



## Windsor Academy Trust

### Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

<b>Responsible Committee:</b>	Windsor Academy Trust, Board of Directors
<b>Date revised by Board of Directors:</b>	June 2018
<b>Next review date:</b>	September 2018

# Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy Statement

- 1.1 Windsor Academy Trust (WAT) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all pupils by protecting children from maltreatment, preventing the impairment of health or development and by ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- 1.2 WAT is committed to meeting its moral and statutory responsibility, ensuring that robust procedures are in place, outlining the actions that it will take to prevent harm, to promote well-being, to create safe environments and to respond to specific issues and vulnerabilities. Safeguarding determines the actions taken to keep children safe and protect them from harm in all aspects of their school life to ensure that they have the best outcomes. This is underpinned by a culture of openness where both children and adults feel secure, able to talk, and believe that they are being listened to.
- 1.3 WAT maintains an attitude of 'it could happen here' and expects that all staff and volunteers share and demonstrate their commitment to protecting children. All academies are required to maintain a single central record to provide reassurance that all staff and volunteers are recruited safely.
- 1.4 WAT is committed to the following safeguarding key principles:-
  - Responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children is of paramount importance.
  - All children, regardless of age, gender, ability, culture, race, language, religion or sexual identity, have equal rights to protection.
  - All staff, volunteers, Local Advisory Body (LAB) Members and Directors must share this commitment.
  - All staff, volunteers, LAB Members and Directors have an equal responsibility to act on any suspicion or disclosure that may suggest a child is at risk of harm at home, in the community or in an academy.
  - When concerned about the welfare of a child, staff members are to always act in the interests of the child.
  - Students and staff involved in child protection issues will receive appropriate training and support.
- 1.5 WAT expects that each academy will follow the guidance and child protection procedures provided by their Local Safeguarding Children Board and Local Authority Children's Services departments. Crucially, there may be safeguarding issues that are specific to their local area and communities.
- 1.6 This policy outlining the local procedures for each of the academies across the Trust will be made available on the academy websites. They have been developed to ensure compliance with legislation including Section 175 the Education Act 2002, Section 11 of the Children's Act 2004, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 and Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016. All academies are expected to follow the escalation policy if they have concerns about the management of a case by Children and Social Care.

1.7 Child Protection and Safeguarding policy works in conjunction with other relevant policies in place at both Trust and at a local level, safeguarding the interests and welfare of children e.g. recruitment, anti-bullying, whistle blowing, health and safety, special education needs and disabilities and the single equality scheme.

## **2. Governance**

2.1 WAT has a designated Trustee that oversees the governance arrangements for Safeguarding and liaises with the Local Advisory Board's Designated Safeguarding Governors (DSG).

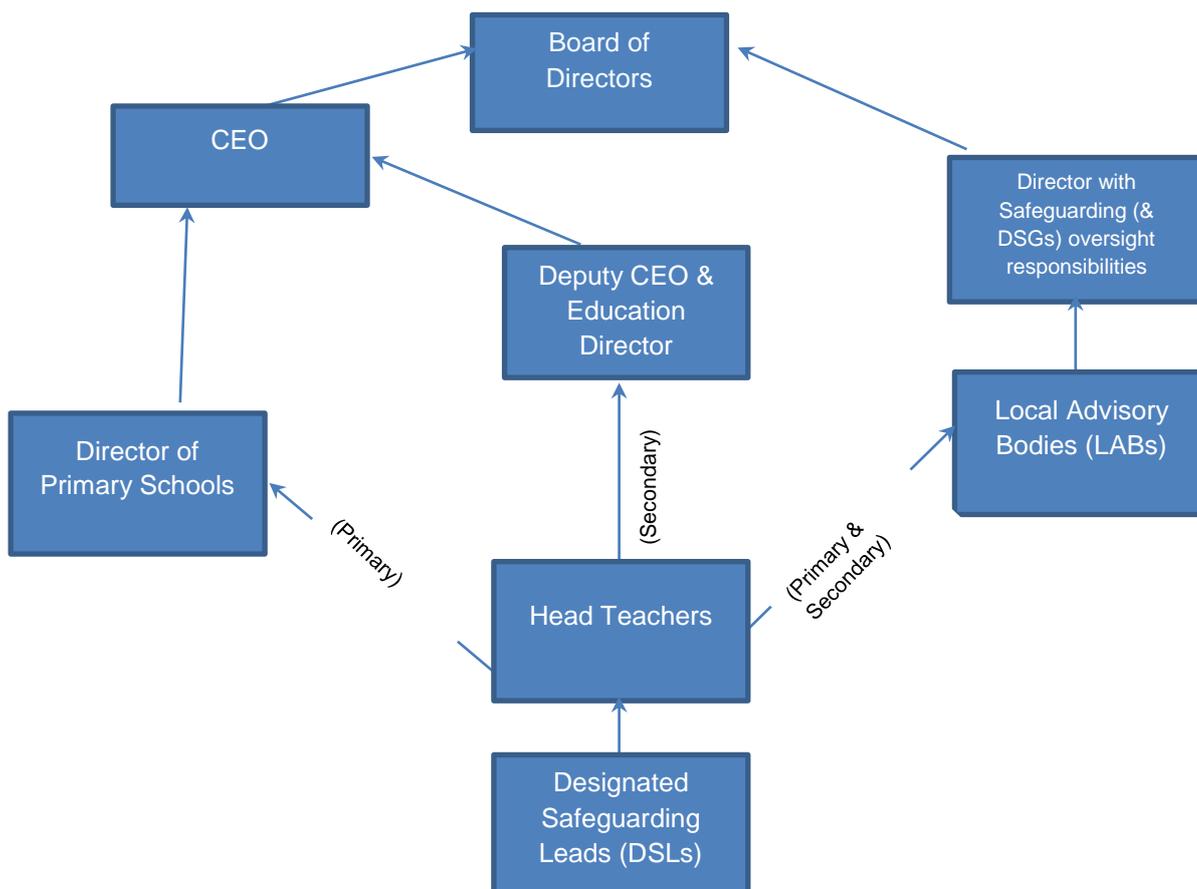
2.2 All academies are required to follow the Local Safeguarding Children Board's interagency policies and procedures and the Local Advisory Body are responsible for the implementation of the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy at school level. Safeguarding will be included on the agenda and monitored at every full Local Advisory Body meeting.

2.3 Each Local Advisory Body is required to have a DSG to provide feedback at full board meetings. The DSG meets regularly with the academy's Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) to highlight:

- Risks/vulnerabilities;
- Compliance issues;
- The effectiveness in the application of practices;
- Any lessons that can be shared; and
- Good/ best practice.

2.4 The DSL's across WAT are encouraged to meet and network, to pool expertise, knowledge and experience in the development and application of policies and procedures, to share good and to develop and embed best practices. This ensures that the core competences on child protection and safeguarding matters are being fully utilised, the DSLs network supports the development and growth of a centre of excellence on safeguarding matters across the Trust.

2.5 The supporting structural arrangements are illustrated in the following diagram:



### 3. Training

- 3.1 The DSL must complete regular safeguarding training to ensure that all staff are trained and up to date with policies and procedures. The DSL and any deputy DSLs should undergo training that provides them with the knowledge and skills needed to perform the role. This training should be updated as a minimum, every two years.
- 3.2 WAT will be assured that academies comply with training requirements as defined in Keeping Children Safe in Education. All staff must undergo safeguarding and child protection training at induction. This training should be updated on a regular basis and aligned to the advice from the local safeguarding children board (LSCB).

### 4. Supporting Systems and Practices

- 4.1 WAT will standardise systems and practices across the Trust for reporting to assist with the identification of Trust-wide concerns and patterns. Such systems should maximise the support for managing casework and facilitate more effective working arrangements with other agencies.
- 4.2 The Trust Executive will have security clearance and identity arrangements in place that will provide them with direct access to all of the academies within the Trust.

## **5. Quality Assurance**

5.1 Quality Assurance will be provided through:

- regular reports/updated from the DSLs to the Local Advisory Body DSGs.
- regular feedback from the Local Advisory Body's (DSGs) to the Trustee's Safeguarding Lead;
- internal reviews and visits (e.g. updates from Head teachers);
- peer reviews; and
- independent/external Safeguarding Reviews.

## **6. Policy Review**

6.1 The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy will be reviewed and agreed as a minimum on an annual basis. This may be more frequent if national guidance requires ensuring that key statutory requirements are incorporated.

## **7. Local Arrangements**

7.1 The following section contains each of the academy's local arrangements and procedures for Safeguarding and Child Protection.

## Windsor High School and Sixth Form

<b>Policy Tracker – Responsibility for monitoring this policy: Mr Morley</b> (Reviewed Annually or in response to changes in legislation or LSCB operating procedures)			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Reviewed By:</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Date Approved by the Local Advisory Body</b>
June 2018	Mr Morley	DSL	June 2018
June 2018	Mr Bevan	DSG	June 2018

<b>Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs)</b>	Mr Morley, Ms Rogers, Miss Sparrow, Mr Leathem-Pugh, Mr Jackson
<b>Headteacher</b>	Mr Lanckham
<b>Chair of the Local Advisory Body</b>	Mr Hunt
<b>Designated Safeguarding Governor (DSG)</b>	Mr Bevan
<b>Deputy DSL</b>	Ms Rogers, Miss Sparrow, Mr Leathem-Pugh, Mr Jackson
<b>Single Point of Contact (SPOC)</b>	Mr Morley
<b>Looked After Children Designated Teacher</b>	Mr Morley
<b>Designated Lead for E Safety</b>	Mr Morley

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## Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

### 1. Rationale

Children and young people have a fundamental right to be protected from harm. They have a right to expect academies to provide a safe and secure environment. It is a guiding principle of the law and child protection procedures that the protection and welfare of a child must always be the first priority. Failure to provide an effective response can have serious consequences for the child.

Safeguarding 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
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best life chances

Windsor High School and Sixth Form is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people both within the school environment and outside. Because of the day-to-day contact with children and young people, education staff are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in children's behaviour or their failure to develop. It is therefore important; 'to be alert to the possibility of abuse occurring, be aware of the procedures to be followed if you have suspicions and have the confidence to follow those procedures.' This policy applies to all staff, governors and volunteers working in the school.

#### **Definitions and Indicators of Abuse** (see page 16 onwards)

WAT recognises its legal duty under s.175/157 Education Act 2002 to work with other agencies in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and protecting them from "significant harm". The protection of our students from suffering or being likely to suffer significant harm is the responsibility of the school and wider community, superseding any other considerations. The following documents, circulars and guidance for good practice govern child protection work at Windsor High School and Sixth Form.

- Safeguarding Children Procedures [www.safeguarding.dudley.gov.uk](http://www.safeguarding.dudley.gov.uk)
- Dealing with a disclosure school guidance (*See Appendix 1*)
- Children Act 1989
- Children Act 2004
- Working together to safeguard children (DfE) March 2015
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (DfE) September 2016
- Guidance for Safer Working Practice for those working with Children and Young People in Education Settings (October 2015)
- What do you do if you are worried a child is being abused March 2015 (*See Appendix 2*)
- The Prevent Duty June 2015 (under section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015)
- Children missing in education and at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation

### 2. Prevention

The six main elements of the policy are:

- Ensuring we practise safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children
- Raising awareness of child protection issues and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe

- Implementing procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse
- Supporting students, who have been abused in accordance with his/her child protection plan
- Establishing a safe environment in which children can learn and develop
- Ensuring there are links with other safeguarding policies and practice; for example, physical intervention, anti-bullying, behaviour policy, attendance, medical conditions, first aid, intimate care, emergency evacuation, educational visits, sexual exploitation, sexting, disability, homophobic abuse, racism, domestic abuse, female genital mutilation, radicalisation and extremism. (Further guidance on these issues is available on the academy's website [windsor.windsoracademytrust.org.uk](http://windsor.windsoracademytrust.org.uk))

We recognise that high self-esteem, confidence, supportive friends and good lines of communication with a trusted adult help prevention. The school will therefore:

- Establish and maintain an environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk and are listened to
- Ensure children know that there are adults in the school, whom they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty
- Include in the curriculum, activities and opportunities, which equip children with the skills they need to stay safe from harm

### 3. Procedures

Windsor High School and Sixth Form will ensure that all staff follow the procedures set out by the Dudley Local Authority Safeguarding Children Board and take account of guidance issued by the Department for Education (DfE) to:

- Ensure we have a designated safeguarding lead for child protection, who has received appropriate training and support for this role. The formal training will be updated every 2 years. The DSL will be updated on a regular basis (at least annually) to keep up with current safeguarding developments and priorities.
- The designated safeguarding leads for Windsor High School and Sixth Form are:
  - 1) Mr Morley
  - 2) Ms Rogers
  - 3) Mr Leathem-Pugh
  - 4) Miss Sparrow
  - 5) Mr Jackson

(Child Protection issues can be very difficult to spot. If in doubt, it is always best to inform the relevant person, and allow them to make the decision about what further action is necessary. **If in doubt ask**).

- Ensure we have a Designated Safeguarding Governor (DSG) responsible for child protection. The DSG is Mr Bevan
- Ensure every member of staff (including temporary and supply staff and volunteers) and governing body members knows the name of the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) responsible for child protection and their role
- Ensure all staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated safeguarding lead responsible for child protection
- Ensure that parents have an understanding of the responsibility placed on the academy and staff for child protection; parents should be made aware of the policies and procedures
- Ensure that parents are aware that this policy is available on request and make the policy available on the Academy's website

- Develop effective links with relevant agencies and co-operate as required with their enquiries regarding child protection matters including attendance at child protection meetings
- Develop links with other agencies that support the child, such as Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, Education Investigation Service, Learning Support Service and Education Psychology Service
- Keep written records of concerns about children (noting date, event and action taken), even where there is no need to refer the matter to Social Services and other relevant agencies immediately
- Ensure all records are kept securely, separate from the main student file, and in locked locations
- Ensure that if a child, who has a child protection plan leaves, their information is transferred to the new school immediately and Social Care is informed
- Ensure that all staff are aware of what to do if there are concerns around a child. **Appendix 2 refers to What to do if you are concerned.** A copy of the interagency referral form that must be completed when making a referral can be accessed from the website: [www.safeguarding.dudley.gov.uk](http://www.safeguarding.dudley.gov.uk). The DSL should be consulted for completion of this form.

#### 4. Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead

The Local Advisory Body (LAB) have appointed Mr Morley as the Windsor High School and Sixth Form Designated Safeguarding Lead who is an appropriate senior member of staff, from the schools leadership team. The responsibilities are as follows:-

Refer all cases of suspected abuse to the local authority children's social care or the Police in cases where a crime may have been committed.

When any member of staff has concerns that a pupil may be at risk of radicalisation or involvement in terrorism, they should speak with the SPOC/Headteacher and DSL to support staff 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 (this is a role for senior members of staff only with the relevant authority).

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.

Liaise with the (Executive) Headteacher to inform them of issues especially ongoing enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police investigations/coordinating child protection activity.

Liaise with the LADO/MASH in the local authority for child protection concerns when there are cases which concern a staff member (this is a role for senior members of staff only with the relevant authority in school and cannot be undertaken by staff in pastoral roles such as Parent Support Advisers, Learning Mentors etc). This means when a case is ongoing and should not be confused with the right to follow the Trusts or NSPCC's Whistleblowing procedures.

Ensure each member of staff has access to and understands the academy's child protection and safeguarding policy and procedures, especially new and part time staff.

Be alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and young carers.

Ensure that this policy is reviewed annually and the procedures and implementation are updated and reviewed regularly, and work with governing bodies or proprietors regarding this.

Ensure that this 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 academy in this.

Where children leave the academy, ensure their child protection file is transferred to the new school as soon as possible. This should be transferred separately from the main pupil file, ensuring secure transit and confirmation of receipt should be obtained.

Encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings, among all staff, in any measures the school may put in place to protect them.

If the DSL is not available you must refer your concerns to someone else who is named as a deputy for this role.

## **Information Sharing, Confidentiality and Record Keeping**

Confidentiality is an issue, which needs to be discussed and fully understood by all those working with children, particularly in the context of Child Protection. Every effort should be made to ensure that confidentiality is maintained for all concerned. Information should be handled and disseminated on a need to know basis only.

Advice should be sought from the Social Care Team, who should approach the alleged abuser (or parents if the alleged abuser is a child).

Information will be stored in a secure place with restricted access to designated people and be maintained in line with data protection laws (e.g. that information is accurate, regularly updated, relevant and secure).

If a child who is subject to a child protection plan leaves, their information will be forwarded to the Designated Safeguarding Lead at the new school, in line with the government guidance on the transfer of such records.

### **5. The Responsibility of the Local Advisory Body (LAB)**

The Local Advisory Body (LAB) is the accountable body for ensuring the safety of the Academy.

The LAB will ensure there are appropriate policies and procedures in place in order for appropriate action to be taken in a timely manner to safeguard and promote children's welfare.

This should include:

- An effective child protection and safeguarding policy;
- A staff code of conduct which should amongst other things include - acceptable use of technologies, staff/pupil relationships and communications including the use of social media.

The LAB will ensure that Windsor High school and Sixth Form contributes to inter-agency working in line with statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015. Our Academy 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.

The LAB will ensure that the safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practice of the local authority. This includes the requirement under Section 175/Section 157 of the Education Act 2002 which placed a duty on:-

- The governing bodies of schools to have arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in place

- The Local Authority to monitor compliance of maintained schools

The LAB recognises the expertise staff build by undertaking safeguarding training and managing safeguarding concerns on a daily basis and all staff have the opportunity to contribute to and shape safeguarding arrangements and the child protection and safeguarding policy.

The LAB will ensure children are taught about safeguarding, including online, through teaching and learning opportunities, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum.

The LAB will ensure there are procedures in place to handle allegations against teachers, headteachers, principals, volunteers and other staff.

The LAB will ensure that all staff members undergo safeguarding and child protection training at induction. The training will be regularly updated and the induction and training will be in line with advice from Dudley Children's Safeguarding Board and Government Safeguarding documentation.

The LAB reviews its policies/procedures annually.

The DSG is responsible for liaising with the (Executive) Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Leads over all matters regarding safeguarding and child protection issues. The role is strategic rather than operational – they will not be involved in concerns about individual pupils/students.

A member of the Executive Team or the LAB is nominated to be responsible for liaising with the local authority and other partner agencies in the event of allegations of abuse being made against the (Executive) Headteacher.

## **6. The Role of the Designated Teacher for Looked After Children**

The designated teacher for looked after children at Windsor High School and Sixth Form is Mr Morley. They are responsible for promoting the educational achievement of children who are looked after. The designated teacher will work closely with the Virtual School Head, to ensure that pupil premium funding is best used to support the progress of the looked after child.

## **7. Safer Recruitment and Employment Practices**

Windsor High School and Sixth Form has created a culture of safe recruitment, and has adopted the Local Authority policy on recruitment procedures. Windsor High School and Sixth Form will follow the 'Safer Recruitment' processes for all appointments, which will include the following:

- Declaration of our statement of commitment and the intent to undertake a DBS check in the advertisement;

## **8. Statement of Commitment**

Windsor High School and Sixth Form is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All posts are subject to Enhanced DBS Clearance, Qualification and ID Checks."

- Ensuring that at least one member of the interview panel has attended Safer Recruitment Training
- Ensuring that references are gained before interview
- Ensuring that a safeguarding question is included in the interview
- Ensuring that any gaps in employment are explored at interview
- Undertake a DBS check\* at the relevant level to the position
- Ensuring that a prohibition check is carried out for anyone in 'teaching work', not just those with QTS

(\*An enhanced DBS check with barred list information will be appropriate for all staff as the majority of staff will be engaging in 'regulated activity'.)

If the academy has reason to believe that an individual is barred, it commits an offence if it allows the individual to carry out any form of regulated activity. There are penalties of up to five years in prison, if a barred individual is convicted of attempting to engage in such work.

All new appointments will have their identity verified from a current photographic ID and proof of address to obtain an enhanced DBS check with barred list information. The Academy will always ask for written information about previous employment history and check that the information is complete.

The academy does not have the power to request DBS checks for visitors (for example children's relatives visiting a sports day). On these occasions the (Executive) Headteacher will use their professional judgment on how best to supervise these occasions.

## **9. Whistleblowing**

All staff and volunteers are able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice and potential failures in the Academy's safeguarding regime and concerns will be taken seriously by the senior leadership team.

Appropriate whistleblowing procedures, which are suitably reflected in staff training and staff behaviour policies, are in place for such concerns to be raised with the schools senior leadership team.

Where a staff member feels unable to raise an issue or feels that their genuine concerns are not being addressed, other whistleblowing channels are open to them:

The NSPCC whistleblowing helpline is available for staff who do not feel able to raise concerns regarding child protection failures internally. Staff 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](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk).

## **10. Training and Development**

Windsor High School and Sixth Form will ensure that:

- All staff are kept up to date with Child Protection issues by formal training taking place regularly annually; online courses, external training and in-house training provided throughout the year
- Clear reminders of all procedures will be given out to all staff on the training day at the start of every academic year, with frequent reminders at teacher and teaching assistant meetings, meetings with lunchtime supervisors, training events, weekly staff briefings and subsequent training days
- The Designated Safeguarding Leads will take part in advanced level training (Core Working Together) at least every two years
- All policies and procedures will follow DFE guidance on Child Protection issues
- LAB members will be kept informed about procedures through the Child Protection Link Governor
- Good monitoring takes place of students identified as at risk
- The pastoral team (Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, SENCo and Assistant SENCo) works closely with outside agencies to share information and coordinate support for the student.

According to 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (2016), the (Executive) Headteacher and all other staff who work with children will undertake training to equip them to carry out their responsibilities for Child Protection effectively. This will be kept up to date by refresher training at regular intervals for all staff. A Training Record is kept for all adults working in contact with children.

## **11. Curriculum**

The LAB considers how children may be taught about safeguarding, including online, through teaching and learning opportunities, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum. This may include covering relevant issues through PSHCE, SRE, SMSC, British Values, e-safety, assemblies, approved visitors etc.

We will provide opportunities for pupils/students to develop skills, concepts, attitudes and knowledge that promote their safety and well-being. Relevant issues will be addressed through the PSHE curriculum, for example self-esteem, emotional literacy, assertiveness, power, sex and relationship education, e-safety and bullying. Issues will be addressed through other areas of the curriculum, for example, circle time, English, History, Drama, Art.

All policies which address issues of power and potential harm, for example bullying, equal opportunities, handling, positive behaviour, will be linked to ensure a whole school approach. The Child Protection and Safeguarding policy cannot be separated from the general ethos of the academy, which should ensure that pupils/students are treated with respect and dignity, taught to treat each other with respect, feel safe, have a voice, and are listened to.

## **12. Dealing with Concerns and Disclosures – Roles and Responsibilities**

All staff will be concerned about children and young people as below:-

- A child may disclose something that has upset or harmed them
- Someone else might report something that a child has told them, or that they believe that a child has been or is being harmed
- A child might show signs of physical injury for which there appears to be no explanation
- A child's behaviour may suggest he or she is being abused
- The behaviour or attitude of one of the workers towards a child may cause concern
- A child demonstrates worrying behaviour towards other children.

Staff are aware that to consult with the designated safeguarding lead does not mean a referral has been made. This decision is the responsibility of the designated safeguarding lead(s) for child protection who will contact the appropriate agency as and when required.

If you are unhappy with the response you receive from your designated safeguarding all staff have the right to contact Dudley Children's Services.

The academy will always discuss concerns with parents/carers 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
- Compromise any enquiries that need to be undertaken by children's social care or the police

Our academy will endeavour to ensure that parents have an understanding of the responsibilities placed on the school and staff for safeguarding children.

### **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD YOU LEAVE SCHOOL WITHOUT DISCUSSING YOUR CONCERNS WITH SOMEONE.**

Only a minority of children actively disclose abuse. Most child abuse is disclosed accidentally or through observation by an adult of a child's behaviour, words and physical appearance.

When a child does disclose abuse, this needs to be taken very seriously. It is important that any disclosure is dealt with appropriately, both for the wellbeing of the child and also to ensure that your actions do not jeopardise and legal action against the abuser.

## **13. Procedures for When Someone is Concerned About a Child or Young Person**

- The pastoral team (Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, SENCo and Assistant SENCo) works closely with outside agencies to share information and coordinate support for the student.
- All concerns for children and young people should be recorded using the academy's online recording system.
- All concerns should be recorded as soon as possible and shared with DSL( within one hour) all verbal conversations to be promptly recorded in writing on academy's on line system.
- All concerns should be referred to the designated safeguarding lead or deputy designated safeguarding lead in their absence.  
In Windsor High School and Sixth Form: concern forms are located in the Staffroom and can also be found on the school shared area. Records are stored in a locked filing cabinet located in the Lead DSL's office. The Lead DSL or Deputy DSL is alerted by means of: in person, email or telephone.
- All concerns of significant harm should be referred to the Local Authority Children's Services (MASH) without delay (see appendix 1)
- All concerns shared with the designated safeguarding lead should be considered alongside Dudley Safeguarding Children's Board Multi Agency thresholds (child protection, early Help offer).
- All concerns of allegations in relation to staff and volunteers harmful behaviour should be referred to the Executive Head Teacher/Head teacher (if the concern is in relation to the (Executive) Headteacher the Chair of LAB should be informed without delay) **for onward referral to LADO** See appendix 2.

#### **14. What Information Will You Need When Making a Referral**

You will be asked to provide as much information as possible; such as the child's full name, date of birth, address, school, GP, languages spoken any disabilities the child may have, details of the parents, other siblings, chronology of previous concerns.

Do not be concerned if you do not have all these details, you should still make the call.

#### **15. Responses From Parents**

Research and experience indicates that the following responses from parents may suggest a cause for concern across all categories of abuse:-

- Delay in seeking treatment that is obviously needed;
- Unawareness or denial of any injury, pain or loss of function (for example, a fractured limb);
- Incompatible explanations offered, several different explanations or the child is said to have acted in a way that is inappropriate to her/his age and development;
- Reluctance to give information or failure to mention other known relevant injuries;
- Frequent presentation of minor injuries;
- A persistently negative attitude towards the child;
- Unrealistic expectations or constant complaints about the child;
- Alcohol misuse or other drug/substance misuse;
- Parents request removal of the child from home; or
- Violence between adults in the household.

You should follow up the verbal referral in writing, within 24hrs. This should be done on a MARF (multi agency referral form). This can be downloaded from the [www.safeguarding.dudley.gov.uk](http://www.safeguarding.dudley.gov.uk) under Child Protection Procedures.

Call the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), Initial Response Team:

Tel: 0300 555 0050 Monday–Thursday 8.45am–5.15pm, Friday 8.45am–4.45pm Tel: 0300 555 8574  
Emergency Response Team

Some of our pupils may not reside within Dudley Local Authority and we are aware that we should locate the number for the child's Local Authority's child protection referral team

## 16. Staff Support

We recognise the stressful and traumatic nature of child protection work. We will support staff by providing an opportunity to talk through their anxieties with the Designated Safeguarding Lead and seek further support as appropriate.

## 17. Definitions and Indicators of Abuse

There are four types of child abuse. They are defined in the UK Government guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education; statutory guidance for schools and colleges, September 2016 as follows:

1. Physical Abuse
2. Emotional Abuse
3. Sexual Abuse
4. Neglect

**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.

All staff are aware of safeguarding issues and aware that behaviours linked to the likes of drug taking, alcohol abuse, truanting and sexting put children in danger.

### 17.1. Physical Abuse

A form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, 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.

The following may be indicators of physical abuse (this is not designed to be used as a checklist):

- Multiple bruises in clusters, or of uniform shape;
- Bruises that carry an imprint, such as a hand or a belt;
- Bite marks;
- Round burn marks;
- Multiple burn marks and burns on unusual areas of the body such as the back, shoulders or buttocks;
- An injury that is not consistent with the account given;
- Changing or different accounts of how an injury occurred;
- Bald patches;
- Symptoms of drug or alcohol intoxication or poisoning;
- Unaccountable covering of limbs, even in hot weather;
- Fear of going home or parents being contacted;
- Fear of medical help;
- Fear of changing for PE;
- Inexplicable fear of adults or over-compliance;
- Violence or aggression towards others including bullying; or
- Isolation from peers.

### 17.2. 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.

The following may be indicators of emotional abuse (this is not designed to be used as a checklist):

- The child consistently describes him/herself in very negative ways – as stupid, naughty, hopeless, ugly;
- Over-reaction to mistakes;
- Delayed physical, mental or emotional development;
- Sudden speech or sensory disorders;
- Inappropriate emotional responses, fantasies;
- Neurotic behaviour: rocking, banging head, regression, tics and twitches;
- Self harming, drug or solvent abuse;
- Fear of parents being contacted;
- Running away;
- Compulsive stealing;
- Appetite disorders - anorexia nervosa, bulimia; or
- Soiling, smearing faeces, enuresis.

N.B.: Some situations where children stop communication suddenly (known as "traumatic mutism") can indicate maltreatment.

### **17.3. 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.

The following may be indicators of sexual abuse (this is not designed to be used as a checklist):

Sexually explicit play or behaviour or age-inappropriate knowledge;  
Anal or vaginal discharge, soreness or scratching;  
Reluctance to go home;  
Inability to concentrate, tiredness;  
Refusal to communicate;  
Thrush, persistent complaints of stomach disorders or pains;  
Eating disorders, for example anorexia nervosa and bulimia;  
Attention seeking behaviour, self-mutilation, substance abuse;  
Aggressive behaviour including sexual harassment or molestation;  
Unusual compliance;  
Regressive behaviour, enuresis, soiling;  
Frequent or open masturbation, touching others inappropriately;  
Depression, withdrawal, isolation from peer group;  
Reluctance to undress for PE or swimming; or

Bruises or scratches in the genital area.

#### **17.4. 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.

The following may be indicators of neglect (this is not designed to be used as a checklist):

- Constant hunger;
- Stealing, scavenging and/or hoarding food;
- Frequent tiredness or listlessness;
- Frequently dirty or unkempt;
- Often poorly or inappropriately clad for the weather;
- Poor school attendance or often late for school;
- Poor concentration;
- Affection or attention seeking behaviour;
- Illnesses or injuries that are left untreated;
- Failure to achieve developmental milestones, for example growth, weight;
- Failure to develop intellectually or socially;
- Responsibility for activity that is not age appropriate such as cooking, ironing, caring for siblings;
- The child is regularly not collected or received from school; or
- The child is left at home alone or with inappropriate carers

#### **17.5. Domestic Abuse**

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or 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. This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse:

#### **17.6. Psychological, Physical, Sexual, Financial and 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 pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish or frighten their victim.

#### **17.7. Specific Safeguarding Issues**

You should also be aware of specific safeguarding issues, including:

children missing from education | missing children and adults | fabricated or induced illness | children missing from home or care | bullying / cyberbullying | relationship abuse | private fostering | forced

marriage | drugs | trafficking | faith abuse | hate | domestic violence | sexting | mental health issues | child sexual exploitation | preventing radicalisation | female genital mutilation | gender based violence | gangs / youth violence

### **17.7.1. Peer on Peer Abuse**

All staff are aware of safeguarding issues that can manifest themselves via peer on peer abuse. This is most likely to include, but not limited to: bullying (including cyber bullying), gender based violence/sexual assaults and sexting. This could, for example, include girls being sexually touched/assaulted or boys being subject to initiation/hazing type violence.

Staff are clear as to the school policy and procedures with regards to peer on peer abuse as defined in the anti-bullying, schools behaviour policy and broader child protection procedures.

Children and young people who abuse others will be responded to in a way that meets their needs as well as protecting others within the school community through a multi-agency risk assessment. We ensure that the needs of children and young people who abuse others will be considered separately from the needs of their victims.

Signs that a child may be suffering from peer-on-peer abuse can also overlap with those indicating other types of abuse and can include:

- Failing to attend school, disengaging from classes or struggling to carry out school related tasks to the standard ordinarily expected;
- Physical injuries;
- Experiencing difficulties with mental health and/or emotional wellbeing;
- Becoming withdrawn and/or shy; experiencing headaches, stomach aches, anxiety and/or panic attacks; suffering from nightmares or lack of sleep or sleeping too much;
- Broader changes in behaviour including alcohol or substance misuse;
- Changes in appearance and/or starting to act in a way that is not appropriate for the child's age;
- Abusive behaviour towards others.

Abuse affects children very differently. The above list is by no means exhaustive and the presence of one or more of these signs does not necessarily indicate abuse.

Where a child exhibits any behaviour that is out of character or abnormal for his/her age, staff should always consider whether an underlying concern is contributing to their behaviour (for example, whether the child is being harmed or abused by their peers) and, if so, what the concern is and how the child can be supported going forwards.

### **17.7.2. Child Sexual Exploitation**

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people receive something (for example food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, gifts, money or in some cases simply affection) as a result of engaging in sexual activities. Sexual exploitation can take many forms ranging from the seemingly 'consensual' relationship where sex is exchanged for affection or gifts, to serious organised crime by gangs and groups. What marks out exploitation is an imbalance of power in the relationship. The perpetrator always holds some kind of power over the victim which increases as the exploitative relationship develops. Sexual exploitation involves varying degrees of coercion, intimidation or enticement, including unwanted pressure from peers to have sex, sexual bullying including cyberbullying and grooming. However, it is also important to recognise that some young people who are being sexually exploited do not exhibit any external signs of this abuse.

The presence of any significant indicator for sexual exploitation should trigger a referral to children's social care. The significant indicators are:

- Having a relationship of concern with a controlling adult or young person (this may involve physical and/or emotional abuse and/or gang activity);
- Entering and/or leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults;
- Possessing unexplained amounts of money, expensive clothes or other items;
- Frequenting areas known for risky activities;
- Being groomed or abused via the Internet and mobile technology; and
- Having unexplained contact with hotels, taxi companies or fast food outlets.

Please refer to LOCAL Safeguarding Children Board procedures to consider completion of the screening tool and/or NWG risk assessment.

[www.wlscb.org.uk](http://www.wlscb.org.uk)

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/279511/step\\_by\\_step\\_guide.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/279511/step_by_step_guide.pdf)

### **17.7.3. Honour Based Abuse/ Violence**

So-called 'honour-based' violence (HBV) encompasses 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 HBV are abuse (regardless of the motivation) and should be handled and escalated as such. If in any doubts staff should speak to the designated safeguarding lead.

### **17.7.4. Female Genital Mutilation**

Female Genital Mutilation (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. Professionals in all agencies, and individuals and groups in relevant communities, need to be alert to the possibility of a girl being at risk of FGM, or already having suffered FGM.

Mandatory reporting commenced in October 2015; where a teacher discovers that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl who is aged under 18, there will be a statutory duty upon that individual to report it to the police. Section 5B of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 places a statutory duty upon teachers, along with social workers and healthcare professionals, 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. Teachers must 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 still consider and discuss any such case with the school's designated safeguarding lead and involve children's social care as appropriate.

A girl at immediate risk of FGM may not know what's going to happen. But she might talk about or you may become aware of:

- A long holiday abroad or going 'home' to visit family
- Relative or cutter visiting from abroad
- A special occasion or ceremony to 'become a woman' or get ready for marriage
- A female relative being cut – a sister, cousin, or an older female relative such as a mother or aunt
- Unexpected, repeated or prolonged absence from school.
- Academic work suffering.

She may have difficulty walking, standing or sitting

- Spend longer in the bathroom or toilet
- Appear withdrawn, anxious or depressed
- Have unusual behaviour after an absence from school or college
- Be particularly reluctant to undergo normal medical examinations
- Ask for help, but may not be explicit about the problem due to embarrassment or fear.

### **17.7.5. Breast Ironing**

#### **What is breast ironing?**

Breast Ironing is practiced in some African countries, notably Cameroon. Girls aged between 9 and 15 have hot pestles, stones or other implements rubbed on their developing breast to stop them growing further. In the vast majority of cases breast ironing is carried out by mothers or grandmothers and the men in the family are unaware. Estimates range between 25% and 50% of girls in Cameroon are affected by breast ironing, affecting up to 3.8 million women across Africa.

#### **Why does breast ironing happen?**

The practice of breast ironing is seen as a protection to girls by making them seem 'child-like' for longer and reduce the likelihood of pregnancy. Once girls' breasts have developed, they are at risk of sexual harassment, rape, forced marriage and kidnapping; consequently, breast ironing is more prevalent in cities. Cameroon has one of the highest rates of literacy in Africa and ensuring that girls remain in education is seen as an important outcome of breast ironing.

#### **Breast ironing is physical abuse**

Breast ironing is a form of physical abuse that has been condemned by the United Nations and identified as Gender-based Violence. Although, countries where breast ironing is prevalent have ratified the African Charter on Human Rights to prevent harmful traditional practices, it is not against the law.

Breast ironing does not stop the breasts from growing, but development can be slowed down. Damage caused by the 'ironing' can leave women with malformed breasts, difficulty breastfeeding or producing milk, severe chest pains, infections and abscesses. In some cases, it may be related to the onset of breast cancer.

#### **Breast Ironing in the UK**

Concerns have been raised that breast ironing is also to be found amongst African communities in the UK, with as many as a 1,000 girls at risk. Keeping Children Safe in Education (2016) mentions breast ironing on page 54, as part of the section on so-called 'Honour Violence'. Staff worried about the risk of breast ironing in their school should speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead as soon as possible. Schools need to know the risk level within their communities and tackle the risk as appropriate.

### **17.7.6. Forced Marriage**

A forced marriage is where one or both people do not (or in cases of people with learning disabilities, cannot) consent to the marriage and pressure or abuse is used. In the UK it is recognised as a form of violence against women and men, domestic/child abuse and a serious abuse of human rights. Honour based violence can be described as a collection of practices, which are used to control behaviour within families or other social groups to protect perceived cultural and religious beliefs and/or honour. Such violence can occur when perpetrators perceive that a relative has shamed the family and/or community by breaking their honour/izzat code. Staff have been briefed on the indicators of possible forced marriage and honour based violence and will refer any concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead immediately

### **17.8. Extended School and Off Site Arrangements**

Where extended school activities are provided by and managed by the school, our own child

protection policy and procedures apply. If other organisations provide services or activities on our site the school will undertake checks to ensure that they provide adequate safeguarding arrangements. When pupils attend off-site activities, including day and residential visits and work related activities, the school will ensure that the proprietors of the activity/venue operate safe practices to maintain the safety of our children/young people and liaise with investigating agencies in the locality relevant to where the concern has taken place.

### **17.9. 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.

A child going missing from education is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect. School and college staff should follow the school's or college's procedures for dealing with children that 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 their going missing in future.

The academy has in place appropriate safeguarding policies, procedures and responses for children who go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions.

The academy will inform the local authority of any pupil who is going to be deleted from the admission register where they:

- Have been taken out of the academy by their parents and are being educated outside the school system e.g. home education;
- Have ceased to attend the academy and no longer live within reasonable distance of the school at which they are registered;
- Have been certified by the academy medical officer as unlikely to be in a fit state of health to attend the academy before ceasing to be of compulsory school age, and neither he/she nor his/her parent has indicated the intention to continue to attend the academy after ceasing to be of compulsory school age;
- Are in custody for a period of more than four months due to a final court order and the proprietor does not reasonably believe they will be returning to the academy at the end of that period; or,
- Have been permanently excluded.

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.

The academy will inform the local authority of any pupil who fails to attend the academy regularly, or has been absent without the academy'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.

### **17.10. Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

Children with special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities can face additional safeguarding challenges. Staff in our academy recognise that additional barriers can exist when recognising abuse and neglect in this group of children. This 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 can be disproportionately impacted by things like bullying- without outwardly showing any signs; and
- Communication barriers and difficulties in overcoming these barriers.

When working with children with disabilities, practitioners need to be aware that additional possible indicators of abuse and/or neglect may also include:

- A bruise in a site that might not be of concern on an ambulant child such as the shin, might be of concern on a non-mobile child;
- Not getting enough help with feeding leading to malnourishment;
- Poor toileting arrangements;
- Lack of stimulation;
- Unjustified and/or excessive use of restraint;
- Rough handling, extreme behaviour modification such as deprivation of medication, food or clothing, disabling wheelchair batteries;
- Unwillingness to try to learn a child's means of communication;
- Ill-fitting equipment. for example callipers, sleep boards, inappropriate splinting;
- Misappropriation of a child's finances; or
- Inappropriate invasive procedures.

### **17.11. Sexting**

Electronic forms of communication have developed rapidly in recent years and the vast majority of children have access to a computer and or mobile phone. Children are frequently exposed to internet abuse including sexual abuse and bullying by phone is on the increase. Any child thought to be the victim of such abuse should therefore be regarded as in need of protection.

### **17.12. Prevent Strategy (Radicalisation and Extremism)**

Windsor High School and Sixth Form is actively involved in the Prevent strategy. The academy has a part to play in fostering shared values and promoting cohesion. Extremist ideology runs counter to the academy and British values. Therefore our community aims to successfully promote respect and tolerance for others, the rights of all to live and study free from persecution of any kind, freedom of speech, democracy, the rule of law and equality of opportunity and treatment. Extremism promotes fear and division and actively seeks to cause destructive relationships between different communities. Our academy strategy for preventing extremism has five key objectives:

1. To promote and reinforce school and British values; to create space for free and open debate; listen and support the learner voice and enable students to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence.
2. To promote social cohesion by supporting inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue and understanding, and to engage all students in playing a full and active role in wider engagement in society.
3. To ensure student safety and that the school is free from bullying, harassment and discrimination.
4. To provide support for students who may be at risk and offer appropriate sources of advice and guidance.
5. To ensure that students and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in preventing terrorism and radicalisation.

**LOCAL** values freedom of speech and the expression of beliefs/ ideology as fundamental rights underpinning our society's values. Both pupils/students and teachers have the right to speak freely and voice their opinions. However, freedom comes with responsibility and free speech that is designed to manipulate the vulnerable or that leads to violence and harm of others goes against the moral principles in which freedom of speech is valued. Free speech is not an unqualified privilege; it is subject to laws and policies governing equality, human rights, community safety and community cohesion.

Our academy, like all others, is required to identify a Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC) who will be the lead within the organisation for safeguarding in relation to protecting individuals from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism: this will normally be the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

**The SPOC for Windsor High School and Sixth Form is Mr Morley.** The responsibilities of the SPOC are described on page 25.

### **Indicators of Vulnerability to Radicalisation**

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

Extremism is defined by the Government in the Prevent Strategy as:

Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

Extremism is defined by the Crown Prosecution Service as:

The demonstration of unacceptable behaviour by using any means or medium to express views, which:

- Encourage, justify or glorify terrorist violence in furtherance of particular beliefs
- Seek to provoke others to terrorist acts
- Encourage other serious criminal activity or seek to provoke others to serious criminal acts, or
- Foster hatred which might lead to inter-community violence in the UK

There is no such thing as a “typical extremist”: those who become involved in extremist actions come from a range of backgrounds and experiences, and most individuals, even those who hold radical views, do not become involved in violent extremist activity.

Students may become susceptible to radicalisation through a range of social, personal and environmental factors - it is known that violent extremists exploit vulnerabilities in individuals to drive a wedge between them and their families and communities. It is vital that academy staff are able to recognise those vulnerabilities.

Indicators of vulnerability include:

- Identity Crisis – the student is distanced from their cultural / religious heritage and experiences discomfort about their place in society
- Personal Crisis – the student may be experiencing family tensions; a sense of isolation; and low self-esteem; they may have dissociated from their existing friendship group and become involved with a new and different group of friends; they may be searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging
- Personal Circumstances – migration; local community tensions; and events affecting the student’s country or region of origin may contribute to a sense of grievance that is triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination or aspects of Government policy
- Unmet Aspirations – the student may have perceptions of injustice; a feeling of failure; rejection of civic life
- Experiences of Criminality – which may include involvement with criminal groups, imprisonment, and poor resettlement / reintegration
- Special Educational Need – students may experience difficulties with social interaction, empathy with others, understanding the consequences of their actions and awareness of the motivations of others

However, this list is not exhaustive, nor does it mean that all young people experiencing the above are at risk of radicalisation for the purposes of violent extremism.

More critical risk factors could include:

- Being in contact with extremist recruiters
- Accessing violent extremist websites, especially those with a social networking element
- Possessing or accessing violent extremist literature
- Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage
- Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues
- Joining or seeking to join extremist organisations; and
- Significant changes to appearance and / or behaviour
- Experiencing a high level of social isolation resulting in issues of identity crisis and / or personal crisis

## **Preventing Violent Extremism - Roles and Responsibilities of the Single Point of Contact (SPOC)**

The SPOC is responsible for:

- Ensuring that staff of the school are aware of who is the SPOC in relation to protecting students from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism
- Maintaining and applying a good understanding of the relevant guidance in relation to preventing students from becoming involved in terrorism, and protecting them from radicalisation by those who support terrorism or forms of extremism which lead to terrorism
- Raising awareness about the role and responsibilities of the school in relation to protecting students from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism
- Monitoring the effect in practice of the academy's RE curriculum and assembly policy to ensure that they are used to promote community cohesion and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs
- Raising awareness within the school about the safeguarding processes relating to protecting students from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism
- Acting as the first point of contact within the school for case discussions relating to students who may be at risk of radicalisation or involved in terrorism
- Collating relevant information from/ in relation to referrals of vulnerable students into the Channel\*\* process
- attending Channel\*\* meetings as necessary and carrying out any actions as agreed
- Reporting progress on actions to the Channel\*\* Co-ordinator, and
- Sharing any relevant additional information in a timely manner.

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 was published on 12th March 2015. Section 26 of the Act places a duty on schools in England (and Wales) to prevent people being drawn into terrorism. Schools leaders (including governors) must:

- Establish or use existing mechanisms for understanding the risk of extremism
- Ensure staff understand the risk and build capabilities to deal with it
- Communicate and promote the importance of the duty
- Ensure staff implement the duty effectively

Duties on schools include:

- Effective partnership working with other local agencies, eg. LSCB, police, health, etc.
- Information sharing
- Maintaining appropriate records
- Assessing local risk of extremism (including Far Right extremism)
- Demonstrating they are protecting children
- Developing clear protocols for visiting speakers
- Safeguarding policies that take account of LSCB policies and procedures
- Training staff to give them knowledge and confidence
- Ensuring there is robust ICT protocols that filter out extremist materials
- School buildings must not be used to give a platform to extremist.

\*\* Channel is a multi-agency approach to provide support to individuals, who are at risk of being drawn into terrorist related activity. It is led by the West Midlands Police Counter-Terrorism Unit, and it aims to:

- Establish an effective multi-agency referral and intervention process to identify vulnerable individuals
- Safeguard individuals who might be vulnerable to being radicalised, so that they are not at risk of being drawn into terrorist-related activity
- Provide early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risks they face and reduce vulnerability

### **17.13. Private Fostering Arrangements**

A private fostering arrangement is essentially one that is made privately (that is to say 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 with the intention that it should last for 28 days or more. Private foster carers may be from the extended family, such as a cousin or great aunt. However, a person who is a relative under the Children Act 1989 i.e. a grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt (whether of the full or half blood or by marriage) or step-parent will not be a private foster carer. A private foster carer may be a friend of the family, the parent of a friend of the child, or someone previously unknown to the child's family who is willing to privately foster a child. The private foster carer becomes responsible for providing the day to day care of the child in a way which will promote and safeguard his welfare. Overarching responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the privately fostered child remains with the parent or other person with parental responsibility. Local authorities do not formally approve or register private foster carers. However, it is the duty of local authorities to satisfy themselves that the welfare of children who are, or will be, privately fostered within their area is being, or will be, satisfactorily safeguarded and promoted. It is the local authority in whose area the privately fostered child resides which has legal duties in respect of that child.

#### **There is a mandatory duty to inform local authority of children in private fostering arrangements.**

All staff in our school will inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead of any children that fall into the category of private fostering.

### **17.14. Childhood Mental Health**

Mental illness and suicidal thoughts can affect anyone, of any age, of any background, at any time. Like with physical illnesses, people don't choose to have a mental health problem.

It can be difficult to know if a child is suffering as they often keep it to themselves.

Some characteristics for childhood mental health may be:-

Becoming withdrawn from family and friends  
Persistent low moods and unhappiness  
Tearfulness and irritability  
Worries that stop them carrying out day to day tasks  
Sudden outbursts of anger directed toward others or themselves  
Loss of interest in activities that they used to enjoy  
Problems eating and sleeping

Any member of staff or volunteer who suspects a child or young person is suffering mental health should record, consult and share their concerns with the DSL.

Further advice can be found via:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/508847/Mental\\_Health\\_and\\_Behaviour - advice for Schools 160316.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508847/Mental_Health_and_Behaviour_-_advice_for_Schools_160316.pdf)

### **17.15. Online Safety**

We endeavour to ensure appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place. Our Children are taught about safeguarding, including online, through teaching and learning opportunities, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum. This may include covering relevant issues through personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE) and sex and relationship education (SRE).

Whilst we ensure that appropriate filters and monitoring systems are in place, we are mindful that “over blocking” does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what children can be taught with regards to online teaching and safeguarding.

### **18. Training opportunities**

Safeguarding in Education (was Child Protection training level 1) is run at the start of each term. WRAP training is run once each academic year.

### **19. Useful Numbers**

(Relevant contact details are displayed on posters around the school)

Dudley Single Point of Access/MASH:	0300 555 0050 <a href="mailto:childrensMASH@dudley.gcsx.gov.uk">mailto:childrensMASH@dudley.gcsx.gov.uk</a>
Emergency Duty Team	0300 555 8574
Local Authority Designated Officer:	Yvonne Nelson Brown <a href="mailto:Yvonne.nelson-brown@dudley.gov.uk">Yvonne.nelson-brown@dudley.gov.uk</a> 01384 813110
Police	101 or 999 in an emergency (requesting West Midlands Police)
Child Abuse Investigation Unit	Brierley Hill Police Station - 0845 113 5000
Local Authority Prevent Officer	Matt Dyson – 07825 862128 or 814736 <a href="mailto:prevent_inbox@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk">prevent_inbox@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk</a>

### **20. Implementation, Review and Monitoring**

Implementation will take place by ensuring this policy is discussed at the full LAB meeting and ensuring all staff are made aware of its existence.

This Policy will be monitored and reviewed on an annual basis and whenever significant changes to legislation, guidance or changes to local procedures require it. The cover page of this policy states the dates of review ratification by the LAB.

## Appendix 1

### Dealing with a Disclosure of Abuse

#### When a child tells me about abuse s/he has suffered, what must I remember?

- Stay calm.
- Do not communicate shock, anger or embarrassment.
- Reassure the child. Tell her/him you are pleased that s/he is speaking to you.
- Never enter into a pact of secrecy with the child. Assure her/him that you will try to help but let the child know that you will have to tell other people in order to do this. State who this will be and why.
- Tell her/him that you believe them. Children very rarely lie about abuse; but s/he may have tried to tell others and not been heard or believed.
- Tell the child that it is not her/his fault.
- Encourage the child to talk but do not ask "leading questions" or press for information.
- Listen and remember.
- Check that you have understood correctly what the child is trying to tell you.
- Praise the child for telling you. Communicate that s/he has a right to be safe and protected.
- Do not tell the child that what s/he experienced is dirty, naughty or bad.
- It is inappropriate to make any comments about the alleged offender.
- Be aware that the child may retract what s/he has told you. It is essential to record all you have heard.
- At the end of the conversation, tell the child again who you are going to tell and why that person or those people need to know.
- As soon as you can afterwards, make a detailed record of the conversation using the child's own language. Include any questions you may have asked. Do not add any opinions or interpretations. (See *Appendix 3 Reporting form – printed on yellow for a general concern, red for urgent /serious concern*)

**NB** It is not education staff's role to seek disclosures. Their role is to observe that something may be wrong, ask about it, listen, be available and try to make time to talk.

#### Immediately afterwards

**You must not deal with this yourself.** Clear indications or disclosure of abuse must be reported to children's social care without delay, by the Designated Safeguarding Lead or the Headteacher.

Complete the reporting form (*Appendix 3*) available in your safeguarding box / staff room noticeboard and hand it directly to the appropriate person. **Do not** leave it in their pigeon hole or on their desk for them to 'find'. It may be urgent and require an immediate response.

Children making a disclosure may do so with difficulty, having chosen carefully to whom they will speak. Listening to and supporting a child/young person who has been abused can be traumatic for the adults involved. Support for you will be available from your Designated Safeguarding Lead or Headteacher.

## Appendix 2

### What to do if you are concerned:

#### (Concerns outside the immediate environment (e.g. a parent or carer))

- Report your concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, who should contact Social Care Team or the Police as soon as possible.
- If the Designated Safeguarding Lead is not available, then the Head Teacher or the person currently responsible for the school should be informed. (This is to ensure there is no delay in seeking advice or making a referral).
- Social Care Team and the Designated Safeguarding Lead will decide how to involve the parents/carers. Parents should not be informed if to do so would 'increase risk to the child'.
- Maintain confidentiality on a **need to know** basis only.

#### Information for social care or the police about suspected abuse

To ensure that this information is as helpful as possible, a detailed record should always be made at the time of the disclosure/concern, which should include the following:

- The reasons for your concern
- Full name and date of birth of the child
- Names and dates of birth of the child's family/household members
- Other agencies/professionals involved with the family
- The child's first language and any special needs
- The child's developmental needs, family and environmental factors and parenting capacity
- Any work you may have already undertaken with the child and family

All incidents will be reported on an Inter-Agency Referral form, by the Designated Safeguarding Lead, to the Single Point of Access Team at [childrensMASH@dudley.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:childrensMASH@dudley.gcsx.gov.uk)

#### Responding to allegations or suspicions (about someone working with children or young people)

It is not the responsibility of anyone working within Windsor High School and Sixth Form in a paid or unpaid capacity to decide whether or not child abuse has taken place. However, there is a responsibility to act on any concerns by reporting these to the appropriate officer or the appropriate authorities.

Windsor High School and Sixth Form will ensure all staff/volunteers that it will fully support and protect anyone, who in good faith reports his or her concern that a colleague is, or may be, abusing a child.

All allegations or suspicions of abuse will be taken seriously and treated in accordance with these procedures. They will be applied when there is an allegation or concern that any person, who works with children, in connection with their employment, voluntary or personal activity, has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against, or related to a child
- Behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates they are likely to pose a risk of harm to children

These behaviours will be considered within the context of the four categories of abuse (i.e. physical, sexual and emotional abuse and neglect). This includes concerns relating to inappropriate relationships between members of staff and children or young people, for example:

- Having a sexual relationship with a child under 18 if in a position of trust in respect of that child, even if consensual (s16-19 *Sexual Offences Act 2003*)
- 'Grooming', i.e. meeting a child under 16 with intent to commit a relevant offence (s15 *Sexual Offences Act 2003*)
- Other 'grooming' behaviour giving rise to concerns of a broader child protection nature (e.g. inappropriate text/email messages or images, gifts, socializing. etc.)

- Possession of sexual images of children/pseudo-photographs of children

The definition of working with children includes paid and unpaid staff, volunteers and carers (including foster and adoptive carers). It may include everyone, who works Windsor High School and Sixth Form including administrative and other support staff.

### **Action if there are concerns**

Concerns about poor practice:

- If, following consideration, the allegation is clearly about poor practice, the Headteacher will deal with it as a misconduct issue.
- If the allegation is about poor practice by the Designated Safeguarding Lead, or if the matter has been handled inadequately and concerns remain, it should be reported to the Headteacher/Chair of Governors who will decide on whether disciplinary action should be taken and the next steps to take.

Concerns about suspected abuse:

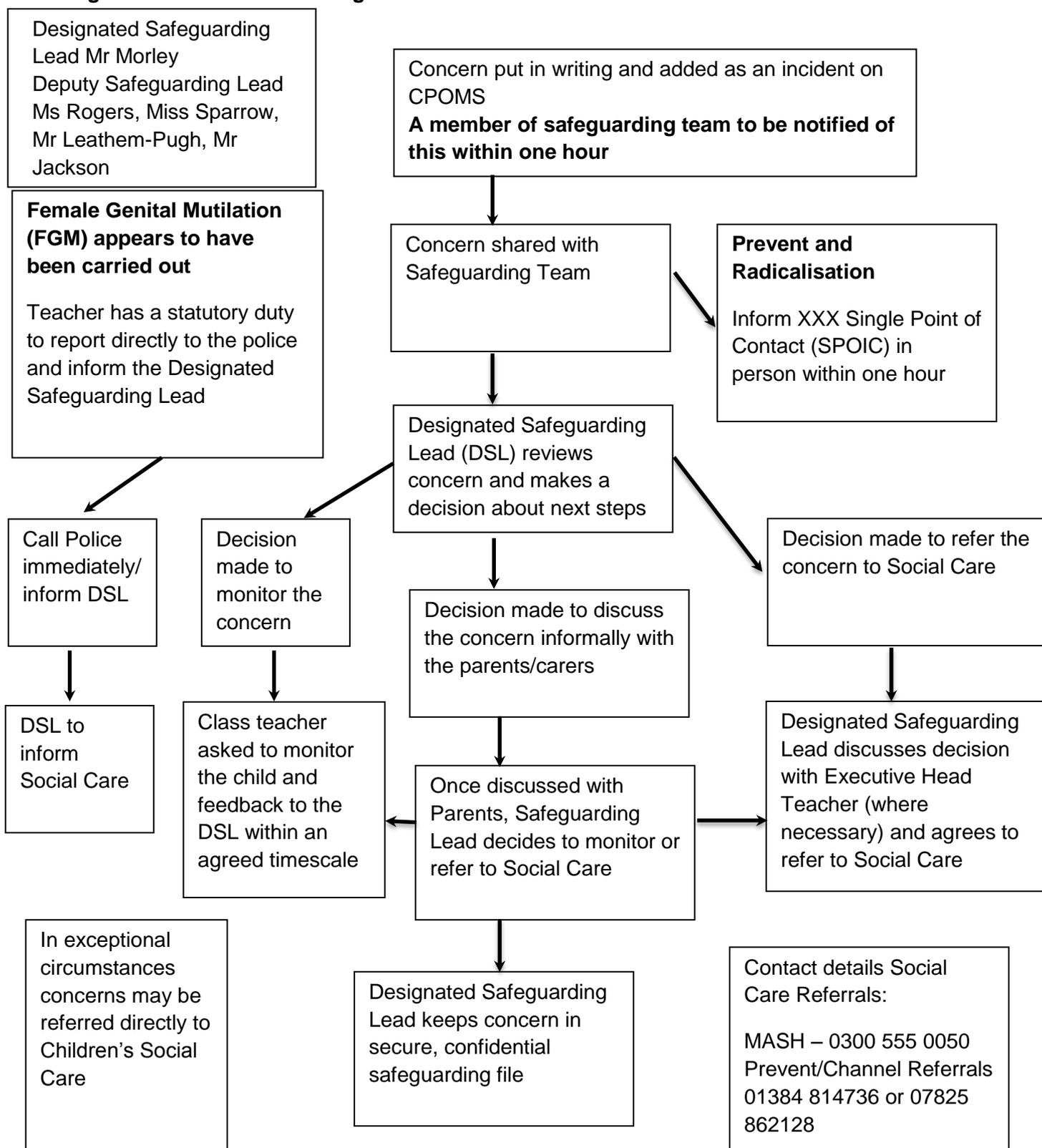
- Any suspicion that a child has been abused by either a member of staff or a volunteer must be reported to the (Executive) Headteacher, who will take such steps as considered necessary to ensure the safety of the child in question and any other child who may be at risk.
- The (Executive) Headteacher will refer the allegation to the Social Care Team who may involve the Police. All allegations against people who work with children must be passed onto the DO (Designated Officer for Managing Allegations).
- The parents or carers of the child will be contacted as soon as possible following advice from the Social Care Team.
- If the Designated Safeguarding Lead is the subject of the suspicion/allegation, the concern must be shared with the (Executive) Headteacher. If the Headteacher is the subject of the concern/allegation, the concern must be shared with the Chair of the LAB. The Chair of the LAB will liaise with the Designated Officer for Managing Allegations and HR.

### **Internal Enquiries and Suspension**

- The Headteacher will liaise with the Chair of the LAB and make an immediate decision about whether any individual accused of abuse should be temporarily suspended pending further police and social care inquiries. Advice can also be sought from the Head of Human Resources and the DO (Designated Officer for Managing Allegations).
- Irrespective of the findings of the Social Care Team or Police inquiries the (Executive) Headteacher/Chair of LAB will assess all individual cases to decide whether an individual can be reinstated and how this can be sensitively handled. This may be a difficult decision; particularly where there is insufficient evidence to uphold any action by the police. In such cases, the Chair of LAB and (Executive) Headteacher must reach a decision based upon the available information which could suggest that on a balance of probability; it is more likely than not that the allegation is true. The welfare of the child should remain of paramount importance throughout.

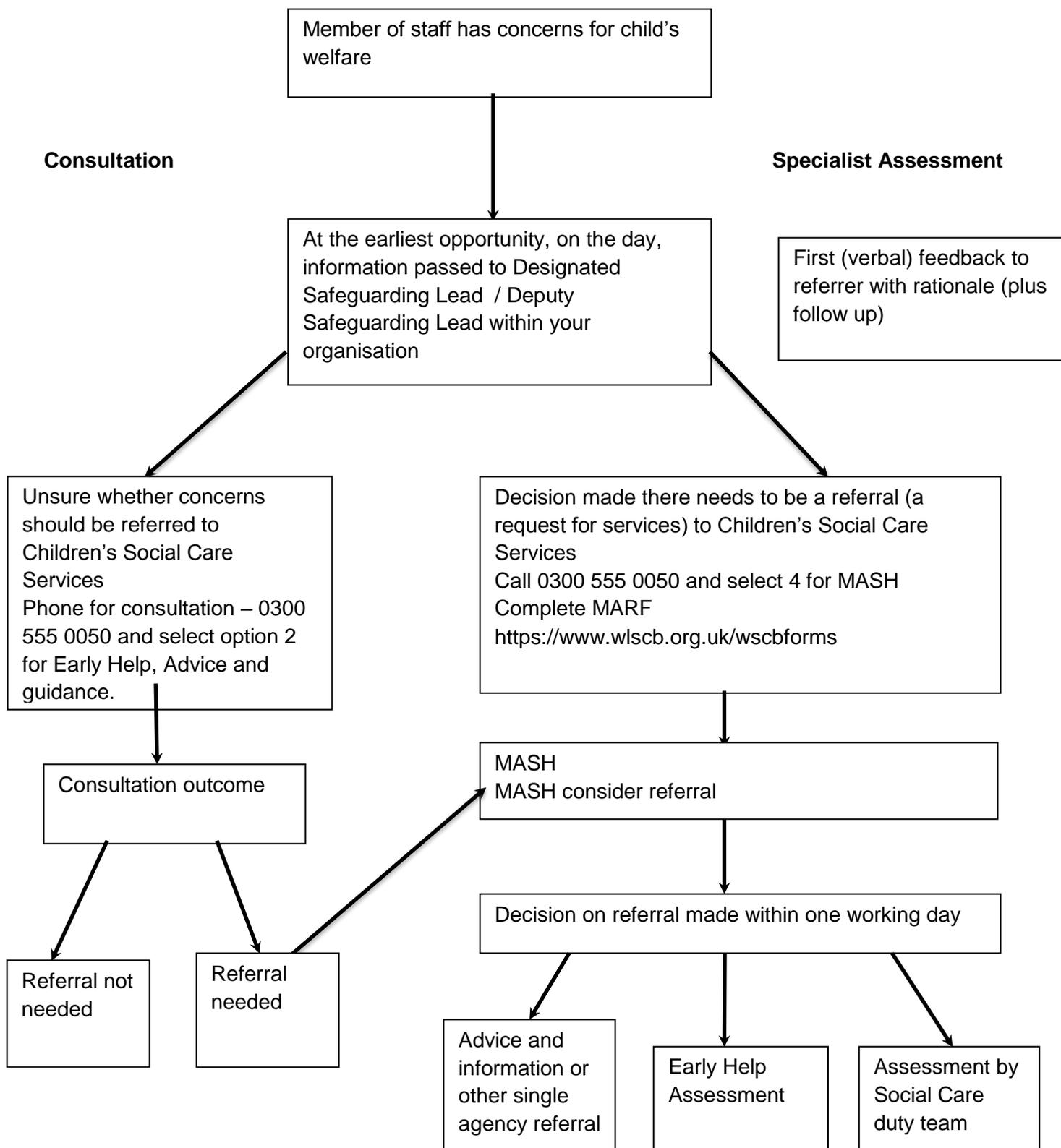
## **Appendix 3**

## Raising Concerns at: Windsor High School and Sixth Form



## Appendix 4

### Early Help Hub and Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in XXXXX

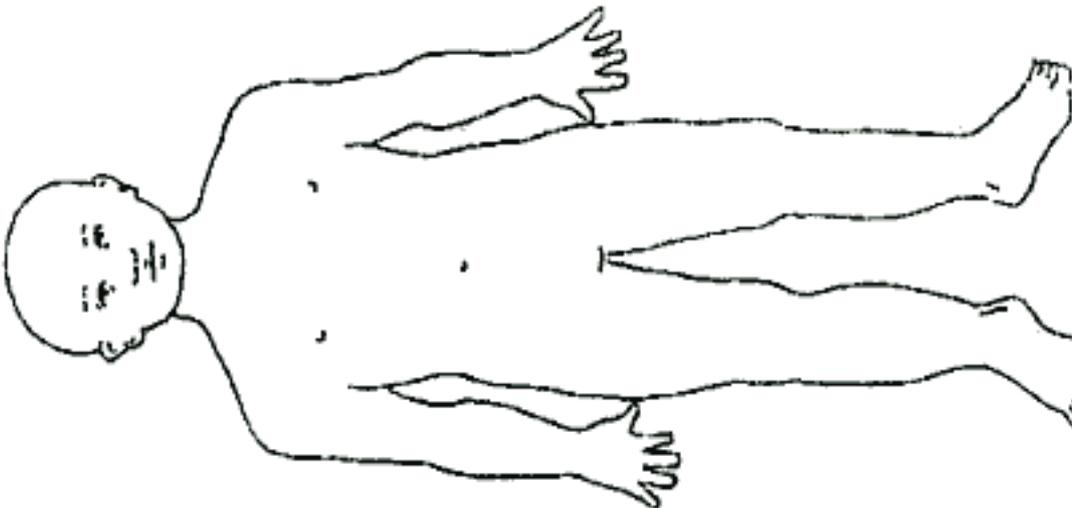
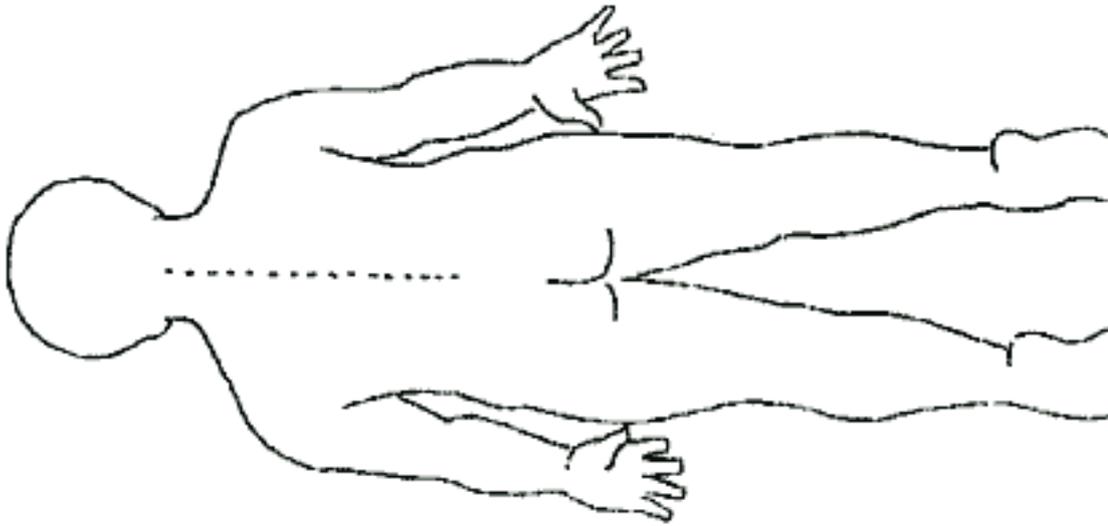


**APPENDIX 5**

**Form for recording and reporting concerns about a child (double sided with body map)**

<b>Form for recording and reporting concerns about a child</b>		
<b>Full name of child:</b>	<b>Class:</b>	<b>Year:</b>
Date of birth (if known):		
Your name:		Position:
Date and time of incident/disclosure/concern:		
Please provide details of the incident/disclosure/concern, including times, dates, description of injuries (body map included yes/no), and, if applicable, exact words spoken by the child (please continue on additional numbered pages if needed):		
Signed:		Time and date of reporting:
Name of staff member reported to:		Further action taken by staff member:
Signed:		Date:
Any other information helpful for referral ( <b>to be completed and discussed with pastoral team/designated safeguarding lead</b> ). Include academic progress, attendance, behaviour, presentation, peer relationships and parental knowledge:		

Body Map



## **Appendix 6**

### **Dudley Safeguarding Threshold/ Continuum of Need**

INSERT ONE SIDE THRESHOLD DOCUMENT

### **SPA/MASH**

INSERT SUMMARY AND FLOW CHART