

LUDLOW CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL



SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

September 2020

This policy must be reviewed annually unless there are any changes in legislation or guidance in the interim, in which case the policy must be updated as and when necessary.

Review Date: September 2021

Mission Statement

Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England, and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level, and also with other local Churches. Mindful of its position as the only secondary school in its area, the school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, in both Christianity and other religions, and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its students.

Ethos statement from Ludlow Church of England School
(Instrument of Government) Order 1999.

Foreword

This policy was written and adopted on: 2nd September 2014 and updated September 2020.

The policy reflects current legislation, accepted best practice and complies with the government guidance: Working Together to Safeguard Children July 2018 and Keeping Children Safe in Education September 2020.

It is due for review in September 2021.

Other policies and guidance that need to be taken into account are:

- Anti-Bullying
- Gender Equality; Race and Equality
- Behaviour for Learning
- Guidance for the use of restrictive physical intervention in schools and educational establishments
- Relationship and Sex Education
- Supporting Students with Medical Needs
- Attendance
- SEND Information Report
- E-Safety
- Safer Working Practices
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Intimate Care Policy
- Local Authority Health and Safety, and personnel framework (see Shropshire Learning Gateway)
- Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy (see Shropshire Learning Gateway)
- DfE guidance -Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018; Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020; Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools (March 2016)
- NSPCC Website
- Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership (SSCP) online procedure guidance
- Whistleblowing and Confidential Reports Policy
- Ofsted 'Inspection framework: safeguarding in maintained school academies' May 2019
- What to do if you are worried a child is being abused 2015 – Advice for Practitioners
- Information sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers 2018

Statutory Duties

Schools should have in place arrangements that reflect the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, including:

- ensuring that the school contributes to inter-agency working in line with statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018. 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;
- a clear line of accountability for the commission and/or provision of services designed to safeguard and promote the welfare of children;
- a senior member of staff to take leadership responsibility for the school's safeguarding arrangements;
- a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings and ensuring there are systems in place for children to express their views and give feedback;

- ensure that there are procedures in place to handle allegations against other children;
- arrangements which set out clearly the processes for sharing information, with other professionals and with the Shropshire's Safeguarding Community Partnership (SSCP);
- a designated professional lead for safeguarding. Their role is to support other members of staff, to recognise the needs of children, including rescue from possible abuse or neglect. Designated Leads roles should always be explicitly defined in job descriptions. They should be given sufficient time, funding, supervision and support to fulfil their child welfare and safeguarding responsibilities effectively;
- it is vital that the school creates a culture of safe recruitment and, as part of that, adopt recruitment procedures that help deter, reject or identify people that might abuse children (see Section 3 Page 30 - 53 of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020);
- all staff members should also receive appropriate child protection training which is regularly updated and designated leads training every two years;
- employers are responsible for ensuring that their staff are competent to carry out their responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and creating an environment where staff feel able to raise concerns and feel supported in their safeguarding role;

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Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures

1. Policy statement:

At Ludlow CE School, we believe that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind, and recognise that safeguarding the welfare of **all** children and young people is everyone's responsibility. We follow Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership (SSCP) procedures and acknowledge that the welfare of the child is paramount.

At Ludlow CE School, it is our duty to respond promptly and appropriately to all concerns, incidents or allegations of abuse or neglect of a child. We work in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies. Our statutory duties and supporting guidance are set out in the **Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018** and **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020**.

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

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Prevent 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; and
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes
- **The Children Act 1989 and 2004** - Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as: protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's health or development; ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and undertaking that role to enable those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully

Section 3 (5) of the Children Act 1989 states that the law empowers anyone who has care of a child to do all that is reasonable in the circumstances to safeguard his/her welfare

- **Counter-terrorism and Security Act 2015** – preventing people being drawn into terrorism and promotion of British values to ensure children are kept safe from radicalisation
- **Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 – Serious Crime Act 2015** - mandatory reporting of FGM from 31st October 2015

2. Procedure

2.1 Adult Roles

All staff (including students and volunteers) in this school are familiar with the definitions and signs and symptoms of abuse or neglect stated in Working Together to Safeguard Children March 2018 as set out in <http://www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/search/?q=contacts>

All staff are aware of their individual roles in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, including their responsibility to be alert to any issues for concern in the child's life at home or elsewhere. We ensure that all staff (including students and volunteers) undergo an induction process where they are given copies of the procedures they must follow if they suspect abuse or neglect. On-going support is provided through regular supervision and appraisals to ensure these policies and procedures are put into practice to protect children.

As part of induction, training will include the school's behaviour policy and the school's procedures for managing children who are missing education, as well as the staff code of conduct, and the Child Protection Policy. Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020 Part 1 must be read by all members of the staff; everyone working directly with children must also be issued with Annex A. Designated Safeguarding Leads, management and the Local Academy Board (LAB) should read KCSIE 2020 in its entirety.

All staff are expected to update their Child Protection Training at least **every three years**. In addition, all staff members should receive regular safeguarding and child protection updates (for example, via email, e-bulletins, staff meetings) as required, and **annually**, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively.

The **Designated Safeguarding Lead** (DSL) who will take the lead for safeguarding and child protection issues is **Lyn Hughes** (DSL)

The **Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead** is **Bryn Faulkner** (DDSL)

The **Designated Teacher for Looked After Children** is **Lyn Hughes** (CDTLAC)

The **Single Point of Contact for PREVENT** is **Lyn Hughes** (SPOC for PREVENT)

The **Safeguarding Link LAB Member** who oversees this work is **Barbara Ball**.

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads will update their child protection/safeguarding training every **two years** and has specific responsibilities as listed in **Appendix A and B**.

The specific responsibilities of the Link LAB Member and Headteacher are listed in **Appendix C and D**

2.2 Record Keeping

When a concern about a child's welfare or safety is raised it will be discussed with the designated lead and recorded. The designated lead will decide if the concern should be shared with another agency (see **decision making** below) or kept on record in case future concerns arise. The reason for the decision will be noted alongside the record. The online system, MyConcern, is used for logging all concerns and records of safeguarding issues.

All records will be stored in a separate confidential file in a locked, secure place with restricted access. When a child/student transfers to another school/setting within this or another authority, the confidential information held is forwarded under confidential cover and separate from the child's/student's main file to the DSL for Child Protection in the receiving school/setting immediately. Records on MyConcern will also be shared. This should be transferred separately from the main student file, ensuring secure transit and confirmation of receipt should be obtained (**Appendix E**). In addition to the Child Protection file the DSL will consider sharing information with the new setting/school/college in advance of a child leaving.

Information is shared as necessary to protect children from harm. We follow the guidance in the HMG 2018 guide '*Information sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers*' and the HMG 2015 guide '*What to do if you are worried a child is being abused*'.

When information is being accumulated prior to possible referral we will use the chronology of events held on MyConcern. This is a secure software for managing and recording the safeguarding and welfare concerns of our students.

2.3 Decision making – ‘Accessing the right service at the right time’

We take a holistic approach to safeguarding all children in our care and recognise that different families need a different level of support at different times. To enable us to recognise at which level a family might require support, we use the Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership's *Multi-Agency Guidance on Threshold Criteria to help support Children, Young People and their Families in Shropshire*. [Shropshire Threshold Document](#)

This guidance identifies four levels to ensure all children receive the support and intervention they need to achieve a positive life experience. Of central importance in understanding where a child's needs might lie on this continuum, is the cooperation and engagement of parents and carers, and we aim to develop good, professional relationships to ensure that we have a shared understanding of each child's needs.

It should be noted that if parents demonstrate a lack of co-operation or appreciation about the concerns we identify, this may raise the level of the need and required level of action.

Level 1 – Universal

Children with no additional needs and where there are no concerns. Typically, these children are likely to live in a resilient and protective environment where their needs are met. These children will require no additional support beyond that which is universally available. We anticipate that, by working closely with parents and sign-posting families to other universal services within our community, we can meet the needs of children and families at this level.

At this level, parents will always be consulted before any action is taken.

Level 2 – Children in need of Early Help

These children can be defined as needing some additional support without which they would be at risk of not meeting their full potential. Their identified needs may relate to their health, educational, or social development, and are likely to be short term needs. If ignored these issues may develop into more worrying concerns for the child or young person. These children will be living in greater adversity than most other children, or have a greater degree of vulnerability than most. If their needs are not clear, not known or not being met, a lead professional will coordinate a whole family assessment and plan around the child.

Sometimes, in discussion with parents and carers and through our observations and records, we may think a child and their family could benefit from additional support from outside agencies to ensure he/she reaches his/her full potential. This process is known as Early Help. We have knowledge of the different agencies which may be able to offer support, and we will work with parents and carers to decide which support would be most appropriate for their family. We will work with parents to complete any Early Help referral forms required to access this support.

If we are unsure of where to access support, we will contact Compass for advice.

Further information about Early Help can be found at: <http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/early-help/>

At this level, parents will always be consulted before we contact another agency and their written consent gained before any action is taken.

Level 3 –children with complex needs

This level applies to those children identified as requiring targeted support. It is likely that for these children their needs and care are compromised. Only a small fraction of children will fall within this band. These children will be those who are vulnerable or experiencing the greatest level of adversity. Children with additional needs: these children are potentially at risk of developing acute/complex needs if they do not receive early targeted intervention.

Sometimes, in discussion with parents and carers and through our observations and records, we realise that a child and their family have a range of needs which are preventing a child from reaching his/her full potential. In this case, we will discuss the situation with parents and carers and try to identify each area of concern, so that a range of other agencies can come together to offer support to the family. With parental consent, we will complete an Early Help assessment and contact Compass to help us identify and co-ordinate a range of other agencies. This multi-agency response will require a lead professional who may be a member of our staff.

At this level, parents will always be consulted before we contact another agency and their written consent gained before any action is taken.

Level 4 – children with acute specialist needs/child protection

These are children whose needs and care now are likely to be significantly compromised, thereby requiring assessment under Section 47 or Section 17 of the Children Act 1989. These children may become subject to a Child Protection Plan and need to be accommodated (taken into care) by Children's Social Care, either on a voluntary basis, or by way of Court Order. Section 17- 1989 Children Act states a child shall be taken to be in need if: (a) He is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for him of services by a local authority under this Part; (b) His health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision for him of such services; or (c) He is disabled.

Sometimes, in discussion with parents and carers, and through our observations and records, we realise that a child is at risk of significant harm (see below) and we must take emergency action to ensure that a child is kept safe. If the Designated Lead is unsure whether the concern meets this threshold he/she may discuss the case with an Early Help Social Worker.

There are no absolute criteria on which to rely when judging what constitutes significant harm. Sometimes a single violent episode may constitute significant harm, but, more often, it is an accumulation of significant events, both acute and longstanding, which interrupt, damage or change the child's development.

It may be:

- the child is at risk of serious harm from others or themselves, and requires skilled risk assessment and protection;*
- the child or young person is likely to put others at risk or harm, distress or loss, and a response needs to take account of the individual's interests and wellbeing of others;*
- the child's circumstances, including their health, finances, living conditions or social situation, are likely to cause them, or others, serious harm, social exclusion or reduction of life chances;*
- the situation requires assessment of, and intervention in, unpredictable emotional, psychological, intrafamily or social factors and responses;*
- the circumstances are such that there are significant risks in both intervening and not intervening, when a fine judgement is required*

Careful analysis and interpretation of information will enable practitioners and families to:

- think about what is important and identify needs or difficulties;
- explain why these have come about;
- understand the impact of strengths and pressures on the child or young person;
- reach agreement about what needs to be improved;
- agree the priority issues, aims and goals in terms of improving the child's wellbeing;
- agree desired outcomes.

Consider:

- What is the lived experience of the child?
- When and how are the child's needs NOT being met?
- What are the effects on the child's current development and long-term effects?
- What are the child's needs, wishes and feelings regarding intervention and likely outcomes?

(Taken from: Multi-agency Guidance on Threshold Criteria to help support Children, Young People and their Families in Shropshire 2017) [Shropshire Threshold Document](#)

2.4 Partnership with families

A copy of this policy is made available on our website to all parents prior to their child joining our school/setting, as well as details of the complaints procedure. In general, any concerns will be discussed with parents and we will offer support. All conversations, whatever the outcome, should be recorded appropriately to show that they took place, identify what was agreed and evaluate how effectively they enabled needs to be met. In this way, quality conversations can demonstrate their impact on successful practice, including improvements in decision making and joint working. Conversations should continue to inform the on-going planning and reviewing.

Practitioners working with families at a Universal, Early Help or Targeted level will need to get the consent of the family before any information is held or shared with other agencies. If the practitioner does not gain the family's consent and in future has ongoing concerns, they should consider contacting Compass for advice and guidance. **Except for Child Protection matters, referrals to Compass cannot be accepted without parents having been consulted first.**

Consent is not required for Child Protection referrals where it is suspected that a child may be suffering or be at risk of suffering significant harm; however, the referring practitioner, would need to inform parents or carers that they are making a referral, unless to do so may:

- Place the child at increased risk of Significant Harm; or
- Place any other person at risk of injury; or
- Obstruct or interfere with any potential Police investigation; or
- Lead to unjustified delay in making enquiries about allegations of significant harm.

The child's interest must be the overriding consideration in making such decisions. Decisions should be recorded. If consent is withheld by the parent:

- If it is felt that the child's needs can be met through Early Help, then discussion with the family should take place about the completion of an Early Help Assessment and provision of services through an Early Help Plan. Early help consultations are available from the Early Help Advisors for support in managing these situations.
- For another agency familiar with the child and family to make the approach about information sharing to the family.
- No assessment should take place. The rationale for this decision will be recorded on the concerns form.
- The combination of the concerns and the refusal to consent to enquiries being made may result in the concerns being defined as Child Protection concerns. In this case, information sharing may proceed without parental consent. The consultation and the decision to proceed without consent must be recorded on the case papers.

If a child has been injured or is in imminent danger of being injured, then we will contact the emergency services, medical or police, immediately on 999.

When making a level 4 referral to Compass we will ensure we have a record of all details required detailed on a [Shropshire Multi-Agency Referral Form](#)

2.5 Specific legal duties to report

Legislation has recognised and criminalised the following types of abuse and placed duties on education settings to report offences to the authorities:

- **Radicalisation and the Prevent Duty**

The government set out its definition of British values in the 2015 Prevent Strategy – this promotes the values of:

- democracy
- the rule of law
- individual liberty
- mutual respect
- tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs

If a member of staff has a concern about a student/s they should follow the school's/settings normal safeguarding procedures, including discussing with the school's/settings designated safeguarding lead as set out in the Child Protection/safeguarding policy.

The Single Point of Contact for PREVENT is Lyn Hughes (DSL).

The designated lead should contact West Mercia Prevent Team:

Detective Sergeant Stuart Clark, 01386 591835

PC Manjit Sidhu, 01386 591815

The Prevent Team email is: prevent@warwickshireandwestmercia.pnn.police.uk

A separate policy '**Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy**' can be located on the **Shropshire Learning Gateway**.

- **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)**

Whilst all staff should speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or deputy) about any concerns about female genital mutilation (FGM), there is a specific **legal** duty on **teachers**. If a **teacher**, in the course of their work in the profession, discovers that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under the age of 18, the teacher **must** report this to the police.

Please refer to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/female-genital-mutilation-leaflet>

/We may not seek parental consent if this may put the girl at increased risk.

- **Domestic abuse and honour-based violence**

Children living in households where there is domestic abuse, such as coercion or violence, including honour-based violence, could be at significant risk of harm. We will seek support for victims and their children through Compass.

Depending on the level of risk, /we may or may not consult parents before contacting Compass.

2.6 Specific safeguarding issues

To ensure that our children and young people are protected from harm, we need to understand what types of behaviour constitute abuse and neglect (Appendix A). Staff are made aware of specific safeguarding issues (listed below) through Child Protection training, reading up to date guidance, such as Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020 Part 1 and Annex A, Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage stated in Section 3 – The Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements and accessing SSCP procedures at <http://www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk>

Definitions of categories of abuse can be found in **Appendix F**.

All staff are made aware that mental health problems can, in some cases, be an indicator or abuse. The DSL will liaise with the school mental health lead to ensure information is being shared.

Children may need a social worker due to safeguarding or welfare needs. Local Authorities will share this information with the school, and the DSL will hold and use this information so that decisions can be made in the best interests of the child’s safety, welfare and educational outcomes.

This school ensures that the DSL is continually updated in all areas below. They are familiar with the referral pathways and specific toolkits and guidance available on the SSCP website.

Expert and professional organisations are best placed to provide up-to-date guidance and practical support on specific safeguarding issues. For example, information for schools, colleges and early years settings can be found on the TES, MindEd and the NSPCC websites. Staff can access government guidance as required on the issues listed below via GOV.UK and other government websites.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullying including cyberbullying • Child Criminal Exploitation: County Lines • Children missing education • Child missing from home or care • Child sexual exploitation (CSE) • Children and the court system • Children with family members in prison • Domestic violence • Drugs • Health and wellbeing e.g. fabricated or induced illness, medical conditions, mental health and behaviour • Faith based abuse so called honour based violence (including female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage) • Gangs and youth violence • Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls (VAWG) • Homelessness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hate (Appendix G) • Initiation/Hazing type violence and rituals • Mental health • Missing children and adults’ strategy • Private fostering • Preventing radicalisation • Relationship abuse • Peer on Peer Abuse e.g. sexting (youth produced sexual imagery), sexual violence and sexual harassment • Trafficking • Online safety
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Where incidents and or behaviours are associated with factors outside the school and/or occur between children outside the school the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or deputy) should be considering contextual safeguarding. This simply means assessments of children in such cases should consider whether wider environmental factors are present in a child’s life that are a threat to their safety and/or welfare. Children’s social care assessments should consider such factors and so, it is important that schools and colleges provide as much information as possible as part of the referral process. This will allow any assessment to consider all the evidence and the full context of any abuse. Supporting information regarding contextual safeguarding, and where schools and colleges fit into the wider environment, is available here: <https://contextualsafeguarding.org.uk/>

Peer on Peer / Child on Child Abuse

Staff should recognise that children can abuse their peers. Abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as “banter” or “part of growing up”. Victims of peer abuse should be supported as they would be if they were the victim of any other form of abuse, in accordance with this policy.

Peer on peer abuse occurs when a young person is exploited, bullied and/or harmed by their peers who are the same age or similar age.

Staff are aware that safeguarding issues can manifest themselves via peer on peer abuse. This is most likely to include, but may not be limited to:

- bullying (including cyberbullying);
- physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm;
- sexual violence and sexual harassment;
- sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery); and
- initiation/hazing type violence and rituals.

Compliance with the Public-Sector Equality Duty (PSED) is a legal requirement for schools and colleges that are public bodies.

Under the PSED, schools and colleges that are public bodies, have a general duty to have regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity between different groups and to foster good relations between different groups. The duty applies to all protected characteristics and means that, whenever significant decisions are being made or policies developed, thought must be given to the equality implications, such as, for example, the elimination of sexual violence and sexual harassment.

Ludlow CE School delivers this currently, through planned, high-quality, Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) and Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE).

- healthy and respectful relationships;
- what respectful behaviour looks like;
- consent;
- gender roles, stereotyping, equality;
- body confidence and self-esteem;
- prejudiced behaviour;
- that sexual violence and sexual harassment is always wrong; and
- addressing cultures of sexual harassment.

The school would respond to an incident of Peer on Peer abuse by recording the incident on MyConcern and by following guidance as set out in [Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges](#). Published by Department for Education.

It is vital that staff at Ludlow CE School understand that the child who is perpetrating the abuse may also be risk of harm. Staff should make every effort to ensure that the perpetrator is also treated as a victim and undertake assessments to conclude this. Sensitive work must be undertaken with the child who is perpetrating, by helping them to understand the nature of their behaviour and the effect it has on others may prevent abuse.

Staff must be able to use their professional judgement in identifying when what may be perceived as “normal developmental childhood behaviour” becomes abusive, dangerous and harmful to others. Designated Leads may need to consult with the SSCP Threshold document to help with their decision making as well as [Brook Traffic Light Tool](#).

2.7 Safeguarding children with special educational needs and disabilities

It is recognised that children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) can present additional safeguarding challenges. Additional 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 impairment without further exploration; children with SEND can be disproportionately impacted by issues such as bullying, without necessarily showing outward signs; communication barriers.

It is important, therefore, to be particularly sensitive to these issues when considering any aspect of the welfare and safety of such children, and to seek professional advice where necessary.

Any reports of abuse involving children with SEND will therefore require close liaison with the **Designated Safeguarding Lead (or deputy) and the SENCO, Bryn Faulkner.**

2.8 Children Missing Education

All children, regardless of their circumstances, are entitled to a full-time education, which is suitable to their age, ability, aptitude and any special educational needs they may have. Local authorities have a duty to establish, as far as it is possible to do so, the identity of children of compulsory school age who are missing education in their area. Effective information sharing between parents, schools, colleges and local authorities is critical to ensuring that all children are safe and receiving suitable education.

A child going missing from education is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect, and such children are at risk of being victims of harm, exploitation or radicalisation. School staff should follow their procedures for unauthorised absence and for dealing with children who go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions, to help identify the risk of abuse and neglect, including sexual exploitation, and to help prevent the risks of going missing in future. Where reasonably possible the school will hold at least two emergency contacts for every child in the school in case of emergency and in case there are welfare concerns at home.

Schools and colleges should put in place appropriate safeguarding policies, procedures and responses for children who go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions. The school will contact Shropshire Education Access Service to report an absence after 10 days. It is essential that all staff are alert to signs to look out for and the individual triggers to be aware of when considering the risks of potential safeguarding concerns such as travelling to conflict zones, female genital mutilation and forced marriage. Further information about children at risk of missing education can be found in the Children Missing Education guidance or Shropshire Council Learning Gateway

2.9 Safeguarding children who are Looked After

Staff are aware the most common reason for children becoming looked after is because of abuse and/or neglect. Appropriate staff 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. Appropriate staff members 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 has 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 for Looked After Children will work with the Local Authority to promote the educational achievement of registered students who are looked after or who have left care through adoption, special guardianship, child arrangement orders, or who are adopted from state care outside of England and Wales. The appointment of a designated teacher is a statutory requirement for governing bodies of maintained schools and proprietors of academies. "KCSIE 2018" is clear that in other schools and colleges an appropriately trained teacher should take the lead therefore it would be good practice on other schools to have a designated teacher for Looked After Children.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead should have details of the child's social worker and the name of the virtual head teacher. The designated safeguarding lead should work closely with the designated teacher.

Private Fostering

A private fostering arrangement is one that is made, without the involvement of a local authority, for the care of a child under the age of 16 (under 18 if disabled) by someone other than a parent or close relative for 28 days or more. The designated safeguarding lead should notify the local authority of a private fostering arrangement that comes to their attention, where they are not satisfied that the arrangement has been notified. Further information see the [Children \(Private Arrangements for Fostering\) Regulations 2005](#)

2.10 Injuries

At the beginning of each session or school day parents are requested to notify us of any accidents, incidents or injuries which may affect their child before leaving him/her at the school. A note will be made of any existing injuries and how the injury was received will be recorded. A body map may be used to indicate any marks/bruises - **Refer to body map in Multi-Agency Referral form (MARF)**

2.11 Safe use of ICT and mobile phones (refer to Social Media and E Safety Policies)

It is essential that children are safeguarded from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material. At Ludlow School we ensure that there are appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems in place.

Where children are being asked to learn online at home the school will follow advice from the Department of Education.

The use of mobile phones and other electronic devices such as computers, tablets, and game devices is commonplace. However, as a society, we are beginning to recognise that although these devices have brought great benefit we also need to ensure that we help children to understand there are dangers and how to keep themselves safe. This includes:

- Keeping personal details secure
- Understanding that not all content is appropriate, truthful or legal
- What to do if they do accidentally access inappropriate or illegal content
- What to do if they are upset by something they receive
- What to do if they are going to physically meet someone they have met on-line

We believe that photographs validate children's experiences and achievements and are a valuable way of recording milestones in a child's life. Parental permission for the different ways in which we use photographs is gained as part of the initial registration at Ludlow CE School. We take a mixture of photos that reflect the school environment; sometimes this will be when children are engrossed in an activity either on their own or with their peers. To safeguard children and adults, and to maintain privacy, cameras are not to be used during intimate care situations by adults or children.

Through induction, staff and volunteers are made aware of our 'acceptable use of technology' policy both at home and in the workplace. If any staff or volunteers breach this policy, then we will take disciplinary action which may result in a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Children are allowed to use mobile phones at break and lunchtimes. During lessons mobile phones must be turned off and placed in bags. Misuse of mobile phones will result in confiscation. On the third occasion, parents will be requested to come into school to discuss their child's inappropriate use of their phone.

2.12 Escalating / de-escalating concerns

Just because a child is assessed at a point in time as meeting certain threshold criteria, does not mean that they always will. An assessment is an on-going process, not an event; children's needs often change over time. The Designated Lead for Safeguarding will maintain an overview of all children with a plan, to ensure children's needs are being met at the right level of intervention. Of central importance in understanding where a child's needs might lie on this continuum, is the cooperation and engagement of the parents and carers – a lack of co-operation or appreciation about the concern may of itself raise the level of the need and required response.

2.13 The impact of abuse

The impact of child abuse should not be underestimated. Many children do recover well and go on to lead healthy, happy and productive lives, although most adult survivors agree that the emotional scars remain, however well-buried. For some children, full recovery is beyond their reach, and the rest of their childhood and their adulthood may be characterised by anxiety or depression, self-harm, eating disorders, alcohol and substance misuse, unequal and destructive relationships, and long-term medical or psychiatric difficulties.

2.14 Taking action

Key points to remember for taking action are:

- in an emergency take the action necessary to help the child, for example, call 999
- report your concern to the DSL immediately
- if the DSL is not able to be contacted, ensure action is taken to report the concern to children's social care
- do not start your own investigation
- share information on a need-to-know basis only – do not discuss the issue with colleagues, friends or family
- log the concern on MyConcern
- seek support for yourself, if you are distressed.

If you suspect a child is at risk of harm

There will be occasions when you suspect that a child may be at serious risk, but you have no 'real' evidence. The child's behaviour may have changed, or you may have noticed other physical but inconclusive signs. In these circumstances, you should try to give the child the opportunity to talk. The signs you have noticed may be due to a variety of factors and it is fine to ask the child if they are alright or if you can help in any way.

Record these early concerns and pass to DSL. If the child does begin to reveal that they are being harmed, you should follow the advice in the section below 'If a child discloses information to you'.

If, following your conversation, you remain concerned, you should discuss your concerns with the designated person.

If staff have a mental health concern about a child that is also a safeguarding concern, immediate action should be taken, following the procedures set out in this policy and by speaking with the DSL.

If a child tells you that they have been abused

It takes a lot of courage for a child to tell someone that they are being neglected and or abused. They may feel ashamed, particularly if the abuse is sexual; their abuser may have threatened what will happen if they tell; they may have lost all trust in adults, or they may believe, or have been told, that the abuse is their own fault.

If a child talks to you about any risks to their safety or wellbeing, you will need to let them know that **you must** pass the information on – you are not allowed to keep secrets. The point at which you do this is a matter for professional judgement. If you jump in immediately, the child may think that you do not want to listen; if you leave it till the very end of the conversation, the child may feel that you have misled them into revealing more than they would have otherwise.

During your conversation with the child:

Allow them to speak freely.

- Remain calm and do not over react – the child may stop talking if they feel they are upsetting you.
- Give reassuring nods or words of comfort – ‘I’m so sorry this has happened’, ‘I want to help’, ‘This isn’t your fault’, ‘You are doing the right thing in talking to me’.
- Do not be afraid of silences – remember how hard this must be for the child.
- Under no circumstances ask investigative questions – such as how many times this has happened, whether it happens to siblings too, or what does the child’s mother think about all this.
- At an appropriate time, tell the child that to help them you must pass the information on.
- Do not automatically offer any physical touch as comfort. It may be anything but comforting to a child who has been abused.
- Avoid admonishing the child for not disclosing earlier. Saying ‘I do wish you had told me about this when it started’ or ‘I can’t believe what I’m hearing’ may be your way of being supportive, but the child may interpret it that they have done something wrong.
- Tell the child what will happen next. The child may agree to go with you to see the designated person. Otherwise, let them know that someone will come to see them before the end of the day.
- Report verbally to the designated person.
- Write up your conversation as soon as possible on MyConcern.
- Seek support if you feel distressed.

2.15 Prevention in the Curriculum

Our school recognises the importance of developing students’ awareness of behaviour that is unacceptable towards them and others, and how they can help keep themselves and others safe. This is addressed in the following ways:

- The PSHE focus day in Year 7, and tutor PSHE programme across the years covers e-safety.
- The PSHE curriculum in Key Stage 3 and Relationship Sex and Health Education in Key Stage 4, alongside the tutor time programme, provides personal development opportunities for students to learn about keeping safe and who to ask for help if their safety is threatened. As part of developing a healthy, safer lifestyle, students are taught to, for example:
 - safely explore their own and others’ attitudes to all aspects of life including sexuality
 - recognise and manage risks in different situations and how to behave responsibly
 - judge what kind of physical contact is acceptable and unacceptable (working towards including this area in the Key Stage 3 programme)
 - recognise when pressure from others (including people they know) threatens their personal safety and well-being and develop effective ways of resisting pressure; including knowing when and where to get help
 - use assertiveness techniques to resist unhelpful pressure
 - making informed decisions about appropriate and inappropriate relationships

- The school demonstrates that it listens to and takes students' safety concerns seriously through a range of ways:
 - offering the services of Enhance support workers and on-site School Counsellor, either through self-referral or tutor/Curriculum Learning Tutor
 - by displaying helpline information for all students, for example, from Childline, NSPCC on notice board in main corridor at back of PE changing rooms
 - peer mentoring, through vertical tutor groups and prefects
 - drop in centre-CHAT
 - Referrals to outside agencies, through Early Help process
 - Employment of Family Support Worker through Strengthening Families Programme
 - Referral to Mental Health Support Services through on-site specialist TA or Bee U

2.16 Managing allegations of abuse made against staff (this includes apprentices and supply staff), students or volunteers (see Appendix H)

Allegations which might indicate that a person would pose a risk of harm to children if they continue to work in regular or close contact with children in their present position, will be taken seriously. We have a duty to inform Ofsted of any serious allegations made against a person which suggests he or she has:

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

We also have a duty of care towards our staff. We provide support for anyone facing an allegation and provide employees with a named contact if they are suspended. It is essential that any allegations of abuse made against members of staff or volunteers are dealt with very quickly, in a fair and consistent way that provides effective protection for the child and at the same time supports the person who is the subject of the allegation.

If there are concerns about a staff member, then this should be referred to the Headteacher. Where there are concerns about the Headteacher, this should be referred to the Chair of Governors. In the event of allegations of abuse being made against the Headteacher, allegations should be reported to the designated officer of the local authority. Staff may consider discussing any concerns with the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead and make any referral via them.

The LADO may ask for additional information, such as previous history, whether the child or their family have made similar allegations previously and the individual's current contact with children. There may be situations when the LADO will want to involve the police immediately, for example if the person is deemed to be an immediate risk to children or there is evidence of a possible criminal offence.

The initial sharing of information and evaluation may lead to a decision that no further action is to be taken regarding the individual facing the allegation or concern; in which case, this decision and a justification for it, will be recorded by both the Registered Person/Headteacher and the LADO, and agreement reached on what information should be put in writing to the individuals concerned and by whom. The Registered Person/Headteacher will then consider with the LADO what action should follow both in respect of the individual and those who made the initial allegation.

If further action is required, we will follow the advice of the LADO and co-operate with any investigations. We will follow instructions about what can be disclosed to the accused and whether he/she should be suspended whilst further investigations take place. This is not an indication of admission that the alleged incident has taken place but is to protect the staff as well as children and families throughout the process. Clear advice will be given to workers on the process of investigation by other agencies. We will follow advice about how to inform families about the allegation.

There is a legal requirement for employers to make a referral to the DBS where they 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. [Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006](#)

Whistleblowing

Whistle blowing is a mechanism by which adults can voice their concerns in good faith, without fear of repercussion. Any behaviour by colleagues that raises concern, regardless of source, will be recorded and reported to the designated practitioner or appropriate agency. Refer to the Confidential – Reporting and Whistleblowing Policy.

2.17 Recruiting Staff (refer to Reporting and Whistleblowing Policy)

We provide adequate and appropriate staffing resources to meet the needs of children. (More information can be found in our Safer Recruitment Policy).

Job adverts and application packs refer to our safeguarding policy and procedures.

Applicants for posts are clearly informed that positions are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. We ensure that we meet our responsibilities under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.

Where applicants are rejected because of information that has been disclosed, we will inform the applicant about their right to know and to challenge incorrect information.

We comply with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020 in respect of references and Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service checks for staff and volunteers, to ensure that no disqualified or unsuitable person works with or has access to the children. Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020 states that schools will be required to complete a risk assessment for each volunteer to decide whether they need to do an enhanced DBS check or not. (Note that even if it is decided an enhanced DBS is to be requested, if the volunteer is not in regulated activity, then schools are not legally allowed to do a barred list check).

We have procedures for recording the details of visitors, including prospective candidates, to the school, and ensure that we have control over who comes in to the premises so that no unauthorised person has unsupervised access to the children.

Where students are placed in an alternative provision, the school should obtain a written statement from the provider that they have completed all the vetting and barring checks that are necessary on their staff.

2.18 Staff Supervision (including students and volunteers)

To ensure that all staff are alert to any issues for concern, staff receive regular training and updates in safeguarding and Child Protection through a range of training and supervision activities. This includes both formal and informal supervision, annual appraisals, staff meetings and access to SSCP approved training. Individual supervision offers staff an opportunity to receive coaching to improve their practice with children and address any issues resulting in poor performance. Individual supervision also provides a safe space in which to raise any concerns they may have about the conduct of other adults connected with the setting.

Staff supervision is also used to ensure that all staff remain suitable to work with children. This means staff are required to inform their line manager of any medication they are taking and provide medical evidence that this will not impair their ability to look after children properly. Staff are also required to disclose any information, which may lead to their disqualification as outlined in *The Statutory Framework for the EYFS 2017 3.14-3.18* and *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019*.


2.19 Resolution of professional disagreements

When practitioners are working together in the complex business of safeguarding children there will inevitably be occasions when there are professional differences of opinion or concerns about practice decisions, actions or lack of actions to a referral, assessment or the progress of child's plan. In these circumstances practitioners have a duty to take action to address professional disagreements as soon as they arise in a way that is appropriate and proportionate

Examples of case-specific professional disagreements include:

- When there is disagreement about the response to a referral made by one agency to another agency or service (e.g. decision making).
- When there is disagreement about the outcome of an assessment.
- When there is serious concern about the implementation of a child's Plan and disagreement about how this should be addressed (e.g. agreed actions not being followed through).
- When there is serious concern about the effectiveness of a child's Plan in bringing about the necessary changes and disagreement about how this should be addressed (e.g. drift/delay).
- When there is disagreement over the sharing of information in a particular case.

Designated Safeguarding Leads and managers will consult with the procedures for resolving professional disagreements by accessing it on the West Midlands Child Protection Procedures [website](#)
Designated Safeguarding Leads will record any actions taken and outcomes on file.

Signature: 	Date Policy adopted: 07/10/19
Position: Chair of Governors	Review Date: September 2020

Appendix A

The role and responsibilities of the Designated Safeguarding Lead

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead will update their child protection/safeguarding training in line with Shropshire Safeguarding Partnership (SSCP) recommendations. They are responsible for:

- Ensuring that all staff have up to date knowledge of safeguarding issues;
- Ensuring that staff are enabled to identify signs of possible abuse and neglect at the earliest opportunity, and to respond in a timely and appropriate way. Signs that indicate possible abuse may include significant changes in children's behaviour; deterioration in children's general well-being; unexplained bruising, marks or signs of possible abuse or neglect; children's comments which give cause for concern; any reasons to suspect neglect or abuse outside the setting, for example in the child's home; and/or inappropriate behaviour displayed by other members of staff, or any other person working with the children. E.g. inappropriate sexual comments; excessive one-to-one attention beyond the requirements of their usual role and responsibilities; or inappropriate sharing of images;
- Being the first point of contact for staff, volunteers, parents and children/young people where concerns about children's welfare, poor practice or child abuse are identified;
- Providing basic advice and support regarding child protection and poor practice;
- Completing the organisation's reporting and recording procedures following the policy and procedures;
- Promoting safe working practice/code of conduct;
- Attending, promoting and organising training;
- Promoting and ensuring confidentiality is maintained;
- Promoting anti-discriminatory practice;
- Maintaining records related to child protection and unsuitable adults, and ensuring these are stored securely on the premises;
- Reviewing records on a regular basis to identify possible patterns of abuse;
- Making decisions on whether to refer any concerns, recording the reasons for that decision;
- Completing SSCP audits which include:
 - Termly Section 9 Practice Audits
 - Annual Section 11 Compliance Audits
 - Multi-agency Audits
- Maintaining up to date contact details for other agencies and know how to access the most up to date SSCP guidelines;
- Passing information to other relevant organisations /agencies as appropriate;
- Making referrals to the investigating agencies - Shropshire Council Compass and the Police - in line with child protection procedures;
- Informing Ofsted of any allegations of abuse made against a person working in the setting, or any other abuse alleged to have taken place on the premises;
- Sharing information about Safeguarding Children procedures with parents prior to their child starting in the setting;
- Updating the policy and procedure, and communicating any updates with staff, committee members, volunteers and parents;
- Contributing to multi-agency meetings, assessments, core groups and conferences as required.

In carrying out any of the role set out below, the role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead should be guided by two important principles. First, following the Children Act 1989, the principle that the welfare of the child should be paramount. Second, the principle that confidentiality should be respected as far as possible (without compromising the first principle).

It is **essential** that Designated Safeguarding Leads are familiar with the content of the following key documents:

- the Department for Education's (DfE's) statutory guidance for schools and colleges, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' 2020
- 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' 2018
- Ofsted Inspecting safeguarding in early years, education and skills settings 2016
- The Prevent Duty July 2015
- Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework 2017 (EYFS)
- Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership (SSCP) Threshold Guidance Document

The Designated Safeguarding Lead must:

- Be a senior member of staff, from the school **leadership team**.
- Take **lead responsibility** and is accountable for safeguarding and child protection, (lead responsibility must never be delegated).
- Be fully conversant with the Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership (SSCP) Child Protection (CP) procedures and to co-ordinate action on child abuse within school, ensuring that all staff are aware of their responsibilities in relation to CP.
- Provide supervision and guidance to deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.
- Ensure that all deputy designated safeguarding leads are trained to the same standard as themselves.
- Should liaise with designated staff for Looked After Children (LAC) and 14-19 placements.
- Refer individual cases of suspected abuse to relevant Local Authority (LA) Children Services area (following SSCP guidelines) and to liaise with them and other agencies on individual cases and on general issues relating to CP.
- Undertake "Prevent" awareness training and lead on this within the school and must assume responsibility for organising training on all aspects of CP within school, and to act as a school-based resource on CP issues for staff.
- In greater detail, this involves the following:
 - Ensuring that all staff, both teaching and non-teaching, know about, and have access to the SSCP procedures for CP and that all cases of suspected abuse are reported in the correct way.
 - Supporting staff who make referrals to LA children's social care.
 - Referring cases to the Channel programme where there is a radicalisation concern, as required.
 - Supporting staff who make referrals to the Channel programme
 - Referring cases where a person is dismissed or left due to risk/harm to a child to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) as required and ensuring that the Designated Officer in the Local Authority (LADO) is informed.
 - Referring cases where a crime may have been committed to the Police, as required
 - Ensuring that all staff have regular Child Protection updates (annually)
 - Ensuring that all teaching and non-teaching staff attend Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership endorsed Child Protection awareness training every three years.
 - Ensuring all Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads regularly update their Child Protection training (annually) and attend Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership endorsed Child Protection update training every two years
 - Ensuring the school is compliant with the 'Prevent' duty requirements so that:
 - All staff are trained in awareness of "Prevent".
 - All teachers are trained in "Prevent" curriculum requirements including British Values.

- The school can demonstrate the impact on the students of promoting British Values.
- The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are clear about their lead role in respect of “Prevent” and the process of a “Prevent” referral.
- The job description of the Deputy Designated Safeguarding leads also includes the “Prevent” duty.
- The e-safety policy and the Child Protection Policy clearly state the “Prevent” duty.
- Help promote educational outcomes by sharing 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 leadership team.

Working with others. The Designated Safeguarding Lead must:

- Liaise with the Headteacher to inform him or her of issues, especially ongoing enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police investigations.
- As required, liaise with the “case manager” and the LADO if relevant i.e. if there are safeguarding or Child Protection concerns relating to a staff member.
- Liaise with staff (especially pastoral staff, school nurses, IT Technicians, SENCOs and Senior Mental Health Leads) on matters of safety and safeguarding, and when deciding whether to make a referral by liaising with relevant agencies.
- Liaise with the Safeguarding Link LAB Member, on a termly basis, including a review of the Single Central Record.
- Should liaise with the three safeguarding partners and work with other agencies in line with Working Together 2018.
- Act as a source of support, advice and expertise for staff.
- Lead on or participate in Early Help Multi-Agency interventions

Training – The Designated Safeguarding Lead must:

- Ensure that they and any deputies should undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role.
- Ensure that they and any deputies, in addition to the formal training set out above, should refresh their knowledge and skills (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 intervention, for example through locally agreed common and shared assessment processes such as early help assessments.
 - Have a working knowledge of how local authorities conduct a Child Protection case conference and a Child Protection review conference, and can attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so.
 - Ensure each member of staff has access to and understands the school’s Child Protection Policy and procedures, especially new and part-time staff.
 - Are alerted to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and young carers.
 - Can keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of concerns and referrals.
 - Encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings.

- Are aware of the guidance that is available in respect of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and should be vigilant to the risk of it being practised and inform the Police if they suspect a child has suffered FGM (this is a legal requirement for all Teachers; Serious Crime Act 2015).
- Encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings.

Child Protection files – The Designated Safeguarding Lead must:

- The DSL should also consider if it would be appropriate to share any information with the new school or college in advance of a child leaving
- Ensure that all Child Protection files are stored securely and accessed only by authorised individuals compliant with the Data Protection Act 1998 and GDPR
- Where children leave the school or college, ensure their child protection file is transferred to the new school or college as soon as possible and is transferred separately and securely from the main student file, and ensure that confirmation of receipt is obtained.

Availability

During term time, the Designated Safeguarding Lead should ensure that they (or a deputy) are always available (during school hours) for staff in the school or college to discuss any safeguarding concerns.

This list is not exhaustive, further detailed information on the Role of the DSL can be found in KSCIE 2020 guidance Annex B.

Appendix B

The role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead 'Deputy'

In carrying out any of the role set out below, your role of 'Deputy' Designated Safeguarding Lead should be guided by two important principles. First, following the Children Act 1989, the principle that the welfare of the child should be paramount. Second, the principle that confidentiality should be respected as far as possible (without compromising the first principle).

It is **essential** that 'Deputy' designated safeguarding leads are familiar with the content of the following key documents:

- the Department for Education's (DfE's) statutory guidance for schools and colleges, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' 2020
- 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' 2018
- Ofsted Inspecting safeguarding in early years, education and skills settings 2016
- The Prevent Duty July 2015
- Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership (SSCP) Threshold Guidance Document

As 'Deputy' Designated Safeguarding Lead you:

- Should be an experienced member of staff, from the school or college.
- Must take **responsibility** for safeguarding and child protection.
- Should be fully conversant with the SSCB child protection (CP) procedures and act on child abuse within school.
- Provide support and guidance to all members of staff
- Should liaise with designated staff for Looked After Children (LAC) and 14-19 placements.
- Are responsible for referring individual cases of suspected abuse to relevant Local Authority (LA) Children Services area (following SSCP guidelines) and to liaise with them and other agencies on individual cases and on general issues relating to CP.
- Should undertake "Prevent" awareness training and support with this within the school
- Will have responsibility to act as a school-based resource on CP issues for staff.
- In greater detail, this involves the following:
 - Supporting staff, both teaching and non-teaching, to have access to the SSCP procedures for CP and that all cases of suspected abuse are reported in the correct way.
 - Supporting staff who make referrals to local authority children's social care.
 - Referring cases to the "Channel" programme where there is a radicalisation concern as required.
 - Supporting staff who make referrals to the "Channel" programme.
 - Supporting the school/college to be compliant with the 'Prevent' duty requirements so that:
 - all staff are trained in awareness of "Prevent"
 - You are clear about your supporting role in respect of "Prevent" and the process of a "Prevent" referral.

Working with others – as Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, you will:

- Liaise with the senior Designated Safeguarding Lead, head teacher or principal to inform him or her of issues especially on-going enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police investigations.
- As required, liaise with the “case manager” and the Designated Officer in the Local Authority (LADO) for Child Protection concerns.
- Liaise with staff on matters of safety and safeguarding and when deciding whether to make a referral by liaising with relevant agencies. Act as a source of support, advice and expertise for staff.

Training

- As **Deputy** Designated Safeguarding Lead, you should ensure that you undergo training to provide yourself with the knowledge and skills required to carry out your role.
- As **Deputy** Designated Safeguarding Lead, you should ensure that in addition to the formal training set out above, your knowledge and skills continue to be refreshed (this might be via ebulletins, 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 you to understand and keep up with any developments relevant to your role so you:
- Understand the assessment process for providing Early Help and intervention, for example through locally agreed common and shared assessment processes such as early help assessments.
- Have a working knowledge of how Local Authorities conduct a Child Protection case conference and a child protection review conference and can attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so.
- Are alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and young carers.
- Can keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of concerns and referrals.
- Are aware of the guidance that is available in respect of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and should be vigilant to the risk of it being practised
- Inform the Police if they suspect a child has suffered FGM (this is a legal requirement for all Teachers; Serious Crime Act 2015)

Availability

During term time, you should ensure that you are available (during school hours) for staff in the school or college to discuss any safeguarding concerns.

This list not exhaustive, please refer to Annex B in KCSIE 2020 for more detailed guidance.

Appendix C

The role of the Safeguarding Link Local Academy Board Member

Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 places a duty on schools to have in place arrangements to reflect the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children; and follow statutory guidance. The governing body of schools, Local Academy Board (LAB), in our setting, must identify someone to act as a link for safeguarding, who understands the requirements of the safeguarding guidance and legislation.

The safeguarding duty on the Local Academy Board includes having arrangements in place to ensure that they:

- carry out their functions with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children; and
- have regard to the statutory guidance issued by the Secretary of State in considering what arrangements they need to make (Governance Handbook (DfE 2020))

The role of the Safeguarding Link LAB member is key to understanding the effectiveness of safeguarding for everyone in the school. They need to understand the requirements set out in the Governance Handbook, and in Keeping Children Safe in Education.

Key aspects of the Safeguarding Link LAB member's role include:

- Understand safeguarding requirements
- Ensure the school's safeguarding arrangements and systems are effective, robust and compliant with safeguarding guidance
- This will include ensuring that the school has up to date policies that support safeguarding, including policies on child protection, pupil behaviour and staff behaviour, and handling allegations against staff and volunteers
- Make sure there are clear systems and processes in place for identifying children with possible mental health problems, and other vulnerable students, including LAC and children with SEND, including routes to escalate and clear referral and accountability systems
- Play a role in the strategic leadership of safeguarding across the school, alongside the Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding lead (DSL) (Prevent duty is part of the wider safeguarding obligation)
- Support the work of the DSL, and meet with the DSL on a termly basis to monitor policies and procedures
- Report back to the LAB about how effective safeguarding is each term
- Monitor the single central record, with the DSL, to make sure the school carries out appropriate recruitment checks – this should be termly
- Receive appropriate training to undertake this role, and work ensure the Headteacher provides all staff, members of the LAB and volunteers with safeguarding training each year.

Appendix D

The role of the Headteacher in Safeguarding and Child Protection

The school's governing board, or Local Academy Board (LAB) in this instance, and school have a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, according to the statutory guidance, Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE). The Headteacher must comply with the duties outlined in part 2 of KCSIE, taking responsibility for the strategic leadership of safeguarding across the school, and make sure that policies and procedures in your school are effective and comply with the law.

This means the Headteacher should:

- Make sure that all staff read at least part 1 of KCSIE
- Make sure that all staff, including LAB members and volunteers, receive regularly updated and appropriate safeguarding and child protection training, this includes Prevent duty
- Have policies and procedures in place that support safeguarding, including policies on child protection, pupil behaviour and staff behaviour, and handling allegations against staff and volunteers
- Make sure there are clear systems and processes in place for identifying children with possible mental health problems, and other vulnerable students, including LAC and children with SEND, including routes to escalate and clear referral and accountability systems
- Make sure that students are taught about safeguarding, including online safety
- Make sure that an appropriate senior member of staff is appointed as the designated safeguarding lead (DSL), and provide both line management and support
- Follow safer recruitment procedures to prevent people who pose a risk of harm to children from working with them; this includes section 128 checks on governors and school leaders in academies
- Monitor the single central record, with the DSL, to make sure the school carries out appropriate recruitment checks – this should be termly
- Supporting the LAB to develop its understanding of its safeguarding responsibilities and reporting back to the board about safeguarding issues and development.

Appendix E

SAFEGUARDING FILE TRANSFER RECORD AND RECEIPT

PART 1: To be completed by Ludlow CE School

Name of pupil	
DOB	
Ludlow School Address	Ludlow CE School, Bromfield Road, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1GJ
Method of delivery	BY HAND SECURE POST ELECRONTICALLY
Date file sent	
Ludlow School DSL	Lyn Hughes l.hughes@ludlowschool.com 01584 872691
Name of School and DSL transferring to	
Signature	

PART 2: To be completed by receiving school or college

Name of School and DSL transferring to	
Address	
Date received	
Name of person receiving file	
Date confirmation of receipt sent back to Ludlow School	
Signature	

Receiving School: Please complete Part 2 and return this form to Lyn Hughes, DSL, Ludlow CE School, Bromfield Road, Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 1GJ. You are advised to keep a copy for your own reference.

Appendix F

Definitions of abuse and neglect

Child abuse occurs throughout society and affects children of all ages. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm.

Physical abuse

Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child.

Physical harm may also be caused when a parent feigns the symptoms of, or deliberately causes, illness in a child. This is known as fabricated or induced illness.

Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent effects on the child's emotional development, and may involve:

- conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person
- imposing age or developmentally inappropriate expectations on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction
- seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another e.g. where there is domestic violence and abuse
- serious bullying (including cyber bullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger;
- exploiting and corrupting children.

Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, though it may occur alone.

Sexual abuse

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 (e.g. rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing.

Sexual abuse includes non-contact activities, such as: involving children in looking at or producing pornographic materials, 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 can take place online, and technology can be used to facilitate offline abuse. Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

Sexual abuse also includes abuse of children through sexual exploitation. Penetrative sex where one of the partners is under the age of 16 is illegal, although prosecution of similar age, consenting partners is not usual. However, where a child is under the age of 13 it is classified as rape.

Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development.

Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance misuse, maternal mental ill health or learning difficulties or a cluster of such issues.

Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent failing to:

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

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

These definitions are used when determining significant harm. Children can be affected by combinations of abuse and neglect, which may also be related to problems faced by the adults in the household such as domestic abuse.

Domestic abuse

Research analysing Serious Case Reviews has demonstrated a significant prevalence of domestic abuse in the history of families with children who are subject of Child Protection Plans. Children can be affected by seeing, hearing and living with domestic abuse and abuse as well as being caught up in any incidents directly, whether to protect someone or as a target.

It should also be noted that the age group of 16 and 17 year olds have been found in recent studies to be increasingly affected by domestic abuse in their peer relationships.

The Home Office definition of Domestic abuse was updated in March 2013 as:

"Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence and abuse between those aged 16 or over, who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender and sexuality.

This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse:

- *psychological*
- *physical*
- *sexual*
- *financial*
- *emotional*

Controlling behaviour is: *a range of acts designed to make a person subordinate and/or dependent by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance and escape and regulating their everyday behaviour.*

Coercive behaviour is: *an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten*

APPENDIX G

Shropshire Schools Hate-Related Incident Report Form

As part of the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under the Equality Act 2010, schools are requested to report prejudice/hate-related incidents to Shropshire Council. Completed forms may be submitted by email to *EducationImprovementService@shropshire.gov.uk*; by Fax to 01743 340034 or by post to *EIS, Shropshire Council, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND*. Reports can also be made verbally on 01743 254386.

Numbers of incidents reported and nature of those incidents are reported to the Hate Crime Reporting Sub-group. The information is used to help inform community-based interventions to counter the problems identified. Specific support at school can be offered on request.

School name

Section A: About the Incident/s

What do you think motivated this incident? (*indicate all relevant characteristics*)

- Race Religion / culture Sex Disability
 Sexual orientation Gender identity/presentation Age*
 Other (please define)

**age discrimination legislation does not apply to the treatment of pupils or provision of education.*

Section B: Tell us about the incident in your own words; giving as much detail as possible (please use a separate sheet if necessary):

When did the incident take place?

Time Day Date

Where did it happen?

Area of school / Street name or location if outside school / via electronic media (please give details below)

What happened?

What injuries were suffered (Physical? Emotional?) Please give details below:-

Was any property lost or damaged? Yes (If 'yes' please give details below) No

Frequency or duration of behaviour

- Once or twice Persisting over one school term
 Several times a week Persisting for more than a year

Section C: About the Victim

Is the victim Pupil Staff member Other adult Other child
 (Name of victim is not needed in this context) Sex M/F Is this same as birth? Y/N

If child - Year Group /Age

If adult - Age Group: 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-55 Over 55

Please indicate in the appropriate box how you would describe the victim:

Religion/belief

- Buddhist Rastafarian Don't know
 Christian Sikh
 Hindu Other
 Jewish No religion
 Muslim Prefer not to say

Sexual orientation

- Heterosexual
 Bisexual
 Gay/Lesbian
 Prefer not to say
 Don't know

Ethnicity

- White British White & Black Caribbean Any other black background
 White & Black African Indian Chinese
 White Irish Pakistani Any other ethnic background
 White & Asian Bangladeshi Prefer not to say
 Other white background Black Caribbean Don't know
 Any other mixed background Black African

Is the victim from a Gypsy or Traveller background?

- Yes No Don't know

Disability – please describe

Don't know

Section D: About the offender(s)

Details, with Year or age group/s if pupil/s; ethnicity; gender/gender identity; other relevant characteristics

(Name/s of offender/s not needed in this context)

If adult - Age Group:

16-24

25-34

35-44

45-55

Over 55

Role / reason for presence at school

If offender/s is/are unknown, can you describe them? (Consider height, ethnicity, build and clothing).

Section E: What now?

Details of actions agreed with everyone involved – including parents and carers where appropriate:

Outcomes of follow up

Section F: Details of person reporting (victim, witness or third party)

Form Completed by:

Role:

Date

Date this incident was reported to the authority:

Police involvement:

Does the person reporting / victim/parents or carers / school want the Police to investigate?

Yes No

The police will want to collect evidence i.e. photograph any injuries the victim has; look for fingerprints left by the offender or swab any areas where the suspect has touched. If you have any evidence, which may be of use to the police then please ring them and tell them **immediately**. Shropshire Police 24 hour telephone number is: **101**.

Authorisation:

Certain agencies can share de-personalised information without your consent. Do you agree to the information being passed to all the agencies involved in the local agency partnership? (The local agency partnership includes West Mercia Police, Shropshire Diversity Officer, Citizens Advice Shropshire and Victim Support Shropshire).

This is requested to help in assessing and countering the levels of hate crime in Shropshire.

Incident details only Yes No

Personal details Yes No

Signature Date

Follow-up – for any further interventions related to this incident (for School use – no additional formal reporting required).

If the behaviour does not stop after initial interventions, this space can be used to record additional steps being taken and outcomes for both victim and perpetrator:

Victim:-

Perpetrator:-

Appendix H

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

Duty to refer

In addition to informing Ofsted, the Designated Lead for Safeguarding or senior manager has a duty to refer any concerns to the LADO where it is alleged that a person who works* with children has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child - whether the alleged abuse occurred on or off the premises where the childcare takes place;
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child;
- Behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he/she is unsuitable to work with children, such as excessive one-to-one attention beyond the requirements of their usual role; or
- Displayed inappropriate behaviour, such as inappropriate sexual comments, inappropriate sharing of images, or displays violent or aggressive behaviour.

Responsibility would also include reporting applications to work or volunteer with children and young people from adults who are barred from doing so, as this poses a potential risk of significant harm to children and young people.

The LADO should be informed of ALL allegations that come to a Senior Manager's attention within 1 working day of the manager becoming aware of the allegation.

In cases where the nature of the allegation has not required immediate referral to the Compass or the Police, the Senior Manager and the LADO will decide jointly as to whether such a referral is necessary and who will make it.

The LADO should also be informed of any allegations that are made directly to the Police or Compass.

It is important that even apparently less serious allegations are seen to be followed up objectively by someone independent of the organisation concerned. Therefore, the LADO should be informed of ALL allegations that come to the employers' attention.

The role of the Local Authority Designated Officer

The LADO will advise the employer of any action that may be necessary, whether an investigation will take place, and if so, what form the investigation will take. It is their role to provide on-going advice and liaison and to monitor the progress of cases. This may include:

- Advising the employer on next steps, such as the need to inform the child's parents; advice on dismissal or suspension of the member of staff accused; the decision as to whether the case will be investigated and by whom.
- Regularly monitoring the progress of cases to ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible consistent with a fair and thorough process.
- Liaising with the employer to provide advice and support when required/requested.
- Oversight and management of individual cases.

If an allegation is substantiated and the employer dismisses the person or ceases to use that person's services, the employer should consult with the LADO about whether a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service is required.

Referral to the LADO should form part of your disciplinary and whistleblowing procedures.

The role of the setting's Designated Lead for Safeguarding

The Designated Lead for Safeguarding or the senior manager making the referral will be expected to play a key role in the investigative process and follow the advice given by the LADO. This may involve:

- Gathering any additional information which may have a bearing on the allegation, for instance: previous concerns, care and control incidents and so on;
- Providing the subject of the allegation with information and advising them to inform their union or professional body;
- Attending Strategy Meetings where required;
- Liaising with the LADO;
- Ensuring that risk assessments are undertaken where and when required;
- Ensuring that effective reporting and recording systems are in place which allow for the tracking of allegations through to the outcome;
- Should the allegation be unfounded, considering a referral either to Compass or the Police if the allegation is deemed to be deliberately malicious or invented.

Record-keeping

It is important that employers keep a clear and comprehensive summary of any allegations made, details of how the allegation was followed up and resolved. This record should be placed on the person's confidential personnel file with a copy given to the individual.

The record should be kept at least until the person reaches retirement or for ten years, if that would be longer.

The purpose of the record is to enable accurate information to be given in response to any future request for a reference.

Details of allegations that are found to be malicious should be removed from personnel records.

Further information

SSCP Inter Agency Child Protection Procedures - chapter 4.1 Managing Allegations against Adults Working with Children & Young People:

<https://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/ykpzy/statutory-child-protection-procedures/allegations-against-staff-or-volunteers>

*The term 'works with children' refers to any individual employed to work with children or acting in a voluntary capacity.