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Meadowbrook College Safeguarding Policy

This policy is consistent with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020

This Policy is adopted from the approved OSCB Safeguarding policy and adapted for the purposes of procedures carried out within Meadowbrook College

This policy was updated in November 2020

The policy must be reviewed and updated at least every 12 months.

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Meadowbrook and inter- agency safeguarding staff for Meadowbrook College.

Key Personnel	Name (s)	Contact details
*Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Nicola Partridge Susy Morgan Elaine Kinnell Jacqui West	All calls should be made to main reception: 01865 253198 You will be directed to the appropriate person from there.
*Deputy DSL(s)	Ryan Lloyd Syrene Dixon Simon Hemsworth Beverley O'Toole Carly Bayliss Nick Lacey Carl Humphries	
School's named 'Prevent' lead	Susy Morgan	smorgan1@meadowbrookcollege.org
Nominated Safeguarding Trustee	Emma Anderson	eanderson@meadowbrookcollege.org
Chair of Trustees	Emma Canter	ecanter@meadowbrookcollege.org
Education Safeguarding Advisory Team / Local Authority Designated Officers (LADOs)	Alison Beasley Donna Crozier Sandra Barratt Charlotte Allen	01865 810603 Lado.safeguardingchildren@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Locality Community Support Service (LCSS) worker	We work with all Locality Teams in the County	LCSS North - 0345 2412703 LCSS Central - 0345 2412705 LCSS South - 0345 2412608

Multi Agency Safeguarding hub (MASH)	Katrina Johnson	0345 050 7666
Out of hours Emergency Duty Team (EDT)		08450 507666 http://www.oscb.org.uk/concerned-about-a-child/
Kingfisher Team (CSE)		01865 309196
Police

School Liaison Officer | City Dawn Raffield Lee-Anne Murray

North Deb Clements | SaferSchoolsOxford@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

101 or in emergencies 999

Deborah.Clements@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk |

*For the purposes of this policy all staff within the Meadowbrook College Safeguarding team will be referred to as DSL's

Meadowbrook College recognises its responsibility for safeguarding and child protection.

1. Introduction

This policy has been developed in accordance with the principles established by the Children Act 1989; and in line with the following:

- "Keeping Children Safe in Education" 2020" (KCSIE, 2019)
- "Working Together to Safeguard Children 2019"
- Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board guidelines

It will be updated, in an ongoing basis, in line with any further guidance and/or KCSIE 2021.

Meadowbrook College and The Board of Trustees takes seriously their responsibility under Section 11 of the Children Act and duties under "Working Together to Safeguard Children 2019" to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; to work together with other agencies to ensure adequate arrangements exist within our setting to identify and support those children who are suffering harm or are likely to suffer harm.

We recognise that all our staff and trustees have a full and active part to play in protecting our students from harm, and that their welfare is our paramount concern.

Our school should provide a safe, caring, positive and stimulating environment that promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child free from discrimination or bullying where children can learn and develop happily.

This policy applies to all our staff, trustees and associates working in our school.

This policy has been written in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020

All staff will sign to confirm they have read and understood this policy.

2. Policy Statement

We recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children.
We make every effort to provide a safe and welcoming environment underpinned by a culture of openness where both children and adults feel secure, able to talk and believe that they are being listened to.
We maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned.
The purpose of this policy is to provide staff, volunteers and trustees with the framework they need to keep children safe and secure at Meadowbrook College and to inform parents and guardians how we will safeguard their children whilst they are in our care.

3. Definitions

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

- • protecting children from maltreatment;

- • preventing impairment of children's health or development;

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

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

Child protection is an aspect of safeguarding but is focused on how we respond to children who have been significantly harmed or are at risk of significant harm.

The term ***staff*** applies to all those working for or on behalf of the school, full time or part time, in either a paid or voluntary capacity. This also includes parents and trustees.

Child refers to all young people who have not yet reached their 18ᵗʰ birthday. On the whole, this will apply to all students at Meadowbrook College; however, the policy will extend to visiting children and students from other establishments.

Parent refers to birth parents and other adults in a parenting role for example, adoptive parents, step parents, guardians and foster carers.

Abuse could mean neglect, physical, emotional or sexual abuse or any combination of these. Parents, carers and other people can harm children either by direct acts and / or failure to provide proper care. Explanations of these are given within the procedure document.

DSL refers to Designated Safeguarding Leads.

DDSL refers to Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.

OSCB refers to Oxfordshire Children Safeguarding Board.

LCSS refers to Locality Community Support Service.

MASH refers to Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub.

DO refers to the Designated Officer, also referred to as Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

4. **The aims of these procedures are:**

- To provide staff with the framework to promote and safeguard the wellbeing of children and in doing so ensure they meet their statutory responsibilities
- To ensure consistent good practice across Meadowbrook College
- To demonstrate our commitment to protecting children

5. **Principles and Values**

Children have a right to feel secure and cannot learn effectively unless they do so.

All children have a right to be protected from harm.

All staff have a key role in prevention of harm and an equal responsibility to act upon any suspicion or disclosure that may indicate a child is at risk of harm, either in the college or in the community, taking into account *contextual safeguarding*, in accordance with the guidance.

We acknowledge that working in partnership with other agencies protects children and reduces risk and so we will engage in partnership working throughout the child protection process to safeguard children.

Whilst the college will work openly with parents as far as possible, it reserves the right to contact Children's Social Care or the police, without notifying parents if this is believed to be in the child's best interests.

We will always act in the best interests of the child and ensure that our decisions around safeguarding take a child-centred and coordinated approach.

6. **Leadership and Management**

We recognise that staff anxiety around child protection can compromise good practice and so have established clear lines of accountability, training and advice to support the process and individual staff.

At Meadowbrook College, any individual can contact the relevant Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or the Deputy (DDSL) if they have concerns about a young person. (See Table of Key Contacts, p4 - 5).

Our Headteacher takes overall responsibility for safeguarding, ensuring the safeguarding team are fulfilling their role.

Nominated safeguarding trustee, Emma Anderson, takes leadership responsibility for safeguarding. The Chair of the Board of Trustees, Emma Canter, will receive reports in the event of allegations against the headteacher and act on the behalf of the governing body.
As an employer we follow safer recruitment guidance as set out in KCSIE 2020.

7. Record Keeping

- Staff will record any welfare concerns that they have about a student on SchoolPod and pass them without delay to the DSL. Staff are informed that if their concern is urgent and poses imminent risk they should speak to their DSL immediately. Records will be completed on SchoolPod as soon as possible after the incident/event, using the child's words and facts and will be electronically signed and dated by the member of staff.

- The relevant DSL will record their actions and outcomes by way of concluding the incident or confirming which agencies have been informed thus ensuring accountability

- Safeguarding records are kept for individual children and are maintained separately from all other records relating to the child in the college. Safeguarding records are kept in accordance with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and our own GDPR policy, and are retained centrally and securely by the DSL. Safeguarding records are shared with staff on a 'need to know' basis only.

- All safeguarding records will be transferred in accordance with GDPR to the child's subsequent school/setting, under confidential and separate cover. These will be given to the new DSL and a receipt of delivery will be obtained.

- The Headteacher will be kept informed of any significant issues by the DSL's, and will be notified of all concerns daily via SchoolPod alert system

8. Confidentiality and Information Sharing

- Meadowbrook College recognises that all matters relating to child protection are confidential. The Headteacher or DSL's will only disclose information about a pupil to other members of staff on a 'need to know' basis.

- All members of staff must be aware that whilst they have duties to keep any information confidential, they also have a professional responsibility to share information with other agencies to safeguard children.

- All staff must be aware that they cannot promise a child they will keep secrets which might compromise the child's safety or wellbeing.

- There is a lawful basis for child protection concerns to be shared with agencies who have a statutory duty for child protection.

- DfE Guidance on Information Sharing (July 2018) provides further detail. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-practitioners-information-sharing-advice

- OSCB provides advice on the Seven Golden Rules of Information Sharing
  https://www.oscb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/The-Seven-Golden-Rules-for-Info-Sharing.pdf

9. Training

All staff are expected to be aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and must be able to respond appropriately.

Our DSL's undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to carry out their role through participation in the OSCB approved courses every 2 years.

Training is provided for all staff to a Generalist Level 2 (Safeguarding in Schools) as approved by the OSCB, every 3 years. Additionally, updates around safeguarding are shared with staff regularly at Insets and twilight sessions.

Separate training is provided to all new staff on appointment as part of their induction process to ensure they are equipped with relevant knowledge of safeguarding and are introduced to Meadowbrook College's own procedures.

Any update in national or local guidance will be shared with all staff in briefings or via emails and then captured in the next whole school training. This policy will be updated during the year to reflect any changes brought about by new guidance.

10. Safeguarding Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Meadowbrook College acknowledges that children with special educational needs (SEN), disabilities and social, emotional and mental health difficulties can face additional safeguarding challenges as they may have an impaired capacity to resist or avoid abuse. They may also be more prone to the vulnerabilities of exploitation.

Members of staff are encouraged to be aware that children with SEN and disabilities can be disproportionately impacted by safeguarding concerns such as bullying. All members of staff will be encouraged to appropriately explore possible indicators of abuse such as behaviour/mood change or injuries and not to assume that they are related to the child's disability and be aware that children with SEN and disabilities may not always outwardly display indicators of abuse.

11. Reporting and referring concerns

KCSIE 2020 states: "No single practitioner can have a full picture of a child's needs and circumstances. If children and families are to receive the right help at the right time, **everyone** who comes into contact with them has a role to play in identifying concerns, sharing information and taking prompt action.

At Meadowbrook College we recognise the importance of sharing information and reporting concerns to help ensure children are protected.

The following procedures apply to all staff and will be covered by training to enable them to understand their roles and responsibilities.

The aim of our procedures is to provide a robust framework which enables staff to take appropriate action when they are concerned that a child is being harmed or is at risk of harm.

The prime concern at all stages must be the interests and safety of the child. Where there is a conflict of interest between the child and an adult, the interests of the child must be paramount.

Procedures for all staff who have any safeguarding concerns regarding a child at Meadowbrook College

All Staff must:

1. Report it to their programme DSL immediately. (please see Annex 4 for relevant details). If their DSL is not available, staff should contact another DSL from an alternative programme

2. Make an initial record of the information on SchoolPod.

3. The DSL will consider if there is a requirement for immediate intervention of which could include Social Care, the Police or emergency Health Care.

4 . Make an accurate factual record as soon as possible of all that has happened, including details of:

- Dates and times of their observations
- Dates and times of any discussions in which they were involved
- Any injuries
- Explanations given by the child / adult
- What action was taken
- Any actual words or phrases used by the child
- Any questions the staff member asked (remembering not to ask any leading questions)

The Relevant DSL must:

Decide whether there are sufficient grounds for suspecting significant harm:
If the Child is already open to Children's Social Care, inform the Social worker, manager or Emergency Team of your concerns
If the child is not currently open to Children's Social Care, a referral must be made via the MASH and the police if it is appropriate. The rationale for this decision should be recorded by the DSL on SchoolPod.

The MASH can be contacted by phone on 0345 050 7666. This should then be followed up with an online referral where advised to do so stating:

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- the known facts
- any suspicions or allegations
- whether or not there has been any contact with the child's family.

The DSL should try to discuss any concerns about a child's welfare with the family and where possible, seek their agreement before making a referral to Children's Social Care. However, in accordance with DfE guidance, this should only be done when it will not place the child at increased risk or could impact a police investigation. Where there are doubts or reservations about involving the child's family, the DSL should clarify with Children's Social Care or the police whether the parents should be told about the referral and, if so, when and by whom. This is important in cases where the police may need to conduct a criminal investigation. The child's views should also be taken into account.

If a child is in immediate danger and urgent protective action is required, the police must be called. The DSL must then notify Children's Social Care of the occurrence and what action has been taken.

When a student needs *urgent* medical attention and there is suspicion of parental abuse causing the medical need, the DSL should seek immediate advice from the MASH about informing the parents, remembering that parents should normally be informed if a child requires urgent hospital attention. However, as in all cases, if it is felt this could put the child more at risk then all action should be taken in the best interests of the child.

If there is not considered to be a risk of significant harm, the DSL will either actively monitor the situation, consider the Early Help process or contact the LCSS for a no names consultation.

Guidance for staff in dealing with disclosures from pupils

All staff should ensure:

A member of staff who is approached by a child should listen positively and try to reassure them. They cannot promise complete confidentiality and should explain that they may need to pass information to other professionals, to help keep the child or other children safe. The degree of confidentiality should always be governed by the need to protect the child.
Additional consideration needs to be given to children with communication difficulties and for those whose preferred language is not English. It is important to communicate with them in a way that is appropriate to their age, understanding and preference.

Guiding principles: the seven R's:

Receive

- Listen to what is being said, without displaying shock or disbelief
- Accept what is said and take it seriously
- Make a note of what has been said as soon as practicable

Reassure

- Reassure the child, but only so far as is honest and reliable
- Don't make promises you may not be able to keep e.g. 'I'll stay with you' or 'everything will be alright now' or 'I'll keep this confidential'
- Do reassure e.g. you could say: 'I believe you', 'I am glad you came to me', 'I am sorry this has happened', 'We are going to do something together to get help'

Respond

- Respond to the child only as far as is necessary for you to establish whether or not you need to refer this matter, but do not interrogate for full details
- Do not ask 'leading' questions i.e. 'did he touch your private parts?' or 'did she hurt you?' Such questions may invalidate your evidence (and the child's) in any later prosecution in court
- Do not ask the child why something has happened.
- Do not criticise the alleged perpetrator; the child may care about him/her, and reconciliation may be possible
- Do not ask the child to repeat it all for another member of staff. Explain what you have to do next and whom you have to talk to. Reassure the child that it will be a DSL.

Report

- Share concerns as soon as possible by calling or finding in person your DSL.
- If you are not able to contact your DSL, and the child is at risk of immediate harm, contact the children's services department directly

Record

- If possible, make some very brief notes at the time, and record them as soon as possible on SchoolPod.
- Keep your original notes on file
- Record the date, time, place, persons present and noticeable nonverbal behaviour, and the words used by the child. If the child uses sexual 'pet' words, record the actual words used, rather than translating them into 'proper' words
- Complete a body map to indicate the position of any noticeable bruising
- Record facts and observable things, rather than your 'interpretations' or 'assumptions'

Remember

- Support the child: listen, reassure, and be available
- Complete confidentiality is essential. Share your knowledge only with appropriate professional colleagues
- Try to get some support for yourself if you need it

Review processes (led by DSL)

- Has the action taken provided good outcomes for the child?
- Did the procedure work?
- Were any deficiencies or weaknesses identified in the procedure? Have these been remedied?
- Is further training required?

12. Multi-agency Working

Meadowbrook College recognises and is committed to its responsibility to work with other professionals and agencies in line with statutory guidance.

Although we recognise we are not the investigating agency when there are child protection concerns, we will contribute to the investigation and assessment processes as required. Meadowbrook College recognises the importance of multi-agency working and will support attendance at relevant safeguarding meetings, including Child Protection Conferences, Core Groups, Strategy Meetings, Child in Need meetings or other early help multi-agency meetings.

- The School Leadership Team and DSL's will work to establish strong and co-operative relationships with relevant professionals in other agencies. This will also include attendance at strategic level meetings including Exploitation Network and Exploitation panel meetings

- Where Meadowbrook College notice patterns and trends or are concerned about a whole school issue, they may contact LCSS to request a CASO meeting (Community Around the School) where Relevant Agencies will attend to provide support to Meadowbrook College.

- Where the DSL recognises that information received via pupils or staff includes details that may help to inform Police of activities, associations or locations of concern, they will complete an Oxfordshire Partners Intelligence submission form.

13. Safer Recruitment

- Meadowbrook College is committed to ensuring the development of a safe culture and that all steps are taken to recruit staff who are safe to work with our pupils and staff.

- The Board of Trustees and Leadership Team are responsible for ensuring that the school follows safe recruitment processes outlined within guidance.

- Meadowbrook College is responsible for ensuring that the school maintains an accurate Single Central Record (SCR) in line with statutory guidance.

- The Board of Trustees and Leadership Team will ensure that at least one of the people who conducts a recruitment interview has completed safer recruitment training. Names of those who have completed this training are held centrally on the training records for Meadowbrook College.

- We are also committed to supporting the statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the application of the Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations 2009 and related obligations under the Childcare Act 2006 in schools.

- We advise all staff to disclose any reason that may affect their suitability to work with children, including convictions, cautions, court orders, reprimands and warnings.

14. Allegations against staff or volunteers

This procedure should be used in all cases in which it is alleged a member of staff or volunteer in a school, or another adult who works with children has:

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child;

- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child; or

- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she would pose a risk of harm to children.

In dealing with allegations or concerns against an adult, staff must:

- Report any concerns about the conduct of any member of staff or volunteer to the Headteacher as soon as possible.

- If an allegation is made against the Headteacher, the concerns need to be raised with the Chair of The Board of Trustees as soon as possible. If she is not available, then the Designated Officer for Oxfordshire (LADO) should be contacted directly.

- There may be situations when the Headteacher or Chair of the Board of Trustees will want to involve the police immediately, for example, if the person is deemed to be an immediate risk to children or there is evidence of a possible criminal offence.

- Once an allegation has been received by the Headteacher or Chair of The Board of Trustees they will contact the LADO on 01865 810603 or lado.safeguardingchildren@oxfordshire.gov.uk as soon as possible and before carrying out any investigation into the allegation other than preliminary enquiries.

  In liaison with the LADO, the school will determine how to proceed and if necessary, a referral will be made to the MASH and/or the police.

  The named Designated Officer (LADO) for Oxfordshire County Council is Alison Beasley.

  The Designated Officer or a member of the team, will assess the information provided and advise on next steps, in line with KCSIE 2020 part 4, and Oxfordshire County Council's Designated Officers' local procedures.

15. Whistleblowing in a Safeguarding Context

While the school has a separate whistleblowing policy, this is a summary that outlines the process when there is a concern that safeguarding issues have not been reported or followed correctly.

This does not replace the whistleblowing policy and should be read in conjunction with the school policy.

Whistleblowing is a term that is used when staff want to report a concern within their organisation that involves their manager or a person senior to them in the organisation which may prevent them from following the normal reporting systems.

There are a limited number of areas that can be called Whistleblowing, and the policy protects staff from being punished for raising concerns.

Within Meadowbrook College, the Headteacher, Nicola Partridge, is responsible for all staff. Any concerns regarding staff conduct, failure to follow safeguarding processes or behaviour that places children at risk must be reported immediately to the Headteacher.

If your concern is about the Headteacher, you should raise this with Emma Canter, our Chair of the Board of Trustees by email, ecanter@meadowbrookcollege.org

If you would prefer to raise your concerns outside of the school, then you are able to contact the NSPCC whistleblowing line on 0800 028 0285 or email help@nspcc.org.uk for national organisations or make contact with Oxfordshire County Council.

If you believe that a member of the school staff is harming a child (an allegation) and this has been reported to the Headteacher and no/

insufficient action has been taken, or the member of staff you have concerns about is the headteacher, then you are able to contact the Designated Officers team (LADO) on 01865 810603 or email

lado.safeguardingchildren@oxfordshire.gov.uk

If you believe that a child is being abused by individuals outside the school, you can make a referral to Children's Social Care by calling the MASH on : **0345 050 7666** (office hours) or **08450 507666** (outside of office hours).

Further guidance for staff can be accessed through:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused--2 and through the NSPCC website https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/

16. Preventing radicalisation

All of our staff will undergo online Prevent Awareness training to support them in identifying radicalisation and in understanding what steps they need to take to protect the children and families in our school.
This offers an introduction to the Prevent duty and explains how it aims to safeguard vulnerable people from being radicalised, supporting terrorism or becoming terrorists themselves.

http://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk

Prevent Referrals

This package builds on the Prevent awareness eLearning training. It is designed to make sure that when we share a concern that a vulnerable individual may be being radicalised, that the referral is robust, informed and with good intention, and that the response to that concern is considered, and proportionate.

https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/preventreferrals

Channel Awareness

This training package is for anyone who may be asked to contribute to, sit on, or even run a Channel Panel. It is aimed at all levels, from a professional asked to input and attend for the first time, to a member of staff new to their role and organising a panel meeting.

https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/channelawareness

link to OSCB guidance on PREVENT

https://www.oscb.org.uk/safeguarding-themes/prevent/

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17. Related Safeguarding Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the policies as listed below:

- Behaviour & Relationships Policy Management (linked to the Use of Physical Intervention)
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1h7OzSCwf2KJj0KO5a7-HGGmVryDT9ZI0qLLnLFo4mtw/edit
- Online Safety and Social Media
https://docs.google.com/document/d/13kiIotQJiaF6sXOnJWRp6FHy4kIpQsX9WwlzYZeI_M4/edit
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XI0cp2LEdGz7d9zVENzStZywSh0fGVKu
- Anti-Bullying
https://drive.google.com/drive/search?q=anti%20bullying%20policy
- GDPR Data Protection Policy
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rBq_5w-y5d96T2fDHnohtRkp8JU3K4T9Sz1bmM6KQqo/edit
- Sex & Relationships Education
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_HdZW23NCxGZkJObvRwGR1DkNK25dB3WyGMtgghHz0g/edit
- Health & Safety Policy
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rbtIyfQGqLJ8qDJSxuU2vd2X7zlM8P9wQxEYyeHb98k/edit
- Attendance Policy
- Risk Assessments (e.g. school trips, use of technology)
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_H_P9qoMltyM5jGu8RFJdBBUe5mx5CnR/edit
- Use of Technology in working with children and parents/carers
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XI0cp2LEdGz7d9zVENzStZywSh0fGVKu
- First Aid Policy
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1A-LTESRTqf6GLc0SrJmfYJpikyCt0W7b7WQj4CaSMws/edit
- Staff Code of Conduct (including Acceptable Use of Technology)
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rDodpSc860DNxYADwVJKrCIYQD0qJtQ3gWRqGcCQmmM/edit
- Safer Recruitment
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DSJbfhBHwdBFqS5xOdbuRQEEZN9CISKyoYxG6zotlHE/edit
- Whistleblowing
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mwa6mKSys7duHHGURz2ODlH1FLurbnhAgqc1R7dEeal/edit

18. Annex 1 - Roles and Responsibilities within Meadowbrook College

All Staff responsibilities

All staff have a key role to play in identifying concerns early and in providing help for children. To achieve this, they will:

- Establish and maintain an environment where children feel safe and secure, are encouraged to talk and are listened to.
- Plan opportunities within the curriculum for children to develop the skills they need to recognise, assess and manage risk appropriately and keep themselves safe.
- Attend training in order to be aware of and alert to the signs of abuse.
- Maintain an attitude of "it could happen here" with regards to safeguarding.
- Report concerns regarding pupil safety and welfare to the relevant DSL immediately and follow up with accurate records on Schoolpod
- Follow the allegations procedures, as set out in this policy and KCSIE 2020, if the disclosure is an allegation against a member of staff.
- Follow the procedures set out by the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board (OSCB) and take account of guidance issued by the DfE.
- Support pupils in line with their child protection plan.
- Treat information with confidentiality but never promising to 'keep a secret'.
- Have an understanding of Early Help and be prepared to identify and support children who may benefit from early help.
- Ensure they know who the DSL Team are and know how to contact them.
- Have an awareness of this Policy and all other policies listed in Section 17.

Headteacher Responsibilities:

- Ensure that the Safeguarding policy and procedures are implemented and followed by all staff
- Allow sufficient time and resources to enable the DSL Team to carry out their roles effectively, including the assessment of pupils and attendance at strategy discussions and other necessary meetings.
- Ensures that all staff feel able to raise concerns about poor and unsafe practice and that such concerns are handled sensitively and in accordance with Meadowbrook College's whistleblowing procedures
- Ensure that allegations or concerns against staff are dealt with in accordance with guidance from Department for Education (DfE) and the OSCB procedures.
- Ensure that the child's safety and welfare is addressed through the curriculum.

Higher Level DSL Responsibilities:

- Ensure staff are alert to the various factors that can increase the need for early help as written in KCSIE 2020.
- Carry out tasks delegated by the Board of Trustees such as training of staff, safer recruitment and maintaining a single central register.

- Provide support and advice on all matters pertaining to safeguarding and child protection to all staff, regardless of their position within the school.
- Ensure every member of staff knows who the DSL Team are, have an awareness of the DSL role and know how to contact them.
- Ensure whole school training occurs regularly, with at least annual updates so that staff and volunteers can fulfil their responsibilities knowledgeably.
- Ensure any members of staff joining the school outside the agreed training schedule receive induction prior to commencement of their duties.
- Be aware of the training opportunities and information provided by OSCB to ensure staff are aware of the latest local guidance on safeguarding.
- Develop, implement and review procedures in the school that enable the identification and reporting of all cases, or suspected cases, of abuse.
- Meet any other expectations set out for DSLs in KCSiE 2020.

DSL/DDSL Safeguarding Team Responsibilities

- Working with Children's Social Care, supporting their assessment and planning processes including the school's attendance at conferences and core group meetings and the contribution of written reports for these meetings.
- Contribute to inter-agency working in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children 2019 guidance.
- Refer cases to MASH, and the police where appropriate, in a timely manner avoiding any delay that could place the child at more risk.
- Attend appropriate training and demonstrate evidence of continuing professional development to carry out the role.
- Ensure all staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns about a child to the DSL and concerns about an adult to the headteacher.
- Provide a coordinated offer of early help when additional needs of children are identified.
- Keep records of child protection concerns securely and separately from the main pupil file and use these records to assess the likelihood of risk.
- Ensure that safeguarding records are transferred accordingly (separate from student I files) and in a timely fashion when a child transfers school.
- Ensure that, where a student transfers school and is subject to a child protection plan or is a looked after child, their information is passed to the new school immediately and that the child's social worker is informed.
- Treat any information shared by staff or students with respect and follow agreed policies and procedures.

Board of Trustees responsibilities

- Ensure the school has effective safeguarding policies and procedures including a Safeguarding Policy, a Staff Code of Conduct, a Behaviour Policy and a written response to children who go missing from education.

- Ensure OSCB is informed in line with local requirements about the discharge of duties via the annual safeguarding report that is returned to the Education Safeguarding Advisory Team.
- Ensure recruitment, selection and induction follows safer recruitment practice including all appropriate checks.
- Ensure allegations against staff are dealt with by the Headteacher and that allegations against the Headteacher are dealt with by the Chair of The Board of Trustees.
- Ensure a member of the Senior Leadership Team is appointed as Designated Safeguarding Lead and has this recorded in their job description.
- Ensure staff have been trained appropriately and this is updated in line with guidance.
- Ensure any safeguarding deficiencies or weaknesses are remedied without delay.
- Ensure a nominated member of the Board of Trustees for safeguarding is identified.

19. Annex 2 - Safeguarding definitions, categories and indicators

Abuse and Neglect

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

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

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

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

Indicators of physical abuse / factors that should increase concern

- Multiple bruising or bruises and scratches (especially on the head and face)
- Clusters of bruises – e.g., fingertip bruising (caused by being grasped)

- Bruises around the neck and behind the ears – the most common abusive injuries are to the head
- Bruises on the back, chest, buttocks, or on the inside of the thighs
- Marks indicating injury by an instrument – e.g., linear bruising (stick), parallel bruising (belt), marks of a buckle
- Bite marks
- Deliberate burning may also be indicated by the pattern of an instrument or object – e.g., electric fire, cooker, cigarette
- Scalds with upward splash marks or tide marks
- Untreated injuries
- Recurrent injuries or burns
- Bald patches.

In the social context of the school, it is normal to ask about a noticeable injury. The response to such an enquiry is generally light-hearted and detailed. So, most of all, concern should be increased when:

- the explanation given does not match the injury
- the explanation uses words or phrases that do not match the vocabulary of the child (adult words)
- no explanation is forthcoming
- the child (or the parent/carer) is secretive or evasive
- the injury is accompanied by allegations of abuse or assault

You should be concerned if the child or young person:

- is reluctant to have parents/carers contacted
- runs away or shows fear of going home
- is aggressive towards themselves or others
- flinches when approached or touched
- is reluctant to undress to change clothing for sport
- wears long sleeves during hot weather
- is unnaturally compliant in the presence of parents/carers.
- has a fear of medical help or attention
- admits to a punishment that appears excessive.

Link to OSCB guidance on physical abuse

https://www.oscb.org.uk/safeguarding-themes/physical-abuse/

Emotional abuse: the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond a child's developmental capability as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning or preventing the child from participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the

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

Indicators of emotional abuse

Developmental issues
- Delays in physical, mental and emotional development
- Poor school performance
- Speech disorders, particularly sudden disorders or changes.

Behaviour
- Acceptance of punishment which appears excessive
- Over-reaction to mistakes
- Continual self-deprecation (I'm stupid, ugly, worthless etc)
- Neurotic behaviour (such as rocking, hair-twisting, thumb-sucking)
- Self-mutilation
- Suicide attempts
- Drug/solvent abuse
- Running away
- Compulsive stealing, scavenging
- Acting out
- Poor trust in significant adults
- Regressive behaviour – e.g., wetting
- Eating disorders
- Destructive tendencies
- Neurotic behaviour
- Arriving early at school, leaving late

Social issues
- Withdrawal from physical contact
- Withdrawal from social interaction
- Over-compliant behaviour
- Insecure, clinging behaviour
- Poor social relationships

Emotional responses
- Extreme fear of new situations
- Inappropriate emotional responses to painful situations ("I deserve this")
- Fear of parents being contacted
- Self-disgust
- Low self-esteem
- Unusually fearful with adults
- Lack of concentration, restlessness, aimlessness
- Extremes of passivity or aggression

Most harm is produced in *low warmth, high criticism* homes, not from single incidents.
Emotional abuse is difficult to define, identify/recognise and/or prove.

Emotional abuse is chronic and cumulative and has a long-term impact.

It is sometimes possible to spot emotionally abusive behavior from parents and carers to their children, by the way that the adults are speaking to, or behaving towards children. An appropriate challenge or intervention could affect positive change and prevent more intensive work being carried out later on.

Link to OSCB guidance on emotional abuse

https://www.oscb.org.uk/safeguarding-themes/emotional-abuse/

Link to OSCB guidance on Domestic Abuse

https://www.oscb.org.uk/safeguarding-themes/domestic-abuse/

Sexual abuse:

involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse. Sexual abuse can take place online, and technology can be used to facilitate offline abuse. Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children. The sexual abuse of children by other children is a specific safeguarding issue in education see ANNEX 4.

Characteristics of child sexual abuse:

- it is often planned and systematic – people do not sexually abuse children by accident, though sexual abuse can be opportunistic
- grooming the child – people who abuse children take care to choose a vulnerable child and often spend time making them dependent
- grooming the child's environment – abusers try to ensure that potential adult protectors (parents and other carers especially) are not suspicious of their motives.

Most people who sexually abuse children are men, but some women sexually abuse too.

Indicators of sexual abuse

Physical observations

- Damage to genitalia, anus or mouth
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Unexpected pregnancy, especially in very young girls
- Soreness in genital area, anus or mouth and other medical problems such as chronic itching
- Unexplained recurrent urinary tract infections and discharges or abdominal pain

Behavioural observations

- Sexual knowledge inappropriate for age
- Sexualised behaviour or affection inappropriate for age
- Sexually provocative behaviour/promiscuity
- Hinting at sexual activity. Inexplicable decline in school performance
- Depression or other sudden apparent changes in personality as becoming insecure or clinging
- Lack of concentration, restlessness, aimlessness
- Socially isolated or withdrawn
- Overly-compliant behaviour
- Acting out, aggressive behaviour
- Poor trust or fear concerning significant adults
- Regressive behaviour,
- Onset of wetting, by day or night; nightmares
- Onset of insecure, clinging behaviour
- Arriving early at school, leaving late, running away from home
- Suicide attempts, self-mutilation, self-disgust
- Suddenly drawing sexually explicit pictures
- Eating disorders or sudden loss of appetite or compulsive eating
- Regressing to younger behaviour patterns such as thumb sucking or bringing out discarded cuddly toys
- Become worried about clothing being removed

Link to OSCB guidance on sexual abuse

https://www.oscb.org.uk/safeguarding-themes/sexual-abuse/

Neglect:

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

NSPCC research has highlighted the following examples of the neglect of children under 12:

- frequently going hungry
- frequently having to go to school in dirty clothes
- regularly having to look after themselves because of parents being away or having problems such as drug or alcohol misuse
- being abandoned or deserted
- living at home in dangerous physical conditions
- not being taken to the doctor when ill
- not receiving dental care.

Neglect is a difficult form of abuse to recognise and is often seen as less serious than other categories. It is, however, very damaging: children who are neglected often develop more slowly than others and may find it hard to make friends and fit in with their peer group.

Neglect is often noticed at a stage when it does not pose a risk to the child. The duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children (*What to do if You're Worried a Child is Being Abused* DfE 2015) would suggest that an appropriate intervention or conversation at this early stage can address the issue and prevent a child continuing to suffer until it reaches a point when they are at risk of harm or in significant need.

Link to the OSCBB guidance on Neglect :

http://www.oscb.org.uk/safeguarding-themes/neglect/

The OSCB have also created a neglect toolkit:

https://www.oscb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Child-care-and-development-checklist-neglect-toolkit-2019-update.docx

Neglect is often linked to other forms of abuse, so any concerns school staff have should at least be discussed with the DSL.

Indicators of neglect

The following is a summary of some of the indicators that may suggest a child is being abused or is at risk of harm. It is important to recognise that indicators alone cannot confirm whether a child is being abused. Each child should be seen in the context of their family and wider community and a proper assessment carried out by appropriate persons. What is important to keep in mind is that if you feel unsure or concerned, do something about it. Don't keep it to yourself. The OSCB neglect toolkit provides a more detailed list of indicators of neglect and is available to all staff

Physical indicators of neglect

- Constant hunger and stealing food

- Poor personal hygiene - unkempt, dirty or smelly
- Underweight
- Dress unsuitable for weather
- Poor state of clothing
- Illness or injury untreated

Behavioural indicators of neglect

- Constant tiredness
- Frequent absence from school or lateness
- Missing medical appointments
- Isolated among peers
- Frequently unsupervised
- Stealing or scavenging, especially food

Peer on peer abuse

All staff should be aware that children can abuse other children (often referred to as 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.

Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children

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 as well as their emotional well-being. Sexual violence and sexual harassment exist on a continuum and may overlap; they can occur online and

offline (both physically and verbally) and are never acceptable. It is important that all victims are taken seriously and offered appropriate support.

Reports of sexual violence and sexual harassment are extremely complex to manage. It is essential that victims are protected, offered appropriate support and every effort is made to ensure their education is not disrupted. It is also important that other children, adult students and staff are supported and protected as appropriate.

Meadowbrook College also has access to the Brooks sexual behaviours traffic light tool.

"The tool uses a traffic light system to categorise the sexual behaviours of young people and is designed to help professionals:

- Make decisions about safeguarding children and young people
- Assess and respond appropriately to sexual behaviour in children and young people
- Understand healthy sexual development and distinguish it from harmful behaviour"

    https://www.brook.org.uk/our-work/category/sexual-behaviours-traffic-light-tool?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIkILdmLGy5AIVDLTtCh10vwo5EAAYASAAEgImM_D_BwE

Further information from the DFE can be found on the link below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexual-violence-and-sexual-harassment-between-children-in-schools-and-colleges

Serious violence

All staff should be aware of indicators, which may signal that children are at risk from, or are involved with serious violent crime. These may include increased absence from school, a change in friendships or relationships with older individuals or groups, a significant decline in performance, signs of self-harm or a significant change in wellbeing, or signs of assault or unexplained injuries. Unexplained gifts or new possessions could also indicate that children have been approached by, or are involved with, individuals associated with criminal networks or gangs.

All staff should be aware of the associated risks and understand the measures in place to manage these. Advice for schools and colleges is provided in the Home Office's Preventing youth violence and gang involvement and its Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines guidance

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/advice-to-schools-and-colleges-on-gangs-and-youth-violence

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criminal-exploitation-of-children-and-vulnerable-adults-county-lines

Upskirting

'Upskirting' 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. It is now a criminal offence.

'Honour-based' violence (including Female Genital Mutilation and Forced Marriage)

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

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 is a form of child abuse with long-lasting harmful consequences.

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.

Contextual safeguarding

Safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours can be associated with factors outside Meadowbrook College and/or can occur between children outside of school hours or in the holidays. All staff, but especially the designated safeguarding lead (and deputies) should be considering the context within which such incidents and/or behaviours occur. This is known as contextual safeguarding, which simply means 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. Children's social care assessments should consider such factors so it is important that schools and colleges provide as much information as possible as part of the referral process. This will allow any assessment to consider all the available evidence and the full context of any abuse. Additional information regarding contextual safeguarding is available here:

https://contextualsafeguarding.org.uk/about/what-is-contextual-safeguarding

Link to OSCB guidance on contextual safeguarding

https://www.oscb.org.uk/safeguarding-themes/contextual-safeguarding/

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 involve sexual abuse or exploitation and child criminal exploitation. It may indicate mental health problems, risk of substance abuse, risk of travelling to conflict zones, risk of female genital mutilation or risk of forced marriage. Early intervention is necessary to identify the existence of any underlying safeguarding risk and to help prevent the risks of a child going missing in future. Staff should be aware of Meadowbrook's unauthorised absence and children missing from education procedures.

Child sexual exploitation

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

- can affect any child or young person (male or female) under the age of 18 years, including 16- and 17-year olds who can legally consent to have sex;
- can still be abuse even if the sexual activity appears consensual;
- can include both contact (penetrative and non-penetrative acts) and noncontact sexual activity;
- can take place in person or via technology, or a combination of both;
- can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and may, or may not, be accompanied by violence or threats of violence;
- may occur without the child or young person's immediate knowledge (e.g.
- through others copying videos or images they have created and posted on social media);
- can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and children or adults. The abuse can be a one-off occurrence or a series of incidents over time, and range from opportunistic to complex organised abuse; and
- is typified by some form of power imbalance in favour of those perpetrating the abuse. Whilst age may be the most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, sexual identity, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources.

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Link to OSCB guidance on CSE

https://www.oscb.org.uk/safeguarding-themes/child-exploitation-modern-slavery/ and the CSE screening tool https://www.oscb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Child-Exploitation-Screening-Tool.pdf

Child criminal exploitation: county lines

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

Like other forms of abuse and exploitation, county lines exploitation:

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

Link to OSCB guidance on child criminal exploitation

https://www.oscb.org.uk/safeguarding-themes/child-exploitation-modern-slavery/child-drug-exploitation-county-lines/

Further information around safeguarding issues can be found in KCSIE 2020 (Annex A) and on the OSCB website.

21. Annex 4 - Table of DSL safeguarding teams for each programme at Meadowbrook College:

Names in bold on the table below are the higher level DSLs across Meadowbrook College

Programme	**DSL**/DDSL
Pioneers	**Elaine Kinnell**

	Beverley O'Toole
On-Course/Discovery	Nick Lacey Beverley O'Toole
Harlow	Syrene Dixon Simon Hemsworth **Jacqui West**
West Bar	Carl Humphreys **Susy Morgan**
Bridges	Beverley O'Toole **Elaine Kinnell**
Ambrose House	Carly Bayliss **Jacqui West**
Next Step	Ryan Lloyd **Nicola Partridge**

Covid 19 Annexes

22. Annex 5: Addendum document: Covid-19 arrangements for safeguarding and child protection at Meadowbrook College
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0Bwcfuo7E3DwoY0g2azFuTUFWYkE

23. Annex 6: Appendix from OCC for child protection and safeguarding policy May 2020 as phased return of pupils begins

Key actions to take into account:

·   Ensure your safeguarding policy is reviewed where needed as more children come into school

·   Ensure staff know name of DSL(s) and how to contact (each day)

·   Risk assessments are in place and link together Safeguarding and Health and Safety

·   Ensure safeguarding information remains up to date

·   All safeguarding/child protection files are up to date, including actions and outcomes

· DSLs keep up to date with safeguarding issues

· If any of your pupils have been attending other schools/settings you must ensure all information is gathered from the "host" setting

· Vulnerable children with social workers, or EHCPs should continue to attend school

· No need to re-do DBS for staff away from school

· Take into consideration that for many children their mental health may have been impacted

· Schools should continue to do all they 'reasonably' can to ensure children at home are safe online

Below is the link to the latest guidance:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers/coronavirus-covid-19-safeguarding-in-schools-colleges-and-other-providers

Please consider the below points from the above guidance when creating your appendix:

- reflecting that staff and volunteers may identify new safeguarding concerns about individual children as they see them in person following partial school closures
- what staff and volunteers should do if they have any concerns about a child, including new concerns where children are returning
- the continued importance of all staff and volunteers acting and acting immediately on any safeguarding concerns, including new concerns where children are returning
- reflecting (where resources allow) that DSLs (and deputies) will have more time to support staff and children regarding new concerns (and referrals as appropriate) as more children return
- reflecting the importance of ensuring relevant safeguarding and welfare information held on all children (including returning children) remains accurate. Schools and colleges (led by the DSL or deputy) should be doing all they reasonably can to ask parents and carers to advise them of any changes regarding welfare, health and wellbeing that they should be aware of before a child returns
- DSL (and deputy) arrangements
- peer on peer abuse - given the different circumstances schools and colleges are operating in, a revised process may be required for managing any report of such abuse and supporting victims (the principles as set out in part 5 of KCSIE should continue to inform any revised approach)
- what staff and volunteers should do if they have concerns about a staff member or volunteer who may pose a safeguarding risk to children (the principles in part 4 of KCSIE will continue to support how a school or college responds to any such concerns)

- the approach to protecting vulnerable children (see below for further details on vulnerable children)
- what arrangements are in place to keep children not physically attending the school or college safe, especially online and how concerns about these children should be progressed (see below for further details covering online safety)
- any updated advice received from the local safeguarding partners. DSLs (or deputies) should be leading the school or college's input into the local arrangements
- any updated advice received from local authorities regarding children with education, health and care (EHC) plans, the local authority designated officer and children's social care, reporting mechanisms, referral thresholds and children in need
- the continued importance for school and college staff to work with and support children's social workers, the local authority virtual school head for looked-after and previously looked-after children and any other relevant safeguarding and welfare partners

It is important that all staff and volunteers are aware of any new amendments and have read and understand the expectations on them. Staff need to be kept up to date as it is revised. The revised policy should continue to be made available publicly.

Alison Beasley

Designated Officer and Manager of Education Safeguarding Team (ESAT),May 2020

24. Annex 7 - OCC Practice Guidelines for Frontline Practitioners: Safeguarding vulnerable children
-https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0Bwcfuo7E3DwoY0g2azFuTUFWYkE

Trustees Approval and Review Dates

This policy was reviewed March 2020 as a result of COVID-19.

The policy was approved by the Radcliffe Academy Trustees at the full board meeting on 13th July 2020

It was further reviewed in November 2020

This policy is due for renewal November 2021

Date	Author	Change	Reviewed by Trustees
20.03.2020	SM/EK	Revamped policy in line with KCSIE	13th July 2020
30.11.20	SM/EK	Updated policy in line with KCSIE 2020 as well as other minor changes due to Covid 19	November 2020