



# Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy Local to St. Felix RC Primary School

# In-line with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020

# Part of the Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Multi Academy Trust

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Approved by the Committee/Governing body	Chair's Action
Signature of Chair of Governors	Michael Bradshaw
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# School Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy Framework

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

(Keeping Children Safe in Education)

#### 1. Ethos statement

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

#### 2. Introduction

The proprietor, Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Multi-Academy Trust,<sup>1</sup> working with the Local Governing Body, recognises the need to ensure that it complies with its duties under legislation and this policy has regard to statutory guidance, Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE), Working Together to Safeguard Children and locally agreed inter-agency procedures put in place by Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership.

Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) remains in force throughout the response to oronavirus (COVID-19).

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

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

• protecting children from maltreatment;

• preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development;

• ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and

• taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

This policy is for all staff, parents, governors, volunteers and the wider school community. It forms part of the child protection and safeguarding arrangements for our school and is one of a suite of policies and procedures which encompass the safeguarding responsibilities of the school. In particular, this policy should be read in conjunction with the school's Code of Conduct/Staff Behaviour Policy for staff and volunteers (including Acceptable Use of ICT), Safer Recruitment Policy, E-Safety Policy, Behaviour Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy, Attendance Policy, Health and Safety Policy and SRE Policy.

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

The aims of this policy are to:

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

The local governing body / proprietor expects that all staff will know and understand this child protection and safeguarding policy and their responsibility to implement it. Staff must, as a minimum, have read and understand <u>Part One of KCSiE</u>. Both Governors (on the Local Governing Body) and the proprietor (OLWCMAT) will ensure that they have read and understand <u>Parts One and Two of KCSiE</u>.

The local governing body/proprietor will ensure that arrangements are in place for all staff members to receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training which is regularly updated.

Compliance with the policy will be monitored by the Executive Headteacher, Heads of School (designated safeguarding leads (DSL)) and named safeguarding governors/proprietor.

3. Statutory framework

Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 in the case of maintained schools and pupil referral units<sup>2</sup>, Section 157 of the Education Act and the Education (Independent Schools) Regulations 2014 for independent schools (including academies and free schools) place a statutory duty on governing bodies and proprietors to have policies and procedures in place that safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people who are pupils of the school which must have regard to any guidance given by the Secretary of State.

A Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) must be established for every local authority area<sup>3</sup>. The LSCB has a range of roles and statutory functions including developing local safeguarding policy and procedures and scrutinising local arrangements. In Suffolk, all professionals including staff in schools should work in accordance with the multi-agency procedures developed by the Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership which can be found on their website at <a href="https://suffolksp.org.uk/">https://suffolksp.org.uk/</a>

## Key roles and responsibilities

## Local Governing Body/Proprietor

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

The local governing body/proprietor will ensure that the school contributes to multi-agency working in line with statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children and that the school's

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Please note that in accordance with Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, Suffolk Safeguarding Children Board will be working towards transition to the new Safeguarding Partner Arrangements, which should be in place by July 2019. This policy will need to be revised to reflect the new arrangements.

safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practice of the local authority. Maintained schools should carry out section 128 checks on their governors. Associate members don't need to have an enhanced DBS check

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

The governing body/proprietor will ensure that there is a named governor for safeguarding, a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who has lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection, and a designated teacher to promote the educational achievement of children who are looked after or previously looked after, and will ensure that these people have the appropriate training.

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

#### **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**

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

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

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

The DSL will need to ensure staff know which children have asocial worker, understand their academic progress and attainment and maintain a culture of high expectation for this cohort

During term time, the DSL and/or an alternate should always be available during school hours for staff to discuss any safeguarding concerns. The DSL will make arrangements for adequate and appropriate cover arrangements for any out of hours/out of term time activities.

The DSL will undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills to carry out the role. This training will be updated every two years.

#### **Head of School**

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

#### All staff

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

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

All staff must ensure they are familiar with the systems within school which support safeguarding, including the safeguarding and child protection policy, the code of conduct/staff behaviour policy,

the safeguarding response to children who go missing from education, and the role of the DSL (including the identity of the DSL and any deputies).

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

All staff should know what to do if a child tells them he/she is being abused or neglected. Staff should know how to manage the requirement to maintain an appropriate level of confidentiality. This means only involving those who need to be involved, such as the designated safeguarding lead (or a deputy) and children's social care. Staff should never promise a child that they will not tell anyone about a report of abuse, as this may ultimately not be in the best interests of the child

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

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

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

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

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

Role:	Name and contact details:
Designated	Andi Dodds, Head of School,
Safeguarding Lead	St. Felix R C Primary School – 01440 703775 / 01440 701768
(DSL)	
Alternate DSLs	Tracey Naylor, Early Years Leader,

	St. Felix R C Primary School – 01440 703775 / 01440 701768			
	Pam Walker, Class Teacher,			
	St. Felix R C Primary School – 01440 703775 / 01440 701768			
Named Safeguarding	Michael Bradshaw St. Felix R C Primary School – 01440 703775 /			
Governor	01440 701768			
Chair of Governors	Michael Bradshaw St. Felix R C Primary School – 01440 703775 /			
	01440 701768			
School Online Safety	Tracy Anderson St. Felix R C Primary School – 01440 703775 /			
Lead	01440 701768			
Designated teacher for	Tracy Anderson St. Felix R C Primary School – 01440 703775 /			
Children in Care (CiC)	01440 701768			

## 4. Training

The governing body/proprietor will ensure that all staff receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training which is regularly updated and <u>in line with advice from Suffolk Safeguarding</u> <u>Partnership</u>. In addition, all staff members will receive regular safeguarding and child protection updates (for example, via email, e-bulletins, staff meetings) as required, but at least annually, to provide them with relevant skills and knowledge to safeguard children effectively.

All new staff members will undergo safeguarding and child protection training at induction. This will include training on the school's safeguarding and child protection policy, the code of conduct/staff behaviour policy and the role of the designated safeguarding lead. Copies of the school's policies, procedures and Part One of KCSiE will be provided to new staff at induction.

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

## 5. Recognising concerns - signs and indicators of abuse.

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

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

**Abuse** is defined as a form of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others. Abuse can take place wholly online, or technology may be used to facilitate offline abuse. They may be abused by an adult or adults or another child or children.

The following indicators listed under the categories of abuse are not an exhaustive list:

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

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

**Sexual abuse**: involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (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 sexual abuse of children by other children is a specific safeguarding issue in education (See section 7: Specific safeguarding issues and Appendix A)

**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.

(Source Keeping Children Safe in Education)

## 6. Specific safeguarding issues

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

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

Both CSE and CCE are forms of abuse and both occur where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance in power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into sexual or criminal activity. Whilst age may be the most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, sexual identity, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources. In some cases, the abuse will be in exchange for something the victim needs or wants and/or will be to the financial benefit or other advantage (such as increased status) of the perpetrator or facilitator. The abuse can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and children or adults. The abuse can be a one-off occurrence or a series of incidents over time, and range from opportunistic to complex organised abuse. It can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and may, or may not, be accompanied by violence or threats of violence. Victims can be exploited even when activity appears consensual and it should be noted exploitation as well as being physical can be facilitated

and/or take place online. More information include definitions and indicators are included in Annex A.

All staff should be 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, such as rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault;

• sexual harassment, such as sexual comments, remarks, jokes and online sexual harassment, which may be stand-alone or part of a broader pattern of abuse;

• upskirting, which typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm;

• sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery); and

• initiation/hazing type violence and rituals

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

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

All staff need to know the indicators that may signal that children are at risk from, or are involved with, serious violent crime. Including:

- Unexplained gifts/new possessions these can indicate children have been approached by/involved with individuals associated with criminal networks/gangs
- Increased absence from school
- Change in friendship/relationships with others/groups
- Significant decline in performance
- Signs of self-harm/significant change in wellbeing
- Signs of assault/unexplained injuries

Staff should also be aware of the associated risks and understand the measures in place to manage them.

#### **Female Genital Mutilation**

Whilst all staff should speak to the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) with regard to 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. See Annex A for further details.

#### Mental Health

All staff should also be aware that mental health problems can, in some cases, be an indicator that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Only appropriately trained professionals should attempt to make a diagnosis of a mental health problem. Staff however, are well placed to observe children day-to-day and identify those whose behaviour suggests that they may be experiencing a mental health problem or be at risk of developing one.

Where children have suffered abuse and neglect, or other potentially traumatic adverse childhood experiences, this can have a lasting impact throughout childhood, adolescence and into adulthood. It is key that staff are aware of how these children's experiences, can impact on their mental health, behaviour and education.

If staff have a mental health concern about a child that is also a safeguarding concern, immediate action should be taken, following their child protection policy and speaking to the designated safeguarding lead or a deputy.

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

## 7. Curriculum

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

This may include covering relevant issues through:

Relationships education (for all primary schools);

Relationships and sex education (for all secondary schools);

Health education (for all pupils in state-funded schools).

These are mandatory from September 2020.

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

The school will ensure that there are appropriate filters and monitoring systems in place to safeguard children and young people from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material.

## 8. Online safety

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

There are three categories of risk:

- Content: being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful material, for example, pornography, fake news, racist or radical and extremist views;
- Contact: being exposed to harmful online interaction with other users, for example, commercial advertising as well as adults posing as children or young adults; and
- Conduct: personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm, for example, making, sending and receiving explicit images, or online bullying.

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

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

## 9. Peer on peer abuse

We recognise that peer on peer abuse can manifest itself in many ways. This can include but is not limited to: bullying, cyberbullying, sexual violence, sexual harassment, being coerced to send sexual images (sexting), teenage relationship abuse, physical abuse and upskirting (part of the Voyeurism (Offences) Act, April 2019).

All forms of peer on peer abuse are unacceptable and will be taken seriously.

The school will therefore:

- Create a whole school protective ethos in which peer on peer abuse, including sexual violence and sexual harassment will not be tolerated.
- Raise awareness of the gendered nature of peer abuse, with girls more likely to be victims and boys perpetrators.
- Ensure that staff do not dismiss instances of peer on peer abuse, including sexual violence and sexual harassment as an inevitable part of growing up.
- Include within the curriculum, information and materials that support children in keeping themselves safe from abuse, including abuse from their peers and online.
- Ensure that staff members follow the procedures outlined in this policy when they become aware of peer on peer abuse.

## 10. Procedures

If staff notice any indicators of abuse/neglect or signs that a child or young person may be experiencing a safeguarding issue they should record their concerns on a school recording form for safeguarding concerns and pass it to the DSL without delay. A recording form is included at Appendix B

#### What to do if you are concerned.

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

- Stay calm and listen carefully;
- Accept what is being said;
- Allow the child/young person to talk freely do not interrupt or put words in the child/young person's mouth;
- Only ask questions when necessary to clarify, do not investigate or ask leading questions;
- Reassure the child, but don't make promises which it might not be possible to keep;
- Do not promise confidentiality;

- Emphasise that it was the right thing to tell someone;
- Reassure them that what has happened is not their fault;
- Do not criticise the perpetrator;
- Explain what has to be done next and who has to be told;
- Make a written record, which should be signed and include the time, date and your position in school;
- Do not include your opinion without stating it is your opinion;
- Pass the information to the DSL or alternate without delay
- Consider seeking support for yourself and discuss this with the DSL as dealing with a disclosure can be distressing.

When a record of a safeguarding concern is passed to the DSL, the DSL will record the time and date the record of concern was received. The DSL will assess the concern and, taking into account any other safeguarding information known about the child/young person, consider whether it suggests that the threshold of significant harm, or risk of significant harm, has been reached. If the DSL is unsure whether the threshold has been met they will contact the MASH Professional Consultation Line for advice (0345 606 1499). Where appropriate, the DSL will complete and submit the Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership multi agency referral form (MARF) (available on the Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership vebsite)<sup>4</sup>.

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

Where a safeguarding concern does not meet the threshold for completion of a MARF, the DSL should record how this decision has been reached and should consider whether additional needs of the child have been identified that might be met by a coordinated offer of early help.

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

Wherever possible, the school is obtains more than one emergency contact number for each pupil.

School staff must ensure that they are aware of the procedure to follow when a child goes missing from education. In this instance, children of statutory school age are reported as a 'Child Missing from Education' (CME) to Suffolk Local Authority using a CME referral. Further to this, if there are concerns relating to the welfare of the pupil or that the pupil's family is not contactable (by phone or in-person by a 'door-knock') a Multi-Agency Referral Form may be sent to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub. In any such instance, the 'Threshold Matrix' would be used, along with the Professional Consultation Line. Further information can be found in Appendix A.

## 11. Information sharing, record keeping and confidentiality

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> N.B. The exception to this process will be in those cases of known FGM where there is a mandatory requirement for the teacher to report directly to the police, although the DSL should also be made aware.

As part of meeting a child's needs, the school understands that it is critical to recognise the importance of information sharing between professionals and local agencies and will contribute to multi-agency working in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children. Where there are concerns about the safety of a child, the sharing of information in a timely and effective manner between organisations can reduce the risk of harm. Staff should not assume a colleague or another professional will take action and share information that might be critical in keeping children safe. They should be mindful that early information sharing is vital for effective identification, assessment and allocation of appropriate service provision. Information Sharing: Advice for Practitioners Providing Safeguarding Services to Children, Young People, Parents and Carers supports staff who have to make decisions about sharing information. This advice includes the seven golden rules for sharing information and considerations with regard to the Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). If in any doubt about sharing information, staff should speak to the designated safeguarding lead or a deputy. Fears about sharing information must not be allowed to stand in the way of the need to promote the welfare, and protect the safety of children. Well-kept records are essential to good child protection practice. All concerns, discussions and decisions made and the reasons for those decisions should be recorded in writing. If in doubt about recording requirements, staff should discuss with the DSL.

The school will have regard to SCC <u>Guidance for schools on maintaining and transferring pupil</u> <u>safeguarding/child protection records</u>.

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

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

The school will always undertake to share its intention to refer a child to Social Care with their parents /carers unless to do so could put the child at greater risk of harm, or impede a criminal investigation. If in doubt, staff will consult with the MASH Professional Consultation Line on this point.

## 12. Managing allegations made against members of staff or volunteers

The school will follow the SSCB <u>Arrangements for Managing Allegations of Abuse Against People</u> <u>Who Work With Children or Those Who Are in A Position of Trust</u> if an allegation is made against an adult in a position of trust.

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

- 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/she may pose a risk of harm to children.

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

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

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

The corporate director for Health, Wellbeing and Children's Services, has identified dedicated staff to undertake the role of LADO. LADOs can be contacted via email on <u>LADOCentral@suffolk.gcsx.gov.uk</u> or by using the LADO central telephone number: **0300 123 2044** for allegations against all staff and volunteers.

# 13. Whistleblowing

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

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

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

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

## 14. Useful Contacts:

Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Professional Helpline: 0345 606 1499

Customer First (Professional Referral Line) for use in emergencies only: 0345 606 6167

Customer First: 0808 800 4005

Police (emergency only): 999

Suffolk Police main switchboard: 01473 613500

Suffolk Police Cybercrime Unit: 101

Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership <a href="https://suffolksp.org.uk/">https://suffolksp.org.uk/</a>

Suffolk County Council: <u>www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/staying-safe-online/e-safer-suffolk/</u>

# Appendix A

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

#### Children and the court system

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

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

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

#### Children missing from education

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

#### Children with family members in prison

Approximately 200,000 children have a parent sent to prison each year. These children are at risk of poor outcomes including poverty, stigma, isolation and poor mental health. <u>NICCO</u> provides information designed to support professionals working with offenders and their children, to help mitigate negative consequences for those children.

#### **Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)**

CCE is where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child into any criminal activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial or other advantage of the perpetrator or facilitator and/or (c) through violence or the threat of violence. The victim may have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears consensual. CCE does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology. CCE can include children being forced to work in cannabis factories, being coerced into moving drugs or money across the country (county lines, see page 85 for more information), forced to shoplift or pickpocket, or to threaten other young people.

Some of the following can be indicators of CCE:

• children who appear with unexplained gifts or new possessions;

- children who associate with other young people involved in exploitation;
- children who suffer from changes in emotional well-being;
- children who misuse drugs and alcohol;
- children who go missing for periods of time or regularly come home late; and
- children who regularly miss school or education or do not take part in education.

#### Child sexual exploitation

CSE occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. CSE does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology. CSE can affect any child or young person (male or female) under the age of 18 years, including 16 and 17 year olds who can legally consent to have sex. It can include both contact (penetrative and non-penetrative acts) and non-contact sexual activity and may occur without the child or young person's immediate knowledge (e.g. through others copying videos or images they have created and posted on social media).

The above CCE indicators can also be indicators of CSE, as can:

- · children who have older boyfriends or girlfriends; and
- children who suffer from sexually transmitted infections or become pregnant.

The department provide: Child sexual exploitation: guide for practitioners

## Child criminal exploitation: county lines

County lines is a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs (primarily crack cocaine and heroin) into one or more importing areas [within the UK], using dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of "deal line".

Exploitation is an integral part of the county lines offending model with children and vulnerable adults exploited to move [and store] drugs and money. Offenders will often use coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons to ensure compliance of victims. Children can be targeted and recruited into county lines in a number of locations including schools, further and higher educational institutions, pupil referral units, special educational needs schools, children's homes and care homes.

Children are often recruited to move drugs and money between locations and are known to be exposed to techniques such as 'plugging', where drugs are concealed internally to avoid detection. Children can easily become trapped by this type of exploitation as county lines gangs create drug debts and can threaten serious violence and kidnap towards victims (and their families) if they attempt to leave the county lines network.

One of the ways of identifying potential involvement in county lines are missing episodes (both from home and school), when the victim may have been trafficked for the purpose of transporting drugs and a referral to the National Referral Mechanism103 should be considered. If a child is suspected to be at risk of or involved in county lines, a safeguarding referral should be considered alongside consideration of availability of local services/third sector providers who offer support to victims of county lines exploitation.

Further information on the signs of a child's involvement in county lines is available in guidance published by the Home Office.

#### **Domestic abuse**

The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse is: any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to: psychological; physical; sexual; financial; and emotional.

All children can witness and be adversely affected by domestic abuse in the context of their home life where domestic abuse occurs between family members. Exposure to domestic abuse and/or violence can have a serious, long lasting emotional and psychological impact on children. In some cases, a child may blame themselves for the abuse or may have had to leave the family home as a result.

#### **Operation Encompass**

Operation Encompass operates in the majority of police forces across England. It helps police and schools work together to provide emotional and practical help to children. The system ensures that when police are called to an incident of domestic abuse, where there are children in the household who have experienced the domestic incident, the police will inform the key adult (usually the designated safeguarding lead) in school before the child or children arrive at school the following day. This ensures that the school has up to date relevant information about the child's circumstances and can enable support to be given to the child according to their needs. Police forces not signed up to operation encompass will have their own arrangements in place.

#### National Domestic Abuse Helpline

Refuge runs the National Domestic Abuse Helpline, which can be called free of charge and in confidence, 24 hours a day on 0808 2000 247. Its website provides guidance and support for potential victims, as well as those who are worried about friends and loved ones. It also has a form through which a safe time from the team for a call can be booked.

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

- NSPCC- UK domestic-abuse Signs Symptoms Effects
- Refuge what is domestic violence/effects of domestic violence on children
- SafeLives: young people and domestic abuse.

#### Homelessness

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

The Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 places a new legal duty on English councils so that everyone who is homeless or at risk of homelessness will have access to meaningful help including an assessment of their needs and circumstances, the development of a personalised housing plan,

and work to help them retain their accommodation or find a new place to live. The following factsheets usefully summarise the new duties. <u>Homeless Reduction Act Factsheets</u>. The new duties shift focus to early intervention and encourage those at risk to seek support as soon as possible, before they are facing a homelessness crisis.

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

#### So-called 'honour-based' abuse (including Female Genital Mutilation and Forced Marriage)

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

#### Actions

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

## FGM

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

#### FGM mandatory reporting duty for teachers

Section 5B of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 (as inserted by section 74 of the Serious Crime Act 2016) places a statutory duty upon **teachers** along with regulated health and social care professionals in England and Wales, to report to the police where they discover (either through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence) that FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18. Those failing to report such cases will face 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

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

professionals to whom this mandatory reporting duty applies. Information on when and how to make a report can be found at: <u>Mandatory reporting of female genital mutilation procedural information</u>.

Teachers **must** personally report to the police cases where they discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out.<sup>6</sup> Unless the teacher has good reason not to, they should still consider and discuss any such case with the school or college's designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) and involve children's social care as appropriate. The duty does not apply in relation to at risk or suspected cases (i.e. where the teacher does not discover that an act of FGM appears to have been carried out, either through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence) or in cases where the woman is 18 or over. The following is a useful summary of the FGM mandatory reporting duty: <u>FGM Fact Sheet</u>.

#### Forced marriage

Forcing a person into marriage is a crime in England and Wales. A forced marriage is one entered into without the full and free consent one or both parties and where violence, threats or any other form of coercion is used to cause a person to enter into a marriage. Threats can be physical or emotional and psychological. A lack of full and free consent can be where a person does not consent or where they cannot consent (if they have learning disabilities, for example.) Nevertheless, some communities use religion and culture as a way to coerce a person into marriage, Schools and colleges can play an important role in safeguarding children from forces marriage.

The Forced Marriage Unit has published <u>statutory guidance</u> and <u>Multi-agency guidelines</u>, with pages 35-36 of which focus on the role of schools and colleges. School and college staff can contact the Forced Marriage Unit if they need advice or information: Contact: 020 7008 0151 or email <u>fmu@fco.gov.uk</u>.

#### **Preventing radicalisation**

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

<u>Extremism</u><sup>7</sup> is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

<u>Radicalisation</u><sup>8</sup> refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

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

However, it is possible to protect vulnerable people from ideology and intervene to prevent those at risk of radicalisation being radicalised. As with other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff should use their judgement in identifying children who may be at risk of radicalisation and act

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> As defined in the Government's Counter Extremism Strategy

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> As defined in the Revised Prevent Duty Guidance for England and Wales

proportionately which may include the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) making a referral to the Channel programme.

#### The Prevent duty

All schools and colleges are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the CTSA 2015), in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard<sup>9</sup> to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".<sup>10</sup> This duty is known as the Prevent duty.

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

There is additional guidance: <u>Prevent duty guidance: for further education institutions in England</u> and <u>Wales</u> that applies to colleges.

#### Channel

Channel is a voluntary, confidential support programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. Prevent referrals may be passed to a multi-agency Channel panel, which will discuss the individual referred to determine whether they are vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism and consider the appropriate support required. A representative from the school or college may be asked to attend the Channel panel to help with this assessment. An individual's engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages.

Guidance on Channel is available at: Channel guidance.

#### **Additional support**

The department has published further advice for schools on the Prevent duty. The advice is intended to complement the Prevent guidance and signposts to other sources of advice and support.

The Home Office has developed three e-learning modules:

• Prevent awareness e-learning offers an introduction to the Prevent duty.

• Prevent referrals e-learning supports staff to make Prevent referrals that are robust, informed and with good intention.

• Channel awareness e-learning is aimed at staff who may be asked to contribute to or sit on a multi-agency Channel panel.

<u>Educate Against Hate</u>, is a government website designed to support school teachers and leaders to help them safeguard their students from radicalisation and extremism. The platform provides free information and resources to help school staff identify and address the risks, as well as build resilience to radicalisation.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> "Terrorism" for these purposes has the same meaning as for the Terrorism Act 2000 (section 1(1) to (4) of that Act).

For advice specific to further education, the Education and Training Foundation (ETF) hosts the Prevent for FE and Training. This hosts a range of free, sector specific resources to support further education settings comply with the Prevent duty. This includes the Prevent Awareness e-learning, which offers an introduction to the duty, and the Prevent Referral e-learning, which is designed to support staff to make robust, informed and proportionate referrals.

The ETF Online Learning environment provides online training modules for practitioners, leaders and managers, support staff and governors/Board members outlining their roles and responsibilities under the duty.

#### Peer on peer abuse

Children can abuse other children. This is generally referred to as peer on peer abuse and can take make many forms. This can include (but is not limited to) bullying (including cyberbullying); sexual violence and sexual harassment; physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm; sexting and initiating/hazing type violence and rituals.

#### Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges

#### Context

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

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

Staff should be aware of the importance of:

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

#### What is sexual violence and sexual harassment?

#### Sexual violence

It is important that school and college staff are aware of sexual violence and the fact children can, and sometimes do, abuse their peers in this way. When referring to sexual violence we are referring to sexual offences in the Sexual Offences Act 2003<sup>11</sup> as described below:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Legislation.gov.uk

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

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

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

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

#### Sexual harassment

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

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

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

#### Upskirting

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> It is important school and college staff (and especially designated safeguarding leads and their deputies) understand consent. This will be especially important if a child is reporting they have been raped, More information <u>here</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> <u>PSHE Teaching about consent</u> from the PSHE association provides advice and lesson plans to teach consent at Key Stage 3 and 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> <u>Project deSHAME</u> from Childnet provides useful research, advice and resources regarding online sexual harassment.

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

#### The response to a report of sexual violence or sexual harassment

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

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

For links to further advice see Annexe A of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020

# Appendix B – Internal Reporting of Safeguarding Concerns Record



#### St Felix RC Primary School Form for Safeguarding Concerns (must be hand-written)

	(indec be nand mile	.enj				
Name of child/person you are making the	Child's date of birth	Class	Your name and position in school			
disclosure or that you are concerned about						

Nature of concern / disclosure (i.e. disclosure, injury, change in behaviour, demeanour, appearance)											
Remember to only record fact – do not add your own opinion											
								(Conti	nue ov	er if req	uired)
Was there an injury?	Yes		No		Did yo	ou see it	?	Yes		No	
Describe the injury:											
Have you filled in a body plan overleaf to show where the injury is andYesNoits approximate size?											
Was anyone else with you?	Yes	N	0	lf yes, who?							
Where were you?											
Has this happened before?   Yes   No											
Did you report the previous incident?			Yes		No		If yes, to whom? Date				
Does the safeguarding concern involve a technological device? Yes No											
If yes, discuss this with your Online Safety Lead, follow the online safety reporting flow chart and ensure that this is recorded on the Online Safety Lead's log.											
Who are you passing this information on to?											
Name:			Time				Date				
Your signature: Date											
Your name (printed):											

Young Child (5 and under)	Older Child (over 5)					
Image: Continuation of nature of concern / disclosure from of the second sec	verteaf:					
Signature (if continuation box used):						
FOR DSL STAFF ONLY Current Safeguarding monitoring or involvement? If so, details:						
Action taken:						
Action shared with the reporting party (on a need-to-know basis):						
Who:						
How:						
Date:						
Septen	nber 2020					

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