the threshold for referral.

A low-level concern is any concern – no matter how small, and even if no more than causing a sense of unease or a 'nagging doubt' - that an adult working in or on behalf of the school or college may have acted in a way that:

- is inconsistent with the employees' code of conduct, including inappropriate conduct outside of work; and
- does not meet the allegations threshold or is otherwise not considered serious enough to consider a referral to the LADO.

Low-level concerns may arise in several ways and from a number of sources. For example: suspicion;

complaint; or disclosure made by a child, parent or other adult within or outside of the organisation; or as a result of vetting checks undertaken. It is crucial that all low-level concerns are shared responsibly with the right person and recorded and dealt with appropriately.

Examples of such behaviour could include, but are not limited to:

- being over friendly with children
- having favourites
- taking photographs of children on their mobile phone, contrary to school policy
- engaging with a child on a one-to-one basis in a secluded area or behind a closed door, or
- humiliating pupils.

If the concern has been raised via a third party, the CEO/Executive Leaders/Head (or a nominated deputy) should collect as much evidence as possible by speaking:

- directly to the person who raised the concern, unless it has been raised anonymously, and
- to the individual involved and any witnesses.

We have set out our low-level concerns policy within their employees' code of conduct and safeguarding policies. It will contain procedures for sharing confidentiality such concerns which is clear, easy to understand and implement.

Low-level concerns about employees, supply employees, volunteer or contractor will be reported to the Head Teacher. Reports about supply employees and contractors will be notified to their employers, so any potential patterns of inappropriate behaviour can be identified.

We will create an environment where employees are encouraged and feel confident to self-refer, where, for example, they have found themselves in a situation which could be misinterpreted, might appear compromising to others, and/or on reflection they believe they have behaved in such a way that they consider falls below the expected professional standards.

All low-level concerns will be recorded in writing. The record should include details of the concern, the context in which the concern arose, and the action taken. The name of the individual sharing their concerns should also be noted, if the individual wishes to remain anonymous then that should be respected as far as reasonably possible. Records will be retained by the CEO/Executive Leaders/Head and will be reviewed regularly so that potential patterns of concerning behaviour can be identified.

Should the level of concern reach the harms threshold the case will be referred to the LADO. Records will be retained until the individual ceases to be employed in PHMAT

For references we should only provide substantiated safeguarding allegations in references. Low level concerns will not be included in references unless they relate to issues which would normally be included in a reference, for example, misconduct or poor performance. It follows that a low-level concern which relates exclusively to safeguarding (and not to misconduct or poor performance) should not be referred to in a reference. However, where a low-level concern (or group of concerns) has met the threshold for referral to the LADO and found to be substantiated, it should be referred to in a reference.

24. Whistleblowing

All employees, volunteers and parents at PHMAT should feel able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice and potential failures in our safeguarding regime and such concerns will be taken seriously by our CEO/Executive Leaders/Head/ Board of Trustees and senior leadership team. Trust has adopted a Whistleblowing policy and appropriate whistleblowing procedures, which are suitably reflected in employees training and employees behaviour policies, are in place for such concerns to be raised with our CEO/Executive Leaders/Head/ Board of Trustees or senior leadership team.

Where an employee feels unable to raise an issue with our CEO/Executive Leaders/Head, LGB or senior

leadership team or feels that their genuine concerns are not being addressed, other whistleblowing channels are open to them, for example:

The NSPCC whistleblowing helpline is available for employees who do not feel able to raise concerns regarding child protection failures internally. Employees can call: 0800 028 0285 – line is available from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Monday to Friday and Email: help@nspcc.org.uk

25. Curriculum and online-safety

The breadth of issues classified within online safety is considerable and ever evolving, but can be categorised into four areas of risk:

content: being exposed to illegal, inappropriate, or harmful content, for example: pornography, racism, misogyny, self-harm, suicide, anti-Semitism, radicalisation, extremism, misinformation, disinformation (including fake news) and conspiracy theories.

contact: being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users; for example: peer to peer pressure, commercial advertising and adults posing as children or young adults with the intention to groom or exploit them for sexual, criminal, financial or other purposes.

conduct: online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm; for example, making, sending and receiving explicit images (e.g. consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi-nudes and/or pornography, sharing other explicit images and online bullying, and

commerce: risks such as online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and or financial scams. If we feel our pupils, students or staff are at risk, we will report it to the Anti-Phishing Working Group.

Child safety issues and child protection will be addressed through the curriculum where appropriate, especially through PSHE, Computing and E-Safety, Citizenship, Sex and Relations Education (SRE) and British values.

LGBs and the Trust will ensure online safety is a running and interrelated theme whilst devising and implementing their whole school or college approach to safeguarding and related policies and procedures. This will include considering how online safety is reflected as required in all relevant policies and considering online safety whilst planning the curriculum, any teacher training, the role and responsibilities of the designated safeguarding lead (and deputies) and any parental engagement.

Any use of generative AI by staff, students, and pupils will be carefully considered and assessed, evaluating the benefits and risks of its use.

Schools are likely to be in regular contact with parents and carers. Those communications will be used to reinforce the importance of children being safe online and parents and carers are likely to find it helpful to understand what systems we use to filter and monitor online use. It will be especially important for parents and carers to be aware of what their children are being asked to do online, including the sites they will ask to access and be clear who from the school (if anyone) their child is going to be interacting with online

We use a variety of resources and approaches to teach the children how to keep themselves safe, build their resilience and manage risks.

The curriculum, and in particular the personal, social and health education development strand of the curriculum, includes an emphasis on relationships (relationships and sex education), building confidence and resilience in pupils and in developing preventative strategies to ensure their own protection and that of others. Opportunities are provided for pupils to develop the skills and strategies they need to stay safe from abuse, including age-appropriate discussions about healthy relationships, their bodies and being able to say no to requests that they do not want to carry out. Clear advice and guidance is built into the

curriculum to ensure that pupils understand that there is a range of contacts they can turn to for advice and support and that they know where and how to report abuse.

Our Trust teaches the children how to keep themselves safe through;

- Safeside visit
- Cycling proficiency
- Swimming lessons
- Educational visits
- PCSO – Talks on bullying, cyber-bullying, stranger danger, firework and park safety
- 'People Who Help Us' topics
- PSHE/ assemblies
- SRE/ school nurses
- British values/ virtues and values
- NSPCC workshops

Through the school's curriculum the children have the opportunity to go on school trips and residential visits to enhance their learning. All off-site visits are recorded. Permission slips and medical forms are collected and kept with the office and the lead employee. Risk assessments are completed and filed within the 'Visits Folders.'

(See Educational Visits Policy for further information)

E-Safety curriculum and computing, use of mobile technology (See separate policies for further information)

Each school has a school-based IT Co-Ordinators/lead.

The growth of different electronic media in everyday life and an ever-developing variety of devices including PC's, laptops, mobile phones, webcams etc. place an additional risk on our children. Internet chat rooms, discussion forums or social networks can all be used as a means of contacting children and young people with a view of grooming them for inappropriate or abusive relationships. The anonymity of the internet allows adults, often pretending to be children, to have conversations with children and in some cases arrange to meet them.

Access to abusive images is not a 'victimless' act as it is already involved the abuse of children. The internet has become a significant tool in the distribution of indecent photographs of children and should be a concern to all those working with pupils at this school.

Pupils can engage in or be a target of Cyber-bullying using a range of methods including text, sexting and instant messaging to reach their target. Mobile phones are also used to capture violent assaults or other children for circulation (happy slapping).

The best protection is to make pupils aware of the dangers through curriculum teaching particularly computing and IT lessons, PSHE and SRE.

At Perry Hall Multi-Academy Trust:

- Software (filters, firewalls and monitoring) are in place to minimise access and to highlight any person or child accessing inappropriate sites or information;
- Each PHMAT school has monitoring and recording systems in place
- Pupils will be encouraged to discuss openly their use of technology and anything which makes them feel uncomfortable. (if this results in child protection concerns the schools DSL will be informed immediately);
- Pupils are taught not give out personal details, phone numbers, schools, home address, computer passwords etc; and
- Pupils should adhere to the Trust policy on mobile phones.
- Employees receive e-safety and online training including filtering and monitoring

- The e-safety policy will be reviewed annually and include a risk assessment

The police will be involved, and advice will be sought from CEOP if required if there is any criminal element to misuse of the internet, phones or any other form of electronic media.

Use of mobile phones, cameras and other devices (See separate policies for further information)

Unauthorised or secret use of a mobile phone or other electronic device, to record voice, pictures or video is forbidden. Unauthorised publishing of such materials on a website which causes distress to the person(s) concerned will be considered a breach of school discipline, whether intentional or unintentional. The person responsible for the material will be expected to remove this immediately upon request and appropriate procedures will be followed. Where any crime may have been committed the police will be informed.

We recognise that many aspects of the curriculum can be enhanced by the use of multi-media and that there are now a wide and growing range of devices on which this can be accomplished. Digital images, video and sound recording are only taken with the permission of participants; images and video are of appropriate activities and are only taken of children wearing appropriate dress. Full names of participants are not used either within the resource itself, within the filename or in accompanying text online.

All parents and visitors are asked not to use mobile phones when visiting the schools within our Trust and to take any calls or texts outside of the building. All employees must be vigilant and remind any parents / visitors who forget.

We ask all parents/carers to sign an agreement about taking and publishing photographs and video of their children and this list is checked whenever an activity is being photographed or filmed.

For their own protection employees or other visitors to schools within our Trust never use a personal device (mobile phone, digital camera or digital video recorder) to take photographs of pupils.

School mobile phones or similar devices with communications facilities used for curriculum activities are set up appropriately for the activity. Pupils are taught to use them responsibly.

26. Monitoring policy and practice

Our Safeguarding policy and procedures will be reviewed annually or sooner if required. All employees and stakeholders may contribute to the development of our policies and procedures.

Our policy will be published on our website and paper copies are available upon request.

All schools within the MAT also have an external annual Safeguarding Audit.

Where pupils are educated offsite the school will ensure that all safeguarding procedures are followed.

Perry Hall Primary School Policy and Procedures

This policy applies to all employees, including senior managers and the Board of Trustees, paid employees, volunteers and sessional workers, agency employees and students, or anyone working on behalf of Perry Hall School.

The Purpose of this policy is:

- **To protect children and young people attending our school**
- **To provide employees and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection. Including local issues that impact on our pupils and their families.**

Perry Hall School as part of the Perry Hall Multi Academy Trust (PHMAT) is committed to the protection and welfare of its employees and pupils. Perry Hall School believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of the law and guidance that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025
- Working together to Safeguard children 2023
- The Channel Programme 2018
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services 2024
- The Designated Teacher for Looked After children and previously looked after children 2018
- Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines 2017
- Safeguarding and Radicalisation 2017
- Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners 2017
- Supporting Pupils with Medical conditions at School 2017
- Digital Economy Act 2017
- Multi Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation 2018
- Children Missing Education 2016
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools 2018
- Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education 2022
- Protecting Children from Radicalisation: the prevent duty 2015
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years 2015
- Children Act 1989, 2004
- Education Act 2002, 2011
- Families and Social Work Act 2017
- Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

- Protections of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Adoption and Children Act 2002
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Sexual offences Act 2003
- Children and Adoption Act 2006
- UNCRC 1991
- Counter terrorism and Security Act 2015

This policy should be read in conjunction with the PHMAT related policies and procedures.

- Safeguarding policy
 - Safer Recruitment, induction and training
 - Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
 - Managing Allegations Against Employees
 - Recording and Information Sharing
 - Code of conduct for employees and Volunteers
 - E-Safety Policy
 - Behaviour Management
 - Physical intervention
 - Anti-bullying
 - Complaints
 - Whistleblowing
 - Health and Safety
 - Equality and Diversity
 - Lone working policy
 - Attendance policy

Key information about Perry Hall School:

Perry Hall School		Contact Details
Pupils on Role	500	
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Rekha Kohli (Executive Leader)	r.kohli@perryhallmat.co.uk
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Lee Fellows (Head Teacher)	l.fellows@perryhallmat.co.uk
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Narinder Heer	n.heer@perryhallmat.co.uk
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Carol Russell	c.russell@perryhallmat.co.uk
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Michelle Dodd	m.dodd@perryhallmat.co.uk
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Gurbinder Robinson	g.robinson@perryhallmat.co.uk
Other members of the Pastoral Team		
SENCO	Carol Russell	c.russell@perryhallmat.co.uk
Educational Psychologist	Angharad Meredith	a.meredith@perryhallmat.co.uk
Looked After Children's Teacher	Carol Russell	c.russell@perryhallmat.co.uk
Safeguarding and Inclusion	Narinder Heer	n.heer@perryhallmat.co.uk
Link Safeguarding Governor	Darren Collinswood	d.collinswood@perryhallmat.co.uk
Our local Partners		
Safeguarding Partners/LSCB	Wolverhampton	www.wolverhampton safeguarding.org.uk
Threshold Model	Multi-Agency Children Services Threshold Guidance: Continuum of Help and Support 2020	
LADO	Kelly Matthews	01902 550661 General Enquiries LADO@wolverhampton.gov.uk Confidential Enquiries LADO@secure.wolverhampton.gov.uk
MASH	Referrals	01902 555392

Out of Hours/EDT	Referrals	01902 552999
Children's Disability Team	Social care	01902 550911 childrenandyoungpeople's.disabilityservice@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Prevent Counter- Terrorism Team (CTU)	PCs Holder, Nixon and Hall	101 opt3 8713036
FGM	Police	101 or 999
Police		101 or 999
Wolverhampton Exploitation Lead	Sandeep Gill	01902 550477
Wolverhampton Virtual School Head	Darren Martindale	01902 551039 darren.Martindale@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Ofsted dedicated Whistleblowing Hotline		0300 123 3155
Trust CEO	Amarjit Cheema	07915 664828

Definition of safeguarding children:

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as:

- Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Child protection applies to **ALL** children and young people. Children includes everyone under the age of 18yrs.

It is part of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and is defined as:

- Activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suspected to be suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes harm that occurs inside or outside of the home, including online.
- Effective safeguarding means practitioners should understand and be sensitive to factors, including economic and social circumstances and ethnicity, which can impact children and families' lives.

We Recognise:

- That the Welfare of the Child is Paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989, and that all actions and decisions should be child centred and in the best interest of the child.

- All Children regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation should be treated equally, and fairly and their rights protected.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) are more at risk of peer isolation, bullying, and their behaviours, injuries, and mood can be as a result of abuse or trauma, not just a feature of their disability
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare
- As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families.

These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including: exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines; trafficking, online abuse; sexual exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. Extremist groups make use of the internet to radicalise and recruit and to promote extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered.

Nothing is more important than children's welfare. Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home. Children who need help and protection deserve high quality and effective support. This requires individuals, agencies, and organisations to be clear about their own and each other's roles and responsibilities, and how they work together. (Working together to Safeguard children 2023)

Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time and can be committed by anybody.

Our Schools identified concerns

Although we aim to protect children from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation, through historical information and records we have identified specific issues that impact more than others on our children and families. We will ensure that employees can manage these issues by providing additional training, and information. To support children around these issues we will work on a one to one, class, and whole school basis, by developing curriculum and providing information. Where necessary we will engage other agencies and support using Early help, Child in need and Child protection interventions.

We have identified these issues as:

- Domestic Abuse
- Bullying and cyberbullying
- Children attending court
- Mental Health and Behaviour
- Gangs
- Supporting Parents with behaviour management
- Parenting skills
- On-line gaming

We aim to keep all children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a DSL and deputies to ensure there is always someone available for employees and pupils
- Identifying additional needs and offering the right help at the right time
- Taking action where concerns are identified and acting without delay
- Appointing a member of the Board of Trustees for safeguarding
- Adopt child protection and safeguarding practices through clear policies and procedures
- Ensure safer recruitment procedures are followed

- Ensure all employees and volunteers follow the employees code of conduct
- Training employees to ensure they are efficient safeguarding practitioners
- Challenging unsafe or poor practice, using our procedures to manage allegations against employees and volunteers appropriately
- Providing effective management for employees and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely and in line with GDPR, Working together to safeguard children 2023
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, employees and volunteers, via, our website, leaflets, poster, one-to-one discussions
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and
- carers appropriately
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring we follow our policy and procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensure we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provided a safe physical environment for pupils, employees and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the Law and regulatory guidance

This policy comes into force September 2025 and will be reviewed in July 2026, or in line with any changes instructed by the secretary of state if sooner.

Additional Information

- Appendix A: Keeping children Safe in Education 2025
- Appendix B: School Initial Concern Recording form
- Appendix C: Childs Body Map
- Appendix D: Signs and indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Appendix E: Wolverhampton Multi-agency Children Services Threshold Guidance: Continuum of Help and Support 2021
- Appendix F: Useful information on Gangs, Domestic Violence and Children Attending court

Safeguarding Procedures What to do if a child discloses

All employees within the Trust will also refer to 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused' DfE March 2015

DO'S:

- Keep an open mind
- Reassure
- Listen carefully
- Work at the child's pace
- Where appropriate, ask only open questions in a non-leading way – clarifying the facts, don't interrogate
- Explain your actions
- Record accurately and quickly using child's words/action
- Pass all the information on to the DSL, or the deputy DSL immediately/soon as possible or the same day
- At all times, keep children and young people safe
- Treat everyone with respect
- Create an environment in which people feel comfortable in pointing out attitudes and behaviours they don't like
- Report all inappropriate and/or abusive activities, including ridicule or bullying
- Familiarise yourself with the Trust's code of conduct, and other related policies
- Demonstrate positive behaviours you wish others to follow
- Treat all health and safety concerns as emergencies and report them immediately
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting safeguarding and welfare concerns
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting all allegations against employees, carers and volunteers
- Look after yourself – ask for support.

DON'TS:

- Make false promises
- Interrupt, Interrogate or investigate
- Assume e.g. this child tells lies/good imagination
- Make suggestions about what is being said
- Speculate or accuse anyone
- Show anger, shock etc
- Tell the child to go and speak to someone else
- Discuss with parent/carers without speaking to the DSL, or their deputy
- Forget to record accurately and/or pass on to DSL, or the deputy
- Discuss with any other employees before speaking to DSL, or deputy;
- Leave any related written information laying around
- Jump to conclusions about people's behaviour without knowing the facts
- Investigate an allegation of child protection concern yourself
- Make suggestive (what could be seen as suggestive) remarks or gestures, tell jokes of a sexual nature or engage in inappropriate verbal banter with or in front of children and/or young people
- Create 'intense' personal relationships with a child/young person/s
- Give any personal details about yourself or others, to a child/young person, unless this has been agreed with a senior employee for a specific reason
- Allow children/young people to have access to your personal activities, including social networking sites
- Have inappropriate physical contact with children/young people, this includes whilst playing games
- Engage in any sexual activity (even consensual) with a child/young person under the age of 18 years who is attending any educational establishment
- Intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine others; and
- Believe that safeguarding matters are someone else's business and responsibility – it is... and it's also yours

Filtering and monitoring

Online activity is monitored using SENSO. This is checked weekly by the Head. Urgent Violations are sent to the Head via email and checked immediately.

Any other concerns need to be recorded on the Initial concerns sheet and passed to the DSL or their Deputies.

All concerns and additional needs should be discussed with the DSL or Deputies and a record kept.

Where you have concerns regarding the effectiveness of support for pupils and their families you should press for re-consideration and follow procedures to check senior management decisions regarding individual children or case management.

Berrybrook Primary School Policy and Procedures

This policy applies to all employees, including senior managers and the Board of Trustees, paid employees, volunteers and sessional workers, agency employees and students, or anyone working on behalf of Berrybrook Primary School.

The Purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people attending our school.
- To provide employees and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection, including local issues that impact on our pupils and their families.

Berrybrook Primary School, as part of the Perry Hall Multi Academy Trust (PHMAT), is committed to the protection and welfare of its employees and pupils. Berrybrook School believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of the law, guidance and research evidence that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2025)
- Working together to Safeguard children 2023
- The Channel Programme 2018
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services 2024
- The Designated Teacher for Looked After children and previously looked after children 2018
- Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines 2017
- Safeguarding and Radicalisation 2017
- Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners 2017
- Supporting Pupils with Medical conditions at School 2017
- Digital Economy Act 2017
- Multi Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation 2018
- Children Missing Education 2016
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools 2018
- Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education 2022
- Protecting Children from Radicalisation: the prevent duty 2015
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years 2015
- Children Act 1989, 2004
- Education Act 2002, 2011
- Families and Social Work Act 2017
- Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protections of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Adoption and Children Act 2002
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Sexual offences Act 2003
- Children and Adoption Act 2006
- UNCRC 1991
- Counter terrorism and Security Act 2015

This policy should be read in conjunction with the PHMAT related policies and procedures.

- Safeguarding policy
- Safer Recruitment, induction and training
- Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Managing Allegations Against Employees
- Recording and Information Sharing
- Code of conduct for employees and Volunteers
- E-Safety Policy
- Behaviour Management
- Physical intervention
- Anti-bullying
- Complaints
- Whistleblowing
- Health and Safety
- Equality and Diversity
- Lone working policy

Key information about Berrybrook Primary School

Berrybrook Primary School		Contact Details
Pupils on Role	228	
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Darryl Asbury (Executive Leader)	01902 921152 d.asbury@perryhallmat.co.uk
Deputy Safeguarding Leads	Gary Darby	01902 921152 g.darby@bps.perryhallmat.co.uk
	Kayleigh Penny	01902 921152 k.penny@bps.perryhallmat.co.uk
	Amie Worthy	01902 921152 a.worthy@bps.perryhallmat.co.uk
	Victoria Tustin	01902 921152 v.tustin@bps.perryhallmat.co.uk
	Sarah Rawson	01902 921152 s.rawson@bps.perryhallmat.co.uk
	Carrie Saunders	01902 921152 c.saunders@bps.perryhallmat.co.uk

Other members of the Pastoral Team		
SENCo	Victoria Tustin	01902 921152 v.tustin@bps.perryhallmat.co.uk
PHMAT Inclusion Lead	Jo Davies	01902 921152 j.davies@perryhallmat.co.uk
PHMAT Educational Psychologist	Hilary Brown-Hartley	01902 921152 h.hartley@perryhallmat.co.uk
Assistant Educational Psychologist	Angharad Meredith	01902 921152 a.meredith@perryhallmat.co.uk
Designated Teacher for Looked After Children	Kayleigh Penny	01902 921152 k.penny@perryhallmat.co.uk
Family Support Worker	Carrie Saunders	01902 921152 c.saunders@perryhallmat.co.uk
Learning Mentor	Tina Crozier	01902 921152 t.crozier@perryhallmat.co.uk
Link Safeguarding Governor	Andrew Fisher	01902 921152 a.fisher@perryhallmat.co.uk
Our local Partners		
Safeguarding Partners/LSCB	Wolverhampton	www.wolverhamptonssafeguarding.org.uk
Threshold Model	Multi-Agency Children Services Threshold Guidance: Continuum of Help and Support 2020	
LADO	Kelly Matthews	01902 550661 General Enquiries LADO@wolverhampton.gov.uk Confidential Enquiries LADO@secure.wolverhampton.gov.uk
MASH	Referrals	01902 555392
Out of Hours/EDT	Referrals	01902 552999

Children's Disability Team	Social care	01902 550911 childrenandyoungpeople's.disabilityservice@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Prevent Counter- Terrorism Team (CTU)	PCs Holder, Nixon and Hall	101 opt3 8713036
FGM	Police	101 or 999
Police		101 or 999
Wolverhampton Exploitation Lead	Sandeep Gill	01902 550477
Wolverhampton Virtual School Head	Darren Martindale	01902 551039 darren.Martindale@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Ofsted dedicated Whistleblowing Hotline		0300 123 3155
Trust CEO	Amarjit Cheema	07915664828
Safeguarding Partners/LSCB	Wolverhampton	www.wolverhamptonsafeguarding.org.uk

Definition of safeguarding children:

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as;

- Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Safeguarding applies to **ALL** children and young people. Children includes everyone under the age of 18yrs.

Child protection is part of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and is defined as:

- Activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suspected to be suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes harm that occurs inside or outside of the home, including online.
- Effective safeguarding means practitioners should understand and be sensitive to factors, including economic and social circumstances and ethnicity, which can impact children and families' lives.

We Recognise:

- That the Welfare of the Child is Paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989, and that all actions and decisions should be child centred and in the best interest of the child.

- All Children regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation should be treated equally, and fairly and their rights protected.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) are more at risk of peer isolation, bullying, and their behaviours, injuries, and mood can be as a result of abuse or trauma, not just a feature of their disability
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including: exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines; trafficking, online abuse; sexual exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. Extremist groups make use of the internet to radicalise and recruit and to promote extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered.

Nothing is more important than children's welfare. Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home. Children who need help and protection deserve high quality and effective support. This requires individuals, agencies, and organisations to be clear about their own and each other's roles and responsibilities, and how they work together. (Working together to Safeguard children 2023)

Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time and can be committed by anybody

On-going low-level neglect can have a detrimental impact on children's health and wellbeing and can be detrimental to their long-term outcomes

Our Schools identified concerns

Although we aim to protect children from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation, through historical information and records we have identified specific issues that impact more than others on our children and families. We will ensure that employees can manage these issues by providing additional training, and information. To support children around these issues we will work on a one to one, class, and whole school basis, by developing curriculum and providing information. Where necessary we will engage other agencies and support using Early help, Child in need and Child protection interventions.

We have identified these issues as:

- Domestic Abuse
- Bullying and cyberbullying
- Children attending court
- Mental Health and Behaviour
- Drugs
- Gangs
- Supporting Parents with behaviour management
- Parenting skills
- Digital media and e-Safety concerns
- On-line gaming
- Neglect
- Sexual Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Racism
- Homophobia.

We aim to keep all children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a DSL and deputies to ensure there is always someone available for employees and pupils
- Identifying additional needs and offering the right help at the right time
- Taking action where concerns are identified and acting without delay
- Appointing a member of the Board of Trustees for safeguarding
- Adopt child protection and safeguarding practices through clear policies and procedures
- Ensure safer recruitment procedures are followed
- Ensure all employees and volunteers follow the employees code of conduct
- Training employees to ensure they are efficient safeguarding practitioners
- Challenging unsafe or poor practice, using our procedures to manage allegations against employees and volunteers appropriately
- Providing effective management for employees and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely and in line with GDPR, Working together to safeguard children 2023
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, employees and volunteers, via, our website, leaflets, poster, one-to-one discussions
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring we follow our policy and procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensure we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provided a safe physical environment for pupils, employees and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the Law and regulatory guidance
- This policy comes into force September 2025 and will be reviewed in July 2026, or in line with any changes instructed by the Secretary of State if sooner.
- **Additional Information**
- Appendix A: Keeping children Safe in Education 2025
- Appendix B: Safeguarding and Promoting Children's Welfare – Record of Initial Concern
- Appendix C: Childs Body Map
- Appendix D: Signs and indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Appendix E: Wolverhampton Multi-Agency Children Services Threshold Guidance: Continuum of Help and Support 2021
- Appendix F: Useful information on Gangs, Domestic Violence, Drugs advice for schools

Safeguarding Procedures What to do if a child discloses

All employees within the Trust will also refer to 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused' DfE March 2015

DO'S:

- Keep an open mind
- Reassure
- Listen carefully
- Work at the child's pace
- Where appropriate, ask only open questions in a non-leading way – clarifying the facts, don't interrogate
- Explain your actions
- Record accurately and quickly using child's words/action
- Pass all the information on to the DSL, or the deputy DSL immediately/soon as possible or the same day
- At all times, keep children and young people safe
- Treat everyone with respect

- Create an environment in which people feel comfortable in pointing out attitudes and behaviours they don't like
- Report all inappropriate and/or abusive activities, including ridicule or bullying
- Familiarise yourself with the Trust's code of conduct, and other related policies
- Demonstrate positive behaviours you wish others to follow
- Treat all health and safety concerns as emergencies and report them immediately
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting safeguarding and welfare concerns
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting all allegations against employees, carers and volunteers
- Look after yourself – ask for support.

DON'TS:

- Make false promises
- Interrupt, Interrogate or investigate
- Assume e.g. this child tells lies/good imagination
- Make suggestions about what is being said
- Speculate or accuse anyone
- Show anger, shock etc
- Tell the child to go and speak to someone else
- Discuss with parent/carers without speaking to the DSL, or their deputy
- Forget to record accurately and/or pass on to DSL, or the deputy
- Discuss with any other employees before speaking to DSL, or deputy;
- Leave any related written information laying around
- Jump to conclusions about people's behaviour without knowing the facts
- Investigate an allegation of child protection concern yourself
- Make suggestive (what could be seen as suggestive) remarks or gestures, tell jokes of a sexual nature or engage in inappropriate verbal banter with or in front of children and/or young people
- Create 'intense' personal relationships with a child/young person/s
- Give any personal details about yourself or others, to a child/young person, unless this has been agreed with a senior employee for a specific reason
- Allow children/young people to have access to your personal activities, including social networking sites
- Have inappropriate physical contact with children/young people, this includes whilst playing games
- Engage in any sexual activity (even consensual) with a child/young person under the age of 18 years who is attending any educational establishment
- Intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine others; and
- Believe that safeguarding matters are someone else's business and responsibility – it is... and it's also yours

Filtering and monitoring

Online activity is monitored using SENSO. This is checked weekly by the Head of School. Urgent Violations are sent to the Head of School via email and checked immediately.

Any other concerns need to be recorded on the Safeguarding and Promoting Children's Welfare – Record of Initial Concern and passed to the DSL or their Deputies.

All concerns and additional needs should be discussed with the DSL or Deputies and a record kept.

Where you have concerns regarding the effectiveness of support for pupils and their families you should press for re-consideration and follow procedures to check senior management decisions regarding individual children or case management.

Dunstall Hill Primary School Policy and Procedures

This policy applies to all employees, including senior managers and the Board of Trustees, paid employees, volunteers and sessional workers, agency employees and students, or anyone working on behalf of Dunstall Hill Primary School.

The Purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people attending our school
- To provide employees and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection, including local issues that impact on our pupils and their families.

Dunstall Hill Primary School, as part of the Perry Hall Multi Academy Trust (PHMAT), is committed to the protection and welfare of its employees and pupils. Dunstall Hill Primary School believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of the law, guidance and research evidence that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025
- Working together to Safeguard children 2023
- The Channel Programme 2018
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services 2024
- The Designated Teacher for Looked After children and previously-looked after children 2018
- Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines 2017
- Safeguarding and Radicalisation 2017
- Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners 2017
- Supporting Pupils with Medical conditions at School 2017
- Digital Economy Act 2017
- Multi Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation 2018
- Children Missing Education 2016
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools 2018
- Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education 2022
- Protecting Children from Radicalisation: the prevent duty 2015
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years 2015
- Children Act 1989, 2004
- Education Act 2002, 2011
- Families and Social Work Act 2017
- Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protections of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Adoption and Children Act 2002
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Sexual offences Act 2003
- Children and Adoption Act 2006
- UNCRC 1991
- Counter terrorism and Security Act 2015

This policy should be read in conjunction with the PHMAT related policies and procedures.

- Safeguarding policy
- Safer Recruitment, induction and training
- Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Managing Allegations Against Employees
- Recording and Information Sharing
- Code of conduct for employees and Volunteers
- E-Safety Policy
- Behaviour Management
- Physical intervention
- Anti-bullying
- Complaints
- Whistleblowing
- Health and Safety
- Equality and Diversity
- Lone working policy

Key information about Dunstall Hill Primary School

Dunstall Hill Primary School		Contact Details
Pupils on Role	471	
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Mrs Reena Chander (Head of School)	01902921166 07791331421
Deputy Safeguarding Leads	Mrs Stacey Keating (Deputy Headteacher)	01902921166
	Miss Dawn Cummings (Family Support Worker)	01902921166
	Mrs Victoria Tustin (SENCO)	01902921166
	Miss Zoe Ayton (LKS2 Phase Leader)	01902921166
	Mrs Anisa Khan (KS1 Phase Leader)	01902921166
SENCO	Mrs Victoria Tustin	01902921166
Educational Psychologist	Miss Angharad Meredith	01902921166

Family Support Worker	Miss Dawn Cummings	01902921166
Looked After Children's Teacher	Mrs Parmjit Showker	01902921166
Link Safeguarding Governor	Mr Andrew Fisher	01902921166
Our local Partners		
Safeguarding Partners/LSCB	Wolverhampton	www.wolverhamptonsafeguarding.org.uk
Threshold Model	Multi-Agency Children Services Threshold Guidance: Continuum of Help and Support 2020	
LADO	Kelly Matthews	01902 550661 General Enquiries LADO@wolverhampton.gov.uk Confidential Enquiries LADO@secure.wolverhampton.gov.uk
MASH	Referrals	01902 555392
Out of Hours/EDT	Referrals	01902 552999
Children's Disability Team	Social care	01902 550911 childrenandyoungpeople's.disabilityservice@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Prevent Counter-Terrorism Team (CTU)	PCs Holder, Nixon and Hall	101 opt3 8713036
FGM	Police	101 or 999
Police		101 or 999
Wolverhampton Exploitation Lead	Sandeep Gill	01902 550477
Wolverhampton Virtual School Head	Darren Martindale	01902 551039 darren.Martindale@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Ofsted dedicated Whistleblowing Hotline		0300 123 3155
Trust CEO	Amarjit Cheema	07915664828

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

Safeguarding applies to **ALL** children and young people. Children includes everyone under the age of 18yrs.

Child protection is part of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and is defined as:

- Activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suspected to be suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes harm that occurs inside or outside of the home, including online.
- Effective safeguarding means practitioners should understand and be sensitive to factors, including economic and social circumstances and ethnicity, which can impact children and families' lives.

We Recognise:

- That the Welfare of the Child is Paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989, and that all actions and decisions should be child centred and in the best interest of the child.
- All Children regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation should be treated equally, and fairly and their rights protected.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) are more at risk of peer isolation, bullying, and their behaviours, injuries, and mood can be as a result of abuse or trauma, not just a feature of their disability
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including: exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines; trafficking, online abuse; sexual exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. Extremist groups make use of the internet to radicalise and recruit and to promote extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered.

Nothing is more important than children's welfare. Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home. Children who need help and protection deserve high quality and effective support. This requires individuals, agencies, and organisations to be clear about their own and each other's roles and responsibilities, and how they work together. (Working together to Safeguard children 2023)

Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time and can be committed by anybody

Our Schools identified concerns

Although we aim to protect children from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation, through historical information and records we have identified specific issues that impact more than others on our children and families. We will

ensure that employees can manage these issues by providing additional training, and information. To support children around these issues we will work on a one to one, class, and whole school basis, by developing curriculum and providing information. Where necessary we will engage other agencies and support using Early help, Child in need and Child protection interventions.

We have identified these issues as:

- Domestic Abuse
- Faith Based Abuse
- Children who are absent from education, Home or Care
- Relationship Abuse
- County Lines, Criminal Exploitation
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Mental Health and Behaviour
- Drugs
- Trafficking
- FGM
- Forced Marriage and 'Honour based violence'
- Radicalisation
- Gangs
- Violence against women and girls
- On-line gaming
- Neglect
- Sexual Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Racism
- Bullying and cyberbullying
- Children attending court
- Supporting Parents with behaviour management
- Parenting skills
- Digital media, and e-Safety concerns

We aim to keep all children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a DSL and deputies to ensure there is always someone available for employees and pupils
- Identifying additional needs and offering the right help at the right time
- Taking action where concerns are identified and acting without delay
- Appointing a member of the Board of Trustees for safeguarding
- Adopt child protection and safeguarding practices through clear policies and procedures
- Ensure safer recruitment procedures are followed
- Ensure all employees and volunteers follow the employees code of conduct
- Training employees to ensure they are efficient safeguarding practitioners
- Challenging unsafe or poor practice, using our procedures to manage allegations against employees and volunteers appropriately
- Providing effective management for employees and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely and in line with GDPR, Working together to safeguard children 2023
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, employees and volunteers, via, our website, leaflets, poster, one-to-one discussions
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring we follow our policy and procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise

- Ensure we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provided a safe physical environment for pupils, employees and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the Law and regulatory guidance

This policy comes into force September 2025 and will be reviewed in July 2026, or in line with any changes instructed by the secretary of state if sooner.

Additional Information:

- Appendix A: Keeping children Safe in Education Part one 2025
- Appendix B: School Initial Concern Recording form
- Appendix C: Childs Body Map
- Appendix D: Signs and indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Appendix E: Wolverhampton Multi-Agency Children Services Threshold Guidance: Continuum of help and Support 2020
- Appendix F: Useful information on Gangs, Domestic Violence, Drugs, FGM, Forced Marriage, CSE, and radicalisation

Safeguarding Procedures What to do if a child discloses

All employees within the Trust will also refer to 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused' DfE March 2015

DO'S:

- Keep an open mind
- Reassure
- Listen carefully
- Work at the child's pace
- Where appropriate, ask only open questions in a non-leading way – clarifying the facts, don't interrogate
- Explain your actions
- Record accurately and quickly using child's words/action
- Pass all the information on to the DSL, or the deputy DSL immediately/soon as possible or the same day
- At all times, keep children and young people safe
- Treat everyone with respect
- Create an environment in which people feel comfortable in pointing out attitudes and behaviours they don't like
- Report all inappropriate and/or abusive activities, including ridicule or bullying
- Familiarise yourself with the Trust's code of conduct, and other related policies
- Demonstrate positive behaviours you wish others to follow
- Treat all health and safety concerns as emergencies and report them immediately
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting safeguarding and welfare concerns
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting all allegations against employees, carers and volunteers
- Look after yourself – ask for support.

DON'TS:

- Make false promises
- Interrupt, Interrogate or investigate
- Assume e.g. this child tells lies/good imagination
- Make suggestions about what is being said
- Speculate or accuse anyone
- Show anger, shock etc
- Tell the child to go and speak to someone else
- Discuss with parent/carers without speaking to the DSL, or their deputy
- Forget to record accurately and/or pass on to DSL, or the deputy
- Discuss with any other employees before speaking to DSL, or deputy;

- Leave any related written information laying around
- Jump to conclusions about people's behaviour without knowing the facts
- Investigate an allegation of child protection concern yourself
- Make suggestive (what could be seen as suggestive) remarks or gestures, tell jokes of a sexual nature or engage in inappropriate verbal banter with or in front of children and/or young people
- Create 'intense' personal relationships with a child/young person/s
- Give any personal details about yourself or others, to a child/young person, unless this has been agreed with a senior employee for a specific reason
- Allow children/young people to have access to your personal activities, including social networking sites
- Have inappropriate physical contact with children/young people, this includes whilst playing games
- Engage in any sexual activity (even consensual) with a child/young person under the age of 18 years who is attending any educational establishment
- Intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine others; and
- Believe that safeguarding matters are someone else's business and responsibility – it is... and it's also yours

Filtering and monitoring

Online activity is monitored using SENSO. This is checked weekly by the Head of School. Urgent Violations are sent to the Head of School via email and checked immediately.

Any other concerns need to be recorded on the Initial concerns sheet and passed to the DSL or their Deputies. All concerns and additional needs should be discussed with the DSL or Deputies and a record kept.

Where you have concerns regarding the effectiveness of support for pupils and their families you should press for re-consideration and follow procedures to check senior management decisions regarding individual children or case management.

Bird's Bush Primary School Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

This policy applies to all employees, including senior managers and the Board of Trustees, paid employees, volunteers and sessional workers, agency employees and students, or anyone working on behalf of Bird's Bush Primary School.

The Purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people attending our school
- To provide employees and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection, including local issues that impact on our pupils and their families.

Bird's Bush Primary School as part of the Perry Hall Multi Academy Trust (PHMAT) is committed to the protection and welfare of its employees and pupils. Bird's Bush Primary School believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of the law, guidance and research evidence that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025
- Working together to Safeguard children 2023
- The Channel Programme 2018
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services 2024
- The Designated Teacher for Looked After children and previously-looked after children 2018
- Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines 2017
- Safeguarding and Radicalisation 2017
- Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners 2017
- Supporting Pupils with Medical conditions at School 2017
- Digital Economy Act 2017
- Multi Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation 2018
- Children Missing Education 2016
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools 2018
- Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education 2022
- Protecting Children from Radicalisation: the prevent duty 2015
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years 2015
- Children Act 1989, 2004
- Education Act 2002, 2011
- Families and Social Work Act 2017
- Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
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- Children and Families Act 2014
- Adoption and Children Act 2002
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Sexual offences Act 2003
- Children and Adoption Act 2006
- UNCRC 1991
- Counter terrorism and Security Act 2015

This policy should be read in conjunction with the PHMAT related policies and procedures.

- Safeguarding policy
- Safer Recruitment, induction and training
- Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Managing Allegations Against Employees
- Recording and Information Sharing
- Code of conduct for employees and Volunteers
- E-Safety Policy
- Behaviour Management
- Physical intervention
- Anti-bullying
- Complaints
- Whistleblowing
- Health and Safety
- Equality and Diversity
- Lone working policy
- Attendance policy

Key information about Bird's Bush Primary School

Bird's Bush Primary School		Contact Details
Pupils on Role	146	
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Michelle Day (Headteacher)	01827 214666 (work) m.day@perryhallmat.co.uk
	Rekha Kohli (Executive Leader)	r.kohli@perryhallmat.co.uk
Deputy Safeguarding Leads	Scott Brockhurst (Assistant Headteacher)	s.brockhurst@bbps.perryhallmat.co.uk
	Dawn Hall (Inclusion and Safeguarding Manager))	d.hall@perryhallmat.co.uk
Other members of the Pastoral Team		
SENCO	Ann Kelly	a.kelly@perryhallmat.co.uk
Educational Psychologist	N/A	
Looked After Children's Teacher	Ann Kelly	a.kelly@perryhallmat.co.uk
Family Support Worker	Dawn Hall	d.hall@bbps.perryhallmat.co.uk
Link Safeguarding Governor	Ann Brown	a.brown@perryhallmat.co.uk

Definition of safeguarding children:

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as;

- Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Safeguarding applies to **ALL** children and young people. Children includes everyone under the age of 18yrs.

Child protection is part of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and is defined as:

- Activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suspected to be suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes harm that occurs inside or outside of the home, including online.
- Effective safeguarding means practitioners should understand and be sensitive to factors, including economic and social circumstances and ethnicity, which can impact children and families' lives.

We Recognise:

- That the Welfare of the Child is Paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989, and that all actions and decisions should be child centred and in the best interest of the child.
- All Children regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation should be treated equally, and fairly and their rights protected.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) are more at risk of peer isolation, bullying, and their behaviours, injuries, and mood can be as a result of abuse or trauma, not just a feature of their disability
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including: exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines; trafficking, online abuse; sexual exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. Extremist groups make use of the internet to radicalise and recruit and to promote extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered.

Nothing is more important than children's welfare. Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home. Children who need help and protection deserve high quality and effective support. This requires individuals, agencies, and organisations to be clear about their own and each other's roles and responsibilities, and how they work together. (Working together to Safeguard children 2023)

Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time and can be committed by anybody

Our Schools identified concerns

Although we aim to protect children from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation, through historical information

and records we have identified specific issues that impact more than others on our children and families. We will ensure that employees can manage these issues by providing additional training, and information. To support children around these issues we will work on a one to one, class, and whole school basis, by developing curriculum and providing information. Where necessary we will engage other agencies and support using Early help, Child in need and Child protection interventions.

We have identified these issues as:

- Domestic Abuse
- Parental Conflict
- Children and the courts
- Children who are absent from education
- Relationship Abuse
- Bullying and cyberbullying
- CSE
- Mental Health and Behaviour
- Drugs
- Gangs
- Violence against women and girls
- Fabricated and Induced illness
- Sexting
- Medical Conditions
- Private Fostering
- Poverty and Neglect

We aim to keep all children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a DSL and deputies to ensure there is always someone available for employees and pupils
- Identifying additional needs and offering the right help at the right time
- Taking action where concerns are identified and acting without delay
- Appointing a member of the Board of Trustees for safeguarding
- Adopt child protection and safeguarding practices through clear policies and procedures
- Ensure safer recruitment procedures are followed
- Ensure all employees and volunteers follow the employees code of conduct
- Training employees to ensure they are efficient safeguarding practitioners
- Challenging unsafe or poor practice, using our procedures to manage allegations against employees and volunteers appropriately
- Providing effective management for employees and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely and in line with GDPR, Working together to safeguard children 2023
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, employees and volunteers, via, our website, leaflets, poster, one-to-one discussions
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring we follow our policy and procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensure we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provided a safe physical environment for pupils, employees and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the Law and regulatory guidance

This policy comes into force September 2025 and will be reviewed in July 2026 or in line with any changes instructed by the secretary of state if sooner.

Additional Information

- Appendix A: Keeping children Safe in Education 2025
- Appendix B: School Initial Concern Recording form
- Appendix C: Childs Body Map
- Appendix D: Signs and indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Appendix E: Staffordshire's Threshold Framework: 'Accessing the Right Help at the Right Time'

- Appendix F: Useful information on Gangs, Domestic Violence and Children Attending court, Sexting, Medical conditions, Private Fostering and Fabricated and induced illness

Safeguarding Procedures What to do if a child discloses

All employees within the Trust will also refer to 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused' DfE March 2015

DO'S:

- Keep an open mind
- Reassure
- Listen carefully
- Work at the child's pace
- Where appropriate, ask only open questions in a non-leading way – clarifying the facts, don't interrogate
- Explain your actions
- Record accurately and quickly using child's words/action
- Pass all the information on to the DSL, or the deputy DSL immediately/soon as possible or the same day
- At all times, keep children and young people safe
- Treat everyone with respect
- Create an environment in which people feel comfortable in pointing out attitudes and behaviours they don't like
- Report all inappropriate and/or abusive activities, including ridicule or bullying
- Familiarise yourself with the Trust's code of conduct, and other related policies
- Demonstrate positive behaviours you wish others to follow
- Treat all health and safety concerns as emergencies and report them immediately
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting safeguarding and welfare concerns
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting all allegations against employees, carers and volunteers
- Look after yourself – ask for support.

DON'TS:

- Make false promises
- Interrupt, Interrogate or investigate
- Assume e.g. this child tells lies/good imagination
- Make suggestions about what is being said
- Speculate or accuse anyone
- Show anger, shock etc
- Tell the child to go and speak to someone else
- Discuss with parent/carers without speaking to the DSL, or their deputy
- Forget to record accurately and/or pass on to DSL, or the deputy
- Discuss with any other employees before speaking to DSL, or deputy;
- Leave any related written information laying around
- Jump to conclusions about people's behaviour without knowing the facts
- Investigate an allegation of child protection concern yourself
- Make suggestive (what could be seen as suggestive) remarks or gestures, tell jokes of a sexual nature or engage in inappropriate verbal banter with or in front of children and/or young people
- Create 'intense' personal relationships with a child/young person/s
- Give any personal details about yourself or others, to a child/young person, unless this has been agreed with a employee for a specific reason
- Allow children/young people to have access to your personal activities, including social networking sites
- Have inappropriate physical contact with children/young people, this includes whilst playing games
- Engage in any sexual activity (even consensual) with a child/young person under the age of 18 years who is attending any educational establishment
- Intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine others; and
- Believe that safeguarding matters are someone else's business and responsibility – it is... and it's also yours

Filtering and monitoring

Online activity is monitored using SENSO. This is checked weekly by the Head. Urgent Violations are sent to the

Head via email and checked immediately.

Any other concerns need to be recorded on the Record of Concerns sheet and passed to the DSL or their Deputies.

All concerns and additional needs should be discussed with the DSL or Deputies and a record kept.

Where you have concerns regarding the effectiveness of support for pupils and their families you should press for re-consideration and follow procedures to check senior management decisions regarding individual children or case management.

Woodthorne Primary School Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

This policy applies to all employees, including senior managers and the Board of Trustees, paid employees, volunteers and sessional workers, agency employees and students, or anyone working on behalf of Woodthorne Primary School.

The Purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people attending our school
- To provide employees and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection, including local issues that impact on our pupils and their families.

Woodthorne Primary School as part of the Perry Hall Multi Academy Trust (PHMAT) is committed to the protection and welfare of its employees and pupils. Woodthorne Primary School believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of the law, guidance and research evidence that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025
- Working together to Safeguard children 2023
- The Channel Programme 2018
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services 2024
- The Designated Teacher for Looked After children and previously-looked after children 2018
- Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines 2017
- Safeguarding and Radicalisation 2017
- Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners 2017
- Supporting Pupils with Medical conditions at School 2017
- Digital Economy Act 2017
- Multi Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation 2018
- Children Missing Education 2016
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools 2018
- Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education 2020
- Protecting Children from Radicalisation: the prevent duty 2015
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years 2015
- Children Act 1989, 2004
- Education Act 2002, 2011
- Families and Social Work Act 2017
- Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protections of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Adoption and Children Act 2002
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Sexual offences Act 2003
- Children and Adoption Act 2006
- UNCRC 1991
- Counter terrorism and Security Act 2015

This policy should be read in conjunction with the PHMAT related policies and procedures.

- Safeguarding policy
- Safer Recruitment, induction and training

- Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Managing Allegations Against Employees
- Recording and Information Sharing
- Code of conduct for employees and Volunteers
- E-Safety Policy
- Behaviour Management
- Physical intervention
- Anti-bullying
- Complaints
- Whistleblowing
- Health and Safety
- Equality and Diversity
- Lone working policy
- Attendance policy

Key information about Woodthorne Primary School

Woodthorne Primary School		Contact Details
Pupils on Role	430	
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Tom Hinkley (Headteacher)	01902 921160 (work) T.Hinkley@perryhallmat.co.uk
Deputy Safeguarding Leads	Tom Johnston Lucy Hodgkiss Nicola Pocock	01902 921160 (work) T.Johnston@perryhallmat.co.uk 01902 921160 (work) L.Hodgkiss@perryhallmat.co.uk 01902 921160 (work) N.Pocock@perryhallmat.co.uk
Other members of the Inclusion Team	Tom Hinkley Nicola Pocock Lucy Hodgkiss	01902 921160
SENCO	Laura Swann	01902 921160 (work) l.swann@perryhallmat.co.uk
Educational Psychologist	Julie Metcalf	Julie.Metcalf@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Looked After Children's Teacher	Laura Swann	01902 921160 l.swann@perryhallmat.co.uk
Link Safeguarding Governor	Victoria Baker	01902 921160

Definition of safeguarding children:

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as;

- Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Safeguarding applies to **ALL** children and young people. Children includes everyone under the age of 18yrs.

Child protection is part of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and is defined as:

- Activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suspected to be suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes harm that occurs inside or outside of the home, including online.
- Effective safeguarding means practitioners should understand and be sensitive to factors, including economic and social circumstances and ethnicity, which can impact children and families' lives.

We Recognise:

- That the Welfare of the Child is Paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989, and that all actions and decisions should be child centred and in the best interest of the child.
- All Children regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation should be treated equally, and fairly and their rights protected.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) are more at risk of peer isolation, bullying, and their behaviours, injuries, and mood can be as a result of abuse or trauma, not just a feature of their disability
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including: exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines; trafficking, online abuse; sexual exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. Extremist groups make use of the internet to radicalise and recruit and to promote extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered.

Nothing is more important than children's welfare. Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home. Children who need help and protection deserve high quality and effective support. This requires individuals, agencies, and organisations to be clear about their own and each other's roles and responsibilities, and how they work together. (Working together to Safeguard children 2023)

Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time and can be committed by anybody

Our Schools identified concerns

Although we aim to protect children from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation, through historical information and records we have identified specific issues that impact more than others on our children and families. We will ensure that employees can manage these issues by providing additional training, and information. To support

children around these issues we will work on a one to one, class, and whole school basis, by developing curriculum and providing information. Where necessary we will engage other agencies and support using Early help, Child in need and Child protection interventions.

We have identified these issues as:

- Domestic Abuse
- Children and the courts
- Children who are absent from education
- Relationship Abuse
- Bullying and cyberbullying
- CSE
- Mental Health and Behaviour
- Drugs
- Gangs
- Violence against women and girls
- Fabricated and Induced illness
- Sexting
- Medical Conditions
- Private Fostering
- Poverty and Neglect

We aim to keep all children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a DSL and deputies to ensure there is always someone available for employees and pupils
- Identifying additional needs and offering the right help at the right time
- Taking action where concerns are identified and acting without delay
- Appointing a member of the Board of Trustees for safeguarding
- Adopt child protection and safeguarding practices through clear policies and procedures
- Ensure safer recruitment procedures are followed
- Ensure all employees and volunteers follow the employees code of conduct
- Training employees to ensure they are efficient safeguarding practitioners
- Challenging unsafe or poor practice, using our procedures to manage allegations against employees and volunteers appropriately
- Providing effective management for employees and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely and in line with GDPR, Working together to safeguard children 2023
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, employees and volunteers, via, our website, leaflets, poster, one-to-one discussions

- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring we follow our policy and procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensure we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provided a safe physical environment for pupils, employees and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the Law and regulatory guidance
- This policy comes into force September 2025 and will be reviewed in July 2026 or in line with any changes instructed by the secretary of state if sooner.

Additional Information

- Appendix A: Keeping children Safe in Education 2025
- Appendix B: School Initial Concern Recording form
- Appendix C: Childs Body Map
- Appendix D: Signs and indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Appendix E: Wolverhampton Thresholds
- Appendix F: Useful information on Gangs, Domestic Violence and Children Attending court, Sexting, Medical conditions, Private Fostering and Fabricated and induced illness

Safeguarding Procedures What to do if a child discloses

All employees within the Trust will also refer to 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused' DfE March 2015

DO'S:

- Keep an open mind
- Reassure
- Listen carefully
- Work at the child's pace
- Where appropriate, ask only open questions in a non-leading way – clarifying the facts, don't interrogate
- Explain your actions
- Record accurately and quickly using child's words/action
- Pass all the information on to the DSL, or the deputy DSL immediately/soon as possible or the same day
- At all times, keep children and young people safe
- Treat everyone with respect
- Create an environment in which people feel comfortable in pointing out attitudes and behaviours they don't like
- Report all inappropriate and/or abusive activities, including ridicule or bullying
- Familiarise yourself with the Trust's code of conduct, and other related policies
- Demonstrate positive behaviours you wish others to follow
- Treat all health and safety concerns as emergencies and report them immediately
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting safeguarding and welfare concerns
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting all allegations against employees, carers and volunteers
- Look after yourself – ask for support.

DON'TS:

- Make false promises
- Interrupt, Interrogate or investigate
- Assume e.g. this child tells lies/good imagination
- Make suggestions about what is being said
- Speculate or accuse anyone
- Show anger, shock etc
- Tell the child to go and speak to someone else
- Discuss with parent/carers without speaking to the DSL, or their deputy
- Forget to record accurately and/or pass on to DSL, or the deputy
- Discuss with any other employees before speaking to DSL, or deputy;
- Leave any related written information laying around
- Jump to conclusions about people's behaviour without knowing the facts
- Investigate an allegation of child protection concern yourself
- Make suggestive (what could be seen as suggestive) remarks or gestures, tell jokes of a sexual nature or engage in inappropriate verbal banter with or in front of children and/or young people
- Create 'intense' personal relationships with a child/young person/s
- Give any personal details about yourself or others, to a child/young person, unless this has been agreed with a senior employee for a specific reason
- Allow children/young people to have access to your personal activities, including social networking sites
- Have inappropriate physical contact with children/young people, this includes whilst playing games
- Engage in any sexual activity (even consensual) with a child/young person under the age of 18 years who is attending any educational establishment
- Intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine others; and
- Believe that safeguarding matters are someone else's business and responsibility – it is... and it's also yours

Filtering and monitoring

Online activity is monitored using SENSO. This is checked weekly by the Head. Urgent Violations are sent to the Head via email and checked immediately.

Any other concerns need to be recorded on the Record of Concerns sheet and passed to the DSL or their Deputies.

All concerns and additional needs should be discussed with the DSL or Deputies and a record kept.

Where you have concerns regarding the effectiveness of support for pupils and their families you should press for re-consideration and follow procedures to check senior management decisions regarding individual children or case management.

Stanley Road Primary School Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

This policy applies to all employees, including senior managers and the Board of Trustees, paid employees, volunteers and sessional workers, agency employees and students, or anyone working on behalf of Stanley Road Primary School.

The Purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people attending our school
- To provide employees and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection, including local issues that impact on our pupils and their families.

Stanley Road Primary School as part of the Perry Hall Multi Academy Trust (PHMAT) is committed to the protection and welfare of its employees and pupils. Stanley Road Primary School believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of the law, guidance and research evidence that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025
- Working together to Safeguard children 2023
- The Channel Programme 2018
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services 2024
- The Designated Teacher for Looked After children and previously-looked after children 2018
- Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines 2017
- Safeguarding and Radicalisation 2017
- Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners 2017
- Supporting Pupils with Medical conditions at School 2017
- Digital Economy Act 2017
- Multi Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation 2016
- Children Missing Education 2016
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools 2016
- Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education 2022
- Protecting Children from Radicalisation: the prevent duty 2015
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years 2015
- Children Act 1989, 2004
- Education Act 2002, 2011
- Families and Social Work Act 2017
- Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protections of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Adoption and Children Act 2002
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Sexual offences Act 2003
- Children and Adoption Act 2006
- UNCRC 1991
- Counter terrorism and Security Act 2015

This policy should be read in conjunction with the PHMAT related policies and procedures.

- Safeguarding policy
- Safer Recruitment, induction and training
- Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Managing Allegations Against Employees
- Recording and Information Sharing
- Code of conduct for employees and Volunteers
- E-Safety Policy
- Behaviour Management
- Physical intervention
- Anti-bullying
- Complaints
- Whistleblowing
- Health and Safety
- Equality and Diversity
- Lone working policy
- Attendance policy

Key information about Stanley Road Primary School

Stanley Road Primary School		Contact Details
Pupils on Role	400	
Head Teacher	Lorraine Adams	01905 355043 (work) l.adams@perryhallmat.co.uk l.adams@perryhallmat.co.uk
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Lorraine Adams (Headteacher)	l.adams@perryhallmat.co.uk 01905 355043

Deputy Safeguarding Leads	Claire Alviti Hannah Walton Donna Marshall Craig Morgan	c.alviti@perryhallmat.co.uk h.walton@perryhallmat.co.uk d.marshall@perryhallmat.co.uk c.morgan@perryhallmat.co.uk
Prevent Single point of contact (SPOC)	Lorraine Adams	01905 355043 (work) l.adams@perryhallmat.co.uk
Other members of the Pastoral Team		01905 355043
SENCO	Craig Morgan	c.morgan@perryhallmat.co.uk
Family Support Worker	N/A	
Educational Psychologist		
E-Safety Lead	Abigail Moore	a.moore@perryhallmat.co.uk
Children in Care Teacher	Craig Morgan	c.morgan@perryhallmat.co.uk 01905 355043 (work)

Link Governor for Children in Care	Louise Griffiths	lgriffiths36@gmail.com
Link Safeguarding Governor	Rosie Venner	rosie_venner@hotmail.com
Our local Partners		
Safeguarding Partners/LSCB	Worcester	http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20377/safeguarding_children
Threshold Model	Multi Agency Levels of Need: Guidance to help support children, young people and families in Worcestershire (September 2021 updated)	
LADO	LADO Team John Hancock	01905 846221 LADO@worcestershire.gov.uk
MASH	Referrals via 'Cause for concern notification log' to Family Front Door	w.worcestershire.gov.uk/

Definition of safeguarding children:

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as;

- Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Safeguarding applies to **ALL** children and young people. Children includes everyone under the age of 18yrs.

Child protection is part of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and is defined as:

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We Recognise:

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- All Children regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation should be treated equally, and fairly and their rights protected.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues

- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) are more at risk of peer isolation, bullying, and their behaviours, injuries, and mood can be as a result of abuse or trauma, not just a feature of their disability
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including: exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines; trafficking, online abuse; sexual exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. Extremist groups make use of the internet to radicalise and recruit and to promote extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered.

Nothing is more important than children's welfare. Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home. Children who need help and protection deserve high quality and effective support. This requires individuals, agencies, and organisations to be clear about their own and each other's roles and responsibilities, and how they work together. (Working together to Safeguard children 2023)

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Our Schools identified concerns

Although we aim to protect children from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation, through historical information and records we have identified specific issues that impact more than others on our children and families. We will ensure that employees can manage these issues by providing additional training, and information. To support children around these issues we will work on a one to one, class, and whole school basis, by developing curriculum and providing information. Where necessary we will engage other agencies and support using Early help, Child in need and Child protection interventions.

We have identified these issues as:

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- Children who are absent from education
- Relationship Abuse
- Bullying and cyberbullying
- CSE
- Mental Health and Behaviour
- Drugs
- Gangs
- Violence against women and girls
- Fabricated and Induced illness
- Sexting
- Medical Conditions
- Private Fostering
- Poverty and Neglect

We aim to keep all children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a DSL and deputies to ensure there is always someone available for employees and pupils
- Identifying additional needs and offering the right help at the right time
- Taking action where concerns are identified and acting without delay
- Appointing a member of the Board of Trustees for safeguarding
- Adopt child protection and safeguarding practices through clear policies and procedures
- Ensure safer recruitment procedures are followed
- Ensure all employees and volunteers follow the employees code of conduct
- Training employees to ensure they are efficient safeguarding practitioners
- Challenging unsafe or poor practice, using our procedures to manage allegations against employees and

volunteers appropriately

- Providing effective management for employees and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely and in line with GDPR, Working together to safeguard children 2023
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, employees and volunteers, via, our website, leaflets, poster, one-to-one discussions
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring we follow our policy and procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensure we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provided a safe physical environment for pupils, employees and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the Law and regulatory guidance
- This policy comes into force September 2025 and will be reviewed in July 2026 or in line with any changes instructed by the secretary of state if sooner.
- Additional Information
- Appendix A: Keeping children Safe in Education 2025
- Appendix B: School Initial Concern Recording form
- Appendix C: Childs Body Map
- Appendix D: Signs and indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Appendix E: Worcester Threshold Framework
- Appendix F: Useful information on Gangs, Domestic Violence and Children Attending court, Sexting, Medical conditions, Private Fostering and Fabricated and induced illness

Safeguarding Procedures What to do if a child discloses

All employees within the Trust will also refer to 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused' DfE March 2015

DO'S:

- Keep an open mind
- Reassure
- Listen carefully
- Work at the child's pace
- Where appropriate, ask only open questions in a non-leading way – clarifying the facts, don't interrogate
- Explain your actions
- Record accurately and quickly using child's words/action
- Pass all the information on to the DSL, or the deputy DSL immediately/soon as possible or the same day
- At all times, keep children and young people safe
- Treat everyone with respect
- Create an environment in which people feel comfortable in pointing out attitudes and behaviours they don't like
- Report all inappropriate and/or abusive activities, including ridicule or bullying
- Familiarise yourself with the Trust's code of conduct, and other related policies
- Demonstrate positive behaviours you wish others to follow
- Treat all health and safety concerns as emergencies and report them immediately
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting safeguarding and welfare concerns
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting all allegations against employees, carers and volunteers
- Look after yourself – ask for support.

DON'TS:

- Make false promises
- Interrupt, Interrogate or investigate
- Assume e.g. this child tells lies/good imagination
- Make suggestions about what is being said
- Speculate or accuse anyone
- Show anger, shock etc
- Tell the child to go and speak to someone else

- Discuss with parent/carers without speaking to the DSL, or their deputy
- Forget to record accurately and/or pass on to DSL, or the deputy
- Discuss with any other employees before speaking to DSL, or deputy;
- Leave any related written information laying around
- Jump to conclusions about people's behaviour without knowing the facts
- Investigate an allegation of child protection concern yourself
- Make suggestive (what could be seen as suggestive) remarks or gestures, tell jokes of a sexual nature or engage in inappropriate verbal banter with or in front of children and/or young people
- Create 'intense' personal relationships with a child/young person/s
- Give any personal details about yourself or others, to a child/young person, unless this has been agreed with a senior employee for a specific reason
- Allow children/young people to have access to your personal activities, including social networking sites
- Have inappropriate physical contact with children/young people, this includes whilst playing games
- Engage in any sexual activity (even consensual) with a child/young person under the age of 18 years who is attending any educational establishment
- Intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine others; and
- Believe that safeguarding matters are someone else's business and responsibility – it is... and it's also yours

Filtering and monitoring

Stanley Road use Surf Protect for filtering and Senso for monitoring. The Headteacher monitors the Senso information once a week on a Monday morning, unless notifications are sent in between times, in which case they are dealt with at the time.

Any other concerns need to be recorded on the Record of Concerns sheet and passed to the DSL or their Deputies.

All concerns and additional needs should be discussed with the DSL or Deputies and a record kept.

Where you have concerns regarding the effectiveness of support for pupils and their families you should press for re-consideration and follow procedures to check senior management decisions regarding individual children or case management.

Forest Hills Primary School Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

This policy applies to all employees, including senior managers and the Board of Trustees, paid employees, volunteers and sessional workers, agency employees and students, or anyone working on behalf of Forest Hills Primary School.

The Purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people attending our school
- To provide employees and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection, including local issues that impact on our pupils and their families.

Forest Hills Primary School is committed to the protection and welfare of its employees and pupils. Forest Hills Primary School believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of the law, guidance and research evidence that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025
- Working together to Safeguard children 2023
- The Channel Programme 2018
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services 2024
- The Designated Teacher for Looked After children and previously-looked after children 2018
- Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines 2017
- Safeguarding and Radicalisation 2017
- Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners 2017
- Supporting Pupils with Medical conditions at School 2017
- Digital Economy Act 2017
- Multi Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation 2018
- Children Missing Education 2016
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools 2018
- Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education 2022
- Protecting Children from Radicalisation: the prevent duty 2015
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years 2015
- Children Act 1989, 2004
- Education Act 2002, 2011
- Families and Social Work Act 2017
- Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protections of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Adoption and Children Act 2002
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Sexual offences Act 2003
- Children and Adoption Act 2006
- UNCRC 1991
- Counter terrorism and Security Act 2015

This policy should be read in conjunction with the PHMAT related policies and procedures.

- Safeguarding policy
- Safer Recruitment, induction and training
- Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Managing Allegations Against Employees
- Recording and Information Sharing
- Code of conduct for employees and Volunteers
- E-Safety Policy
- Behaviour Management
- Physical intervention
- Anti-bullying
- Complaints
- Whistleblowing
- Health and Safety
- Equality and Diversity
- Lone working policy
- Attendance policy

Key information about Forest Hills Primary School

Forest Hills Primary School		Contact Details
Pupils on Roll	107	
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Darryl Asbury (Executive Leader)	01889 370020 07766 525017
	Sarah Powell (Headteacher)	01889 370020 07963 816978
Deputy Safeguarding Leads	Mrs Jessica Cross (EYFS Leader)	01889 370020
	Mrs Ann Kelly (SENCo)	01889 370020
Other members of Pastoral Team		
SENCO	Mrs Ann Kelly	01889 370020
Children in Care Teacher	Mrs Jessica Cross	01889 370020
Link Safeguarding Governor	Mr I Goodwin	01889 370020

Definition of safeguarding children:

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as;

- Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Safeguarding applies to **ALL** children and young people. Children includes everyone under the age of 18yrs.

Child protection is part of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and is defined as:

- Activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suspected to be suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes harm that occurs inside or outside of the home, including online.
- Effective safeguarding means practitioners should understand and be sensitive to factors, including economic and social circumstances and ethnicity, which can impact children and families' lives.

We Recognise:

- That the Welfare of the Child is Paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989, and that all actions and decisions should be child centred and in the best interest of the child.
- All Children regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation should be treated equally, and fairly and their rights protected.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) are more at risk of peer isolation, bullying, and their behaviours, injuries, and mood can be as a result of abuse or trauma, not just a feature of their disability
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including: exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines; trafficking, online abuse; sexual exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. Extremist groups make use of the internet to radicalise and recruit and to promote extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered.

Nothing is more important than children's welfare. Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home. Children who need help and protection deserve high quality and effective support. This requires individuals, agencies, and organisations to be clear about their own and each other's roles and responsibilities, and how they work together. (Working together to Safeguard children 2023)

Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time and can be committed by anybody

Our Schools identified concerns

Although we aim to protect children from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation, through historical information and records we have identified specific issues that impact more than others on our children and families. We will ensure that employees can manage these issues by providing additional training, and information. To support children around these issues we will work on a one to one, class, and whole school basis, by developing curriculum and providing information. Where necessary we will engage other agencies and support using Early help, Child in need and Child protection interventions.

We have identified these issues as:

- Domestic Abuse
- Children and the courts
- Children who are absent from education
- Relationship Abuse
- Bullying and cyberbullying
- CSE
- Mental Health and Behaviour
- Drugs
- Gangs
- Violence against women and girls
- Fabricated and Induced illness
- Sexting
- Medical Conditions
- Private Fostering
- Poverty and Neglect

We aim to keep all children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a DSL and deputies to ensure there is always someone available for employees and pupils
- Identifying additional needs and offering the right help at the right time
- Taking action where concerns are identified and acting without delay
- Appointing a member of the Board of Trustees for safeguarding
- Adopt child protection and safeguarding practices through clear policies and procedures
- Ensure safer recruitment procedures are followed
- Ensure all employees and volunteers follow the employees code of conduct
- Training employees to ensure they are efficient safeguarding practitioners
- Challenging unsafe or poor practice, using our procedures to manage allegations against employees and volunteers appropriately
- Providing effective management for employees and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely and in line with GDPR, Working together to safeguard children 2023
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, employees and volunteers, via, our website, leaflets, poster, one-to-one discussions
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring we follow our policy and procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensure we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provided a safe physical environment for pupils, employees and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the Law and regulatory guidance
- This policy comes into force September 2025 and will be reviewed in July 2026 or in line with any changes instructed by the secretary of state if sooner.

Additional Information

- Appendix A: Keeping children Safe in Education 2025
- Appendix B: School Initial Concern Recording form
- Appendix C: Childs Body Map
- Appendix D: Signs and indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Appendix E: Staffordshire's Threshold Framework: 'Accessing the Right Help at the Right Time'
- Appendix F: Useful information on Gangs, Domestic Violence and Children Attending court, Sexting, Medical conditions, Private Fostering and Fabricated and induced illness

Safeguarding Procedures What to do if a child discloses

All employees within the Trust will also refer to 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused' DfE March 2015

DO'S:

- Keep an open mind
- Reassure
- Listen carefully
- Work at the child's pace
- Where appropriate, ask only open questions in a non-leading way – clarifying the facts, don't interrogate
- Explain your actions
- Record accurately and quickly using child's words/action
- Pass all the information on to the DSL, or the deputy DSL immediately/soon as possible or the same day
- At all times, keep children and young people safe
- Treat everyone with respect
- Create an environment in which people feel comfortable in pointing out attitudes and behaviours they don't like
- Report all inappropriate and/or abusive activities, including ridicule or bullying
- Familiarise yourself with the Trust's code of conduct, and other related policies
- Demonstrate positive behaviours you wish others to follow
- Treat all health and safety concerns as emergencies and report them immediately
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting safeguarding and welfare concerns
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting all allegations against employees, carers and volunteers
- Look after yourself – ask for support.

DON'TS:

- Make false promises
- Interrupt, Interrogate or investigate
- Assume e.g. this child tells lies/good imagination
- Make suggestions about what is being said
- Speculate or accuse anyone
- Show anger, shock etc
- Tell the child to go and speak to someone else
- Discuss with parent/carers without speaking to the DSL, or their deputy
- Forget to record accurately and/or pass on to DSL, or the deputy
- Discuss with any other employees before speaking to DSL, or deputy;
- Leave any related written information laying around
- Jump to conclusions about people's behaviour without knowing the facts
- Investigate an allegation of child protection concern yourself
- Make suggestive (what could be seen as suggestive) remarks or gestures, tell jokes of a sexual nature or engage in inappropriate verbal banter with or in front of children and/or young people
- Create 'intense' personal relationships with a child/young person/s
- Give any personal details about yourself or others, to a child/young person, unless this has been agreed with a senior employee for a specific reason
- Allow children/young people to have access to your personal activities, including social networking sites
- Have inappropriate physical contact with children/young people, this includes whilst playing games
- Engage in any sexual activity (even consensual) with a child/young person under the age of 18 years who is attending any educational establishment
- Intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine others; and
- Believe that safeguarding matters are someone else's business and responsibility – it is... and it's also yours

Filtering and monitoring

Online activity is monitored using SENSO. This is checked weekly by the Head. Urgent Violations are sent to the Head via email and checked immediately.

Any other concerns need to be recorded on the Record of Concerns sheet and passed to the DSL or their Deputies.

All concerns and additional needs should be discussed with the DSL or Deputies and a record kept.

Where you have concerns regarding the effectiveness of support for pupils and their families you should press for re-consideration and follow procedures to check senior management decisions regarding individual children or case management.

Mesty Croft Primary School Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

This policy applies to all employees, including senior managers and the Board of Trustees, paid employees, volunteers and sessional workers, agency employees and students, or anyone working on behalf of Mesty Croft Primary School.

The Purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people attending our school.
- To provide employees and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection, including local issues that impact on our pupils and their families.

Forest Hills Primary School is committed to the protection and welfare of its employees and pupils. Forest Hills Primary School believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of the law, guidance and research evidence that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025
- Working together to Safeguard children 2023
- The Channel Programme 2018
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services 2024
- The Designated Teacher for Looked After children and previously-looked after children 2018
- Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines 2017
- Safeguarding and Radicalisation 2017
- Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners 2017
- Supporting Pupils with Medical conditions at School 2017
- Digital Economy Act 2017
- Multi Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation 2018
- Children Missing Education 2016
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools 2018
- Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education 2022
- Protecting Children from Radicalisation: the prevent duty 2015
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years 2015
- Children Act 1989, 2004
- Education Act 2002, 2011
- Families and Social Work Act 2017
- Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protections of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Adoption and Children Act 2002
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Sexual offences Act 2003
- Children and Adoption Act 2006
- UNCRC 1991
- Counter terrorism and Security Act 2015

This policy should be read in conjunction with the PHMAT related policies and procedures.

- Safeguarding policy
- Safer Recruitment, induction and training
- Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Managing Allegations Against Employees
- Recording and Information Sharing
- Code of conduct for employees and Volunteers
- E-Safety Policy
- Behaviour Management
- Physical intervention
- Anti-bullying
- Complaints
- Whistleblowing
- Health and Safety
- Equality and Diversity
- Lone working policy
- Attendance policy

Key information about Mesty Croft Primary School

Mesty Croft Primary School		Contact Details
Pupils on Roll	418	
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Lucy Bray (Headteacher)	0121 556 0854 l.bray@perryhallmat.co.uk
Deputy Safeguarding Leads	Richard Shaw (Deputy Headteacher) Shilpa Aggarwal (SENCo & EYFS Lead) Dimple Dhanda (Family Support Practitioner)	0121 556 0854 r.shaw@perryhallmat.co.uk 0121 556 0854 s.aggarwal@perryhallmat.co.uk 0121 556 0854 d.dhanda@perryhallmat.co.uk
Other members of Pastoral Team	Ben Lester (Inclusion Manager) Melanie Denniss (Place2Be)	0121 556 0854
SENCO	Shilpa Aggarwal	0121 556 0854
Children in Care Teacher	Richard Shaw	0121 556 0854
Link Safeguarding Governor	Claire Hodgkins	c.hodgkins@perryhallmat.co.uk

Definition of safeguarding children:

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as;

- Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Safeguarding applies to **ALL** children and young people. Children includes everyone under the age of 18yrs.

Child protection is part of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and is defined as:

- Activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suspected to be suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes harm that occurs inside or outside of the home, including online.
- Effective safeguarding means practitioners should understand and be sensitive to factors, including economic and social circumstances and ethnicity, which can impact children and families' lives.

We Recognise:

- That the Welfare of the Child is Paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989, and that all actions and decisions should be child centred and in the best interest of the child.
- All Children regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation should be treated equally, and fairly and their rights protected.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) are more at risk of peer isolation, bullying, and their behaviours, injuries, and mood can be as a result of abuse or trauma, not just a feature of their disability
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including: exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines; trafficking, online abuse; sexual exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. Extremist groups make use of the internet to radicalise and recruit and to promote extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered.

Nothing is more important than children's welfare. Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home. Children who need help and protection deserve high quality and effective support. This requires individuals, agencies, and organisations to be clear about their own and each other's roles and responsibilities, and how they work together. (Working together to Safeguard children 2023)

Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time and can be committed by anybody

Our Schools identified concerns

Although we aim to protect children from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation, through historical information and records we have identified specific issues that impact more than others on our children and families. We will

ensure that employees can manage these issues by providing additional training, and information. To support children around these issues we will work on a one to one, class, and whole school basis, by developing curriculum and providing information. Where necessary we will engage other agencies and support using Early help, Child in need and Child protection interventions.

We have identified these issues as:

- Domestic Abuse
- Children and the courts
- Children who are absent from education
- Relationship Abuse
- Bullying and cyberbullying
- CSE
- Mental Health and Behaviour
- Drugs
- Gangs
- Violence against women and girls
- Fabricated and Induced illness
- Sexting
- Medical Conditions
- Private Fostering
- Poverty and Neglect

We aim to keep all children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a DSL and deputies to ensure there is always someone available for employees and pupils
- Identifying additional needs and offering the right help at the right time
- Taking action where concerns are identified and acting without delay
- Appointing a member of the Board of Trustees for safeguarding
- Adopt child protection and safeguarding practices through clear policies and procedures
- Ensure safer recruitment procedures are followed
- Ensure all employees and volunteers follow the employees code of conduct
- Training employees to ensure they are efficient safeguarding practitioners
- Challenging unsafe or poor practice, using our procedures to manage allegations against employees and volunteers appropriately
- Providing effective management for employees and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely and in line with GDPR, Working together to safeguard children 2023
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, employees and volunteers, via, our website, leaflets, poster, one-to-one discussions
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring we follow our policy and procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensure we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provided a safe physical environment for pupils, employees and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the Law and regulatory guidance
- This policy comes into force September 2025 and will be reviewed in July 2026 or in line with any changes instructed by the secretary of state if sooner.

- Appendix A: Keeping children Safe in Education 2025
- Appendix B: School Initial Concern Recording form
- Appendix C: Childs Body Map
- Appendix D: Signs and indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Appendix E: Sandwell Threshold Framework
- Appendix F: Useful information on Gangs, Domestic Violence and Children Attending court, Sexting, Medical conditions, Private Fostering and Fabricated and induced illness

Safeguarding Procedures What to do if a child discloses

All employees within the Trust will also refer to 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused' DfE March 2015

DO'S:

- Keep an open mind
- Reassure
- Listen carefully
- Work at the child's pace
- Where appropriate, ask only open questions in a non-leading way – clarifying the facts, don't interrogate
- Explain your actions
- Record accurately and quickly using child's words/action
- Pass all the information on to the DSL, or the deputy DSL immediately/soon as possible or the same day
- At all times, keep children and young people safe
- Treat everyone with respect
- Create an environment in which people feel comfortable in pointing out attitudes and behaviours they don't like
- Report all inappropriate and/or abusive activities, including ridicule or bullying
- Familiarise yourself with the Trust's code of conduct, and other related policies
- Demonstrate positive behaviours you wish others to follow
- Treat all health and safety concerns as emergencies and report them immediately
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting safeguarding and welfare concerns
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting all allegations against employees, carers and volunteers
- Look after yourself – ask for support.

DON'TS:

- Make false promises
- Interrupt, Interrogate or investigate
- Assume e.g. this child tells lies/good imagination
- Make suggestions about what is being said
- Speculate or accuse anyone
- Show anger, shock etc
- Tell the child to go and speak to someone else
- Discuss with parent/carers without speaking to the DSL, or their deputy
- Forget to record accurately and/or pass on to DSL, or the deputy
- Discuss with any other employees before speaking to DSL, or deputy;
- Leave any related written information laying around
- Jump to conclusions about people's behaviour without knowing the facts
- Investigate an allegation of child protection concern yourself
- Make suggestive (what could be seen as suggestive) remarks or gestures, tell jokes of a sexual nature or engage in inappropriate verbal banter with or in front of children and/or young people
- Create 'intense' personal relationships with a child/young person/s
- Give any personal details about yourself or others, to a child/young person, unless this has been agreed with a senior employee for a specific reason
- Allow children/young people to have access to your personal activities, including social networking sites
- Have inappropriate physical contact with children/young people, this includes whilst playing games
- Engage in any sexual activity (even consensual) with a child/young person under the age of 18 years who is attending any educational establishment
- Intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine others; and
- Believe that safeguarding matters are someone else's business and responsibility – it is... and it's also

yours

Filtering and monitoring

Online activity is monitored using SENSO. This is checked weekly by the Head. Urgent Violations are sent to the Head via email and checked immediately.

Any other concerns need to be recorded on the Record of Concerns sheet and passed to the DSL or their Deputies.

All concerns and additional needs should be discussed with the DSL or Deputies and a record kept.

Where you have concerns regarding the effectiveness of support for pupils and their families you should press for re-consideration and follow procedures to check senior management decisions regarding individual children or case management.

Sledmere Primary School Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

This policy applies to all employees, including senior managers and the Board of Trustees, paid employees, volunteers and sessional workers, agency employees and students, or anyone working on behalf of Sledmere Primary School.

The Purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people attending our school.
- To provide employees and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection, including local issues that impact on our pupils and their families.

Sledmere Primary School is committed to the protection and welfare of its employees and pupils. Sledmere Primary School believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of the law, guidance and research evidence that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025
- Working together to Safeguard children 2023
- The Channel Programme 2018
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services 2024
- The Designated Teacher for Looked After children and previously-looked after children 2018
- Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines 2017
- Safeguarding and Radicalisation 2017
- Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners 2017
- Supporting Pupils with Medical conditions at School 2017
- Digital Economy Act 2017
- Multi Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation 2018
- Children Missing Education 2016
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools 2018
- Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education 2022
- Protecting Children from Radicalisation: the prevent duty 2015
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years 2015
- Children Act 1989, 2004
- Education Act 2002, 2011
- Families and Social Work Act 2017
- Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protections of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Adoption and Children Act 2002
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Sexual offences Act 2003
- Children and Adoption Act 2006
- UNCRC 1991
- Counter terrorism and Security Act 2015

This policy should be read in conjunction with the PHMAT related policies and procedures.

- Safeguarding policy
- Safer Recruitment, induction and training
- Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Managing Allegations Against Employees
- Recording and Information Sharing
- Code of conduct for employees and Volunteers
- E-Safety Policy
- Behaviour Management
- Physical intervention
- Anti-bullying
- Complaints
- Whistleblowing
- Health and Safety
- Equality and Diversity
- Lone working policy
- Attendance policy

Key information about Sledmere Primary School

Sledmere Primary School		01384 476150
Pupils on Roll		628
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Emily Redding (Headteacher) Currently on MAT Leave	01384 476150 e.redding@sledmere.perryhallmat.co.uk
	Faye Dudley Acting Head of School during Emily Reddings' MAT leave (Deputy Head) Alistair Smith (Acting Deputy Head) Lauren Price (Family Support Worker) Esther Cooper (SENCO) Jennifer Shingler (Designated Teacher for CIC)	01384 476150 f.dudley@sledmere.perryhallmat.co.uk 01384 476150 a.smith@perryhallmat.co.uk 01384 476150 lauren.price@smmps.perryhallmat.co.uk 01384 476150 e.cooper1@smmps.perryhallmat.co.uk 01384 476150 j.shingler@smmps.perryhallmat.co.uk
Other members of Pastoral Team	Lauren Price Jenifer Shingler Hannah Westwood	As above As above 01384 476150 h.westwood@smmps.perryhallmat.co.uk
SENCO	Esther Cooper	01384 476150 e.cooper1@sledmere.perryhallmat.co.uk
Children in Care Teacher	Jennifer Shingler	01384 476150 j.shingler@smmps.perryhallmat.co.uk
Link Safeguarding Governor	Hayley Sharma (Chair of Governors)	h.sharma@perryhallmat.co.uk

Definition of safeguarding children:

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as;

- Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Safeguarding applies to **ALL** children and young people. Children includes everyone under the age of 18yrs.

Child protection is part of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and is defined as:

- Activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suspected to be suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes harm that occurs inside or outside of the home, including online.
- Effective safeguarding means practitioners should understand and be sensitive to factors, including economic and social circumstances and ethnicity, which can impact children and families' lives.

We Recognise:

- That the Welfare of the Child is Paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989, and that all actions and decisions should be child centred and in the best interest of the child.
- All Children regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation should be treated equally, and fairly and their rights protected.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) are more at risk of peer isolation, bullying, and their behaviours, injuries, and mood can be as a result of abuse or trauma, not just a feature of their disability
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including: exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines; trafficking, online abuse; sexual exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. Extremist groups make use of the internet to radicalise and recruit and to promote extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered.

Nothing is more important than children's welfare. Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home. Children who need help and protection deserve high quality and effective support. This requires individuals, agencies, and organisations to be clear about their own and each other's roles and responsibilities, and how they work together. (Working together to Safeguard children 2023)

Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time and can be committed by anybody

Our Schools identified concerns

Although we aim to protect children from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation, through historical information and records we have identified specific issues that impact more than others on our children and families. We will ensure that employees can manage these issues by providing additional training, and information. To support children around these issues we will work on a one to one, class, and whole school basis, by developing curriculum

and providing information. Where necessary we will engage other agencies and support using Early help, Child in need and Child protection interventions.

We have identified these issues as:

- Domestic Abuse
- Faith Based Abuse
- Children who are absent from education, Home or Care
- Relationship Abuse
- County Lines, Criminal Exploitation
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Mental Health and Behaviour
- Drugs
- Trafficking
- FGM
- Forced Marriage and 'Honour based violence'
- Radicalisation
- Gangs
- Violence against women and girls
- On-line gaming
- Neglect
- Sexual Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Racism
- Bullying and cyberbullying
- Children attending court
- Supporting Parents with behaviour management
- Parenting skills
- Digital media, and e-Safety concerns

We aim to keep all children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a DSL and deputies to ensure there is always someone available for employees and pupils
- Identifying additional needs and offering the right help at the right time
- Taking action where concerns are identified and acting without delay
- Appointing a member of the Board of Trustees for safeguarding
- Adopt child protection and safeguarding practices through clear policies and procedures
- Ensure safer recruitment procedures are followed
- Ensure all employees and volunteers follow the employees code of conduct
- Training employees to ensure they are efficient safeguarding practitioners
- Challenging unsafe or poor practice, using our procedures to manage allegations against employees and volunteers appropriately
- Providing effective management for employees and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely and in line with GDPR, Working together to safeguard children 2023
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, employees and volunteers, via, our website, leaflets, poster, one-to-one discussions
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring we follow our policy and procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensure we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provided a safe physical environment for pupils, employees and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the Law and regulatory guidance

This policy comes into force September 2025 and will be reviewed in July 2026, or in line with any changes instructed by the secretary of state if sooner.

Additional Information:

- Appendix A: Keeping children Safe in Education Part one 2025
- Appendix B: School Initial Concern Recording form
- Appendix C: Childs Body Map
- Appendix D: Signs and indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Appendix E: Dudley Threshold guidance
- Appendix F: Useful information on Gangs, Domestic Violence, Drugs, FGM, Forced Marriage, CSE, and radicalisation

Safeguarding Procedures What to do if a child discloses

All employees within the Trust will also refer to 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused' DfE March 2015

DO'S:

- Keep an open mind
- Reassure
- Listen carefully
- Work at the child's pace
- Where appropriate, ask only open questions in a non-leading way – clarifying the facts, don't interrogate
- Explain your actions
- Record accurately and quickly using child's words/action
- Pass all the information on to the DSL, or the deputy DSL immediately/soon as possible or the same day
- At all times, keep children and young people safe
- Treat everyone with respect
- Create an environment in which people feel comfortable in pointing out attitudes and behaviours they don't like
- Report all inappropriate and/or abusive activities, including ridicule or bullying
- Familiarise yourself with the Trust's code of conduct, and other related policies
- Demonstrate positive behaviours you wish others to follow
- Treat all health and safety concerns as emergencies and report them immediately
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting safeguarding and welfare concerns
- Follow the Trust's procedures for reporting all allegations against employees, carers and volunteers
- Look after yourself – ask for support.

DON'TS:

- Make false promises
- Interrupt, Interrogate or investigate
- Assume e.g. this child tells lies/good imagination
- Make suggestions about what is being said
- Speculate or accuse anyone
- Show anger, shock etc
- Tell the child to go and speak to someone else
- Discuss with parent/carers without speaking to the DSL, or their deputy
- Forget to record accurately and/or pass on to DSL, or the deputy
- Discuss with any other employees before speaking to DSL, or deputy;
- Leave any related written information laying around
- Jump to conclusions about people's behaviour without knowing the facts
- Investigate an allegation of child protection concern yourself
- Make suggestive (what could be seen as suggestive) remarks or gestures, tell jokes of a sexual nature or engage in inappropriate verbal banter with or in front of children and/or young people
- Create 'intense' personal relationships with a child/young person/s
- Give any personal details about yourself or others, to a child/young person, unless this has been agreed with a senior employee for a specific reason
- Allow children/young people to have access to your personal activities, including social networking sites

- Have inappropriate physical contact with children/young people, this includes whilst playing games
- Engage in any sexual activity (even consensual) with a child/young person under the age of 18 years who is attending any educational establishment
- Intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine others; and
- Believe that safeguarding matters are someone else's business and responsibility – it is... and it's also yours

Filtering and monitoring

Online activity is monitored using SENSO. This is checked weekly by the Headteacher. Urgent Violations are sent to the Head via email and checked immediately.

Any other concerns need to be recorded on the Initial concerns sheet and passed to the DSL or their Deputies. All concerns and additional needs should be discussed with the DSL or Deputies and a record kept.

Where you have concerns regarding the effectiveness of support for pupils and their families you should press for re-consideration and follow procedures to check senior management decisions regarding individual children or case management.

Tillington Manor Primary School Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

This policy applies to all employees, including senior managers and the Board of Trustees, paid employees, volunteers and sessional workers, agency employees and students, or anyone working on behalf of Tillington Manor Primary School.

The Purpose of this policy is:

- To protect children and young people attending our school.
- To provide employees and volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding and child protection, including local issues that impact on our pupils and their families.

Tillington Manor Primary School is committed to the protection and welfare of its employees and pupils. Tillington Manor Primary School believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

Legal Framework

This policy has been drawn up on the basis of the law, guidance and research evidence that seeks to protect children, namely:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025
- Working together to Safeguard children 2023
- The Channel Programme 2018
- Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services 2024
- The Designated Teacher for Looked After children and previously-looked after children 2018
- Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines 2017
- Safeguarding and Radicalisation 2017
- Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners 2017
- Supporting Pupils with Medical conditions at School 2017
- Digital Economy Act 2017
- Multi Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation 2018
- Children Missing Education 2016
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools 2018
- Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children and Young People in Education 2022
- Protecting Children from Radicalisation: the prevent duty 2015
- Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years 2015
- Children Act 1989, 2004
- Education Act 2002, 2011
- Families and Social Work Act 2017
- Children and Young Persons Act 2008
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Protections of Freedoms Act 2012
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Adoption and Children Act 2002
- Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
- Sexual offences Act 2003
- Children and Adoption Act 2006
- UNCRC 1991
- Counter terrorism and Security Act 2015

This policy should be read in conjunction with the PHMAT related policies and procedures.

- Safeguarding policy
- Safer Recruitment, induction and training
- Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Managing Allegations Against Employees
- Recording and Information Sharing
- Code of conduct for employees and Volunteers
- E-Safety Policy
- Behaviour Management
- Physical intervention
- Anti-bullying
- Complaints
- Whistleblowing
- Health and Safety
- Equality and Diversity
- Lone working policy
- Attendance policy

Key information about Tillington Manor Primary School

Tillington Manor Primary School		01785 337500
Pupils on Roll		233 pupils N-Y6
Designated Safeguarding Lead	Kelly Brockhurst (Headteacher) Darryl Asbury Executive Leader	01785 337500 Kbrockhurst@tmps.perryhallmat.co.uk d.asbury@perryhallmat.co.uk
Deputy Safeguarding Leads	Kelly Brockhurst (Headteacher) Lesley Rogers (Family Support Worker) Natalie Hall (Lower school phase leader) Chris Tucker (Upper school phase leader)	01785 337500 Kbrockhurst@tmps.perryhallmat.co.uk 01785 337500 hive@tmps.perryhallmat.co.uk 01785 337500 nhall@tmps.perryhallmat.co.uk 01785 337500 ctucker@tmps.perryhallmat.co.uk
Other members of Pastoral Team	Miss Lee-Rogers (ELSA)	01785 337500
SENCO	Kelly Brockhurst Natalie Hall	Kbrockhurst@tmps.perryhallmat.co.uk nhall@tmps@perryhallmat.co.uk 01785 337500
Children in Care Teacher	Natalie Hall	nhall@tmps@perryhallmat.co.uk 01785 337500
Link Safeguarding Governor	Simon Rowland	srowlandgov@tmps.perryhallmat.co.uk

Definition of safeguarding children:

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as;

- Providing help and support to meet the needs of children as soon as problems emerge
- protecting children from maltreatment whether that is within or outside the home, including online
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development.
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

Safeguarding applies to **ALL** children and young people. Children includes everyone under the age of 18yrs.

Child protection is part of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and is defined as:

- Activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suspected to be suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. This includes harm that occurs inside or outside of the home, including online.
- Effective safeguarding means practitioners should understand and be sensitive to factors, including economic and social circumstances and ethnicity, which can impact children and families' lives.

We Recognise:

- That the Welfare of the Child is Paramount, as enshrined in the Children Act 1989, and that all actions and decisions should be child centred and in the best interest of the child.
- All Children regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation should be treated equally, and fairly and their rights protected.
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) are more at risk of peer isolation, bullying, and their behaviours, injuries, and mood can be as a result of abuse or trauma, not just a feature of their disability
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers, and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare

As well as threats to the welfare of children from within their families, children may be vulnerable to abuse or exploitation from outside their families. These extra-familial threats might arise at school and other educational establishments, from within peer groups, or more widely from within the wider community and/or online. These threats can take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple threats, including: exploitation by criminal gangs and organised crime groups such as county lines; trafficking, online abuse; sexual exploitation and the influences of extremism leading to radicalisation. Extremist groups make use of the internet to radicalise and recruit and to promote extremist materials. Any potential harmful effects to individuals identified as vulnerable to extremist ideologies or being drawn into terrorism should also be considered.

Nothing is more important than children's welfare. Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, stable, and loving home. Children who need help and protection deserve high quality and effective support. This requires individuals, agencies, and organisations to be clear about their own and each other's roles and responsibilities, and how they work together. (Working together to Safeguard children 2023)

Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time and can be committed by anybody

Our Schools identified concerns

Although we aim to protect children from all forms of abuse, neglect and exploitation, through historical information

and records we have identified specific issues that impact more than others on our children and families. We will ensure that employees can manage these issues by providing additional training, and information. To support children around these issues we will work on a one to one, class, and whole school basis, by developing curriculum and providing information. Where necessary we will engage other agencies and support using Early help, Child in need and Child protection interventions.

We have identified these issues as:

- Domestic Abuse
- Children and the courts
- Children who are absent from education
- Relationship Abuse
- Bullying and cyberbullying
- CSE
- Mental Health and Behaviour
- Drugs
- Gangs
- Violence against women and girls
- Fabricated and Induced illness
- Sexting
- Medical Conditions
- Private Fostering
- Poverty and Neglect

We aim to keep all children and young people safe by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- Appointing a DSL and deputies to ensure there is always someone available for employees and pupils
- Identifying additional needs and offering the right help at the right time
- Taking action where concerns are identified and acting without delay
- Appointing a member of the Board of Trustees for safeguarding
- Adopt child protection and safeguarding practices through clear policies and procedures
- Ensure safer recruitment procedures are followed
- Ensure all employees and volunteers follow the employees code of conduct
- Training employees to ensure they are efficient safeguarding practitioners
- Challenging unsafe or poor practice, using our procedures to manage allegations against employees and volunteers appropriately
- Providing effective management for employees and volunteers through supervision, support, training and quality assurance measures
- Recording and storing information professionally and securely and in line with GDPR, Working together to safeguard children 2023
- Sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, their families, employees and volunteers, via, our website, leaflets, poster, one-to-one discussions
- Using our safeguarding procedures to share concerns and relevant information with agencies who need to know, and involving children, young people, parents, families and carers appropriately
- Creating and maintaining an anti-bullying environment and ensuring we follow our policy and procedures to help us deal effectively with any bullying that does arise
- Ensure we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place
- Ensuring that we provided a safe physical environment for pupils, employees and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the Law and regulatory guidance
- This policy comes into force September 2025 and will be reviewed in July 2026 or in line with any changes instructed by the secretary of state if sooner.

Additional Information

- Appendix A: Keeping children Safe in Education 2025
- Appendix B: School Initial Concern Recording form
- Appendix C: Childs Body Map
- Appendix D: Signs and indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Appendix E: Staffordshire's Threshold Framework: 'Accessing the Right Help at the Right Time'
- Appendix F: Useful information on Gangs, Domestic Violence and Children Attending court, Sexting, Medical conditions, Private Fostering and Fabricated and induced illness

Safeguarding Procedures What to do if a child discloses

All employees within the Trust will also refer to 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused' DfE March 2015

DO'S:

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- Reassure
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- Explain your actions
- Record accurately and quickly using child's words/action
- Pass all the information on to the DSL, or the deputy DSL immediately/soon as possible or the same day
- At all times, keep children and young people safe
- Treat everyone with respect
- Create an environment in which people feel comfortable in pointing out attitudes and behaviours they don't like
- Report all inappropriate and/or abusive activities, including ridicule or bullying
- Familiarise yourself with the Trust's code of conduct, and other related policies
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- Investigate an allegation of child protection concern yourself
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- Create 'intense' personal relationships with a child/young person/s
- Give any personal details about yourself or others, to a child/young person, unless this has been agreed with a senior employee for a specific reason
- Allow children/young people to have access to your personal activities, including social networking sites
- Have inappropriate physical contact with children/young people, this includes whilst playing games
- Engage in any sexual activity (even consensual) with a child/young person under the age of 18 years who is attending any educational establishment

- Intimidate, threaten, coerce or undermine others; and
- Believe that safeguarding matters are someone else's business and responsibility – it is... and it's also yours

Filtering and monitoring

In our school we use SSL updata filtering system which is provided by Entrust and managed by Colwyn Technologies. Senso is our monitoring system, and this is checked on a daily basis by Kelly Brockhurst (DSL) who alerts necessary employees to actions needed via CPOMS recording system.

Any other concerns need to be recorded on CPOMS and passed to the DSL or their Deputies.

All concerns and additional needs should be discussed with the DSL or Deputies and a record kept.

Where you have concerns regarding the effectiveness of support for pupils and their families you should press for re-consideration and follow procedures to check senior management decisions regarding individual children or case management.