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Success Academy Safeguarding Policy

This is a Trust wide policy adopted by all schools within the Success Academy Trust.

**Named staff and contacts**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **School** | **Designated Safeguarding Lead** | **Deputy Dedicated Safeguarding Lead** | **Nominated Safeguarding Governor** |
| Hallbrook | Richard Haltof | Tracy O’BoyleAlison Dye | David Marcus |
| Richmond | Carolyn Munton | Emma Clark, Michael Pallett Jennifer Carter, Jeanette Starbuck | Lee Finley |
| Cosby | Tracy Withers |  | Melvyn Booley |
| Thomas Estley | Cathy Cornelius | Emilia Plumb, Jon Boden Tracey GaskinGemma Cooper, Sarah Lee, Nick Robinson | Bruce Perrett |

* Safeguarding and Improvement Unit contacts:

 **Safeguarding and Improvement Unit Service Manager):**

 Chris Nerini 0116 305 5475

 **LADO / Allegations:**

 Mark Goddard, Karen Browne 0116 305 7597

 **Safeguarding Development Officers:**

 Simon Genders 0116 305 7750

 Ann Prideaux 0116 3057317

**First Response Children’s Duty (Priority 1 referrals)**

Telephone 0116 3050005

Fax 0116 3050011

Email childrensduty@leics.gov.uk

Address First Response Children’s Duty

 Room 100b

 County Hall

 Championship Way

 Glenfield

 LE3 8RF

**All other referrals Early Help – request for services Queries**

<http://lrsb.org.uk/childreport> <http://lrsb.org.uk/childreport> tel: 0116 3058727



**THOMAS ESTLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Safeguarding Policy

**2018-19**

**LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES**

MODEL POLICY AND PROCEDURES ON SAFEGUARDING / CHILD PROTECTION FOR SCHOOLS (VERSION: September 2016)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Reviewed by** | **Summary of changes** | **Date** |
| Cathy Cornelius | **See information in red** | September 18 |
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**Named staff and contacts**

* Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Cathy Cornelius, Vice Principal
* Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead/s

 (DDSL): Maxine Young, Assistant Principal

Emilia Plumb, SENCo

Christian Berry, Thomas Team Leader

Gemma Cooper, Estley Team Leader

Sarah Lee, Thorp Team Leader

Nick Robinson, Sutton Team Leader

* Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC) Cathy Cornelius, Vice Principal
* Designated Teacher for Children in Care Cathy Cornelius, Vice Principal
* Nominated Safeguarding Governor (NSG): Bruce Perrett, Chair of Governors
* Safeguarding and Improvement Unit contacts:

 **Safeguarding and Improvement Unit Service Manager (Acting):**

 Chris Nerini 0116 305 5475

 **LADO / Allegations:**

 Mark Goddard, Karen Browne 0116 305 7597

 **Safeguarding Development Officers:**

 Simon Genders 0116 305 7750

 Ann Prideaux 0116 3057317

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# 1 Introduction

1.1 Thomas Estley Community College fully recognises the contribution it can make to protect children and support students in school. The aim of the policy is to safeguard and promote our students’ welfare, safety and health by fostering an honest, open, caring and supportive climate. The students’ welfare is of paramount importance.

1.2 This policy is consistent with:

* the legal duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, as described in section 175 of the Education Act 2002 [or section 157 of the Education Act 2002 for independent schools and academies] and the Statutory guidance “*Keeping children safe in education – Statutory guidance for schools and colleges”, September 2016* and *“Working Together to Safeguard Children”, 2015.*
* the Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Procedures, which contain procedures and guidance for safeguarding children;

1.3 There are four main elements to our Child Protection Policy:

* **Prevention** (e.g. positive college atmosphere, teaching and pastoral support to students, safer recruitment procedures);
* **Protection** (by following agreed procedures, ensuring staff are trained and supported to respond appropriately and sensitively to Child Protection concerns;
* **Support** (to students and college staff and to children who may have been abused);
* **Working with parents** (to ensure appropriate communications and actions are undertaken).

1.4 This policy applies to all staff, governors and visitors to the college. We recognise that child protection is the responsibility of all adults in the school. We will ensure that all parents and other working partners are aware of our child protection policy by mentioning it in our college prospectus, displaying appropriate information in our reception and on the college website and by raising awareness at meetings with parents.

1.5 **Extended college activities**

Where the Governing Body provides services or activities directly under the supervision or management of college staff, the college’s arrangements for child protection will apply. Where services or activities are provided separately by another body, the Governing Body will seek assurance in writing that the body concerned has appropriate policies and procedures in place to safeguard and protect children and there are arrangements to liaise with the college on these matters where appropriate.

# 2 Safeguarding Commitment

2.1 The college adopts an open and accepting attitude towards children as part of its responsibility for pastoral care. Staff encourage children and parents to feel free to talk about any concerns and to see college as a safe place when there are difficulties. Children’s worries and fears will be taken seriously and children are encouraged to seek help from members of staff.

2.2 Our college will therefore:

* Establish and maintain an ethos where children feel secure and are encouraged to talk, and are listened to;
* Ensure that children know that there are adults in the college whom they can approach if they are worried or are in difficulty;
* Include in the curriculum activities and opportunities for PSHE/Citizenship which equip children with the skills they need to stay safe from abuse (including online), and to know to whom they can turn for help;
* Ensure every effort is made to establish effective working relationships with parents and colleagues from other agencies;
* Operate safer recruitment procedures and make sure that all appropriate checks are carried out on new staff and volunteers who will work with children, including identity, right to work, enhanced DBS criminal record and barred list (and overseas where needed), references, and prohibition from teaching or managing in schools (s.128).

2.3 **Safeguarding in the Curriculum**

Bullying/Cyberbullying (*Assembly, Safety Booklet, Drama, Tutor Time*)

Drugs, alcohol and substance abuse (*Health Module*)

E Safety / Internet safety (*ICT, Safety Booklet, Assembly*)

Stranger danger (*Safety Booklet*)

Fire and water safety (*ASDAN, Tutor Time*)

Road safety (*CRE*)

Domestic violence / Health Relationships / Consent (*Health Module*)

so called Honour Based Violence issues (HBV) e.g. forced marriage (*Year 8 CRE*), Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (*Health Module*) (see Appendix 6),

Sexual exploitation of children (CSE) (*Health Module*)

 Extremism and Radicalisation (*Year 8 CRE*) (see Appendices 4 and 5)

# 3 Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 General

All adults working with or on behalf of children have a responsibility to safeguard and promote their welfare. This includes a responsibility to be alert to possible abuse and to record and report concerns to staff identified with child protection responsibilities within the college.

The names of the Designated Safeguarding Leads for the current year are listed at the start of this document.

# 3.2 Governing Body

In accordance with the Statutory Guidance “Keeping children safe in education” September 2018*,* the Governing Body will ensure that:-

* The college has a child protection/safeguarding policy, procedures and training in place which are effective and comply with the law at all times.The policy is made available publicly.
* The college operates safer recruitment practices, including appropriate use of references and checks on new staff and volunteers. Furthermore, the Principal, a nominated Governor and other staff involved in the recruitment process have undertaken Safer Recruitment Training.
* There are procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff and volunteers (see Appendix 2).
* There is a senior member of the college’s leadership team who is designated to take lead responsibility for dealing with child protection (the “Designated Safeguarding Lead”) and there is always cover for this role with appropriate arrangements for before/after college and out of term time activities.
* The Designated Safeguarding Lead undertakes effective Local Authority training (in addition to basic child protection training) and this is refreshed every two years. In addition to this formal training, their knowledge and skills are updated at regular intervals (at least annually) via safeguarding e-briefings etc.
* The Principal, and all other staff and volunteers who work with children (including early years practitioners within settings on the college site), undertake appropriate training which is regularly updated (at least every three years in compliance with the LSCB protocol); and that new staff and volunteers who work with children are made aware of the college’s arrangements for child protection and their responsibilities (including this policy and Part 1 of Keeping Children Safe in Education). The Local Authority Induction leaflet, “Safeguarding in Education Induction – Child Protection Information, Safer Working Practice” will be used as part of this induction.
* Any deficiencies or weaknesses brought to the attention of the Governing Body will be rectified without delay.
* Chair of Governors (or, in the absence of a Chair, the Vice Chair) deals with any allegations of abuse made against the Principal, in liaison with the Local Authority Allegations Manager (LADO).
* Effective policies and procedures are in place and updated annually including a behaviour “code of conduct” for staff and volunteers - “Guidance for Safer Working Practice for those who work with children in education settings October 2015”. Information is provided to the Local Authority (on behalf of the LSCB) through the Annual Safeguarding Return.
* There is an individual member of the Governing Body who will champion issues to do with safeguarding children and child protection within the college, liaise with the Designated Safeguarding Lead, and provide information and reports to the Governing Body.
* The college contributes to inter-agency working in line with statutory guidance “Working Together to Safeguard Children” 2015 including providing a co-ordinated offer of Early Help for children who require this. This Early Help may be offered directly through college provision or via referral to an external support agency (eg Supporting Leicestershire Familes). Safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practice of the local authority and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

# 3.3 Principal

The Principal of the college will ensure that:

* The policies and procedures adopted by the Governing Body are effectively implemented, and followed by all staff;
* Sufficient resources and time are allocated to enable the Safeguarding Lead and other staff to discharge their responsibilities, including taking part in strategy discussions and other inter-agency meetings, and contributing to the assessment of children;
* Allegations of abuse or concerns that a member of staff or adult working at college may pose a risk of harm to a child or young person are notified to the Local Authority Allegations Manager
* All staff and volunteers feel able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice in regard to children, and such concerns are addressed sensitively and effectively in a timely manner. The NSPCC whistle blowing helpline number is also available (0800 028 0285).
* All staff are made aware that they have an individual responsibility to pass on safeguarding concerns and that if all else fails to report these directly to Children’s Social Care (Children’s Services) or the Police.
	1. **Designated Safeguarding Lead**

The responsibilities of the Designated Safeguarding Lead are found in Annex B of “Keeping children safe in education” and include:

* Provision of information to the LSCB/Local Authority on safeguarding and child protection in compliance with section 14B of the Children Act 2004.
* Liaison with the Governing Body and the Local Authority on any deficiencies brought to the attention of the Governing Body and how these should be rectified without delay.
* Management and Referral of cases of suspected abuse to Specialist Services First Response Children’s Duty (and/or Police where a crime may have been committed)
* Act as a source of support, advice and expertise within the college
* To attend and contribute to child protection conferences when required
* Be alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with educational needs and young carers
* Ensure each member of staff has access to and understands the college’s child protection policy especially new or part-time staff who may work with different educational establishments;
* Ensure all staff have induction training covering child protection and staff behaviour and are able to recognise and report any concerns immediately they arise and to give Part 1 of “Keeping children safe in education” to all staff;
* Keep detailed, accurate and secure written records of concerns and referrals;
* Obtain access to resources and effective training for all staff and attend refresher training courses every two years. Keep up to date with new developments in safeguarding by accessing briefings and journals.
* Where children leave the college, ensure their child protection file is handed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and signed for in the new school/college as soon as possible.
* Maintain and monitor child protection records, including monitoring and acting upon individual concerns, patterns of concerns (e.g. children who repeatedly go missing) or complaints, in accordance with the section on “Records, Monitoring and Transfer” below.

## **4 Records, Monitoring and Transfer**

4.1 Well-kept records are essential to good child protection practice. All staff are clear about the need to record and report concerns about a child or children within the school. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is responsible for such records and for deciding at what point these records should be passed over to other agencies.

4.2 Records relating to actual or alleged abuse or neglect are stored apart from normal student or staff records. Normal records sometimes have markers to show that there is sensitive material stored elsewhere. This is to protect individuals from accidental access to sensitive material by those who do not need to know.

4.3 Child protection records are stored securely, with access confined to specific staff, eg Designated Safeguarding Leads and the Principal.

4.4 Child protection records are reviewed regularly to check whether any action or updating is needed. This includes monitoring patterns of complaints or concerns about any individuals and ensuring these are acted upon.

4.5 When children transfer school their safeguarding records are also transferred. Safeguarding records will be transferred separately from other records and best practice is to pass these directly to a Designated Safeguarding Lead in the receiving school *[or 6th form / FE college]*, with any necessary discussion or explanation and to obtain a signed and dated record of the transfer. In the event of a child moving out of area and a physical handover not being possible then the most secure method should be found to send the confidential records to a named Designated Safeguarding Lead and a photocopy kept. Files requested by other agencies e.g. Police should be copied.

**5 Support to students and college staff**

5.1 Support to students

Our college recognises that children who are abused or who witness violence may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth and view the world in a positive way. For such children college may be one of the few stable, secure and predictable components of their lives. Other children may be vulnerable because, for instance, they have a disability, are in care, or are experiencing some form of neglect. Our college seeks to remove any barriers that may exist in being able to recognize abuse or neglect in students experiencing Special Educational Needs or Disability. We will seek to provide such children with the necessary support and to build their self-esteem and confidence.

5.2 **Peer on Peer Abuse** - This college recognises that children sometimes display abusive behaviour themselves and that such incidents or allegations must be referred on for appropriate support and intervention. Such abuse will not be tolerated or passed off as “banter” or “part of growing up”. This abuse could for example include sexual violence and harassment, initiation/hazing type violence, all forms of bullying, aggrevated sexting and physical violence experienced by both boys and girls. There are separate college and local authority or LSCB guidances and policies to address these concerns including the Behaviour Policy, Anti-bullying Policy, E-safety Policy, “Guidance for schools working with children who display harmful sexually abusive behaviour” (Leicestershire LA Guidance)*.* Where specific risks are identified, a risk assessment will be undertaken in order to ensure the safety of all staff and students. (See appendix 8 for further details).

5.3 **Sexting**

 College will always respond if informed that children have been involved in ‘sexting’ (youth produced sexual imagery). The UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) guidance, “Sexting in schools and colleges:responding to incidents and safeguarding young people” will be used to guide the college’s response on a case by case basis.

The key points being:-

* Inform the Principal/DSL as soon as possible
* Support the victim as appropriate and in accordance with their best interests
* Inform all parents of involved children unless by doing so you put a child at risk
* Images will not be viewed by college staff
* If college is to deal with the matter, involve parents in ensuring the images are deleted
* If there is evidence of exploitation or the targeting of a vulnerable student, inform the police

5.4 **Sexual violence and sexual harassment**

Sexual violence refers to sexual offences as described under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 including rape and sexual assault. Sexual harassment is ‘unwanted conduct of a sexual nature’ that can occur online and offline and may include sexual name-calling, taunting or “jokes” and physical behaviour, for example, deliberately brushing against someone or interfering with clothes. Girls are more likely to be the victims of sexual violence and harassment and boys are more likely to be the prepetrators. However sexual violence and sexual harassment can occur between two children of any sex.

 **Curriculum**

Planned PHSE and SRE will include ‘healthy and respectful behaviours’. This will be age and stage of development appropriate. It will also be underpinned by the school’s behaviour policy and pastoral support system.

 **Responding to an incident**

* School will follow the DfE guidance, ‘Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges’, December 2017.
* We will liaise with the police, social care and parents as appropriate.
* We will offer support to both the victim(s) and perpetrator(s). Parents will be included in discussions about the format that this support will take.

5.5 **Children Missing from Education** – our college recognises the entitlement that all children have to education and will work closely with the local authority to share information about students who may be missing out on full time education or who go missing from education. The local authority will also be informed where children are to be removed from the college register a) to be educated outside the college system; b) for medical reasons; c) because they have ceased to attend; d) because they are in custody; d) because they have been permanently excluded.

 5.6 **Child sexual exploitation** is a form of sexual abuse where children are sexually exploited for money, power or status. It can involve violent, humiliating and degrading sexual assaults. In some cases, young people are persuaded or forced into exchanging sexual activity for money, drugs, gifts, affection or status. A significant number of children who are victims of sexual exploitation go missing from home, care and education at some point. Staff training includes raising awareness of this issue and any concerns are passed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead who will make a risk assessment and refer to Local Authority First Response Children’s Duty if appropriate.

5.7 **So-called ‘honour-based’ violence** (HBV) encompasses crimes which have been committed to protect or defend the so-called “honour” of the family and/or the community, including Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) (see appendix 6), forced marriage, and practices such as breast ironing. All forms of so called HBV are abuse (regardless of the motivation) and concerns will be passed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead for onward referral as required.

5.8 **Private fostering arrangements** - Where a child under 16 (or 18 with a disability) is living with someone who is not their family or a close relative for 28 days or more, staff inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead so that a referral to Children’s Social Care for a safety check, can be made. (A close relative includes step-parent, grandparents, uncle, auntie or sibling).

5.9 Complaints or concerns raised by parents or students will be taken seriously and followed up in accordance with the college’s complaints process.

5.10 Support for Staff

 As part of their duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people staff may hear information, either from the child/young person as part of a disclosure or from another adult that will be upsetting. Where a member of staff is distressed as a result of dealing with a child protection concern, he/she should in the first instance speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead about the support they require. The Designated Safeguarding Lead should seek to arrange the necessary support.

**6 Working with parents/carers**

 The college will:

* Ensure that parents/carers have an understanding of the responsibility placed on the college and staff for child protection by setting out its obligations in the college prospectus.
* Undertake appropriate discussion with parents/carers prior to involvement of Children & Family Services Children’s Social Care or another agency, unless to do so would place the child at risk of harm or compromise an investigation.

**7 Other Relevant Policies**

7.1 The Governing Body’s statutory responsibility for safeguarding the welfare of children goes beyond simply child protection. The duty is to ensure that safeguarding permeates all activity and functions. This policy therefore complements and supports a range of other policies, for instance*:*

* Behaviour Management
* Racist incidents
* Anti-Bullying (including Cyberbullying)
* Physical Interventions/Restraint (DfE Guidances “Use of Reasonable Force” and “Screening, searching and confiscation”)
* Special Educational Needs
* Trips and visits
* Work experience and extended work placements
* First aid and the administration of medicines
* Health and Safety
* Sex and Relationships Education
* Site Security
* Equal Opportunities
* Toileting/Intimate care
* e-safety
* Extended college activities

The above list is not exhaustive but when undertaking development or planning of any kind the college will consider the implications for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

**8 Recruitment and Selection of Staff**

8.1 The college’s safer recruitment processes follow the Statutory Guidance: *Keeping children safe in education September 2016, Part Three: Safer recruitment*.

8.2 The college will provide all the relevant information in references for a member of staff about whom there have been concerns about child protection / inappropriate conduct. Cases in which the conclusion of an allegation has been proven to be unsubstantiated, unfounded, false or malicious will not be included in employer references. A history of repeated concerns or allegations which have all been found to be unsubstantiated, malicious etc. will also not be included in a reference.

8.3 The college has an open safeguarding ethos regularly addressing safeguarding responsibilities during staff meetings and fostering an ongoing culture of vigilance. All new staff and volunteers receive a safeguarding induction and are briefed on the code of conduct for adults working with children. The Leicestershire County Council induction leaflet is given to all staff and is the basis for the safeguarding induction.

8.4 In line with statutory requirements, every interview panel for college staff will have at least one member (teacher/manager or governor) who has undertaken safer recruitment training either online or by attending the local authority one day Safer Recruitment training course.

8.5 Staff and volunteers who provide early years or later years childcare and any managers of such childcare are covered by the disqualification regulations of the Childcare Act 2006 and are required to declare relevant information - see statutory guidance: Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006 (February 2015).

## **APPENDIX 1**

## **PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW IN CASES OF POSSIBLE, ALLEGED OR SUSPECTED ABUSE, OR SERIOUS CAUSE FOR CONCERN ABOUT A CHILD**

**Contents**

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| **A** | **General** |  |
| **B** | **Individual Staff/Volunteers/Other Adults - main procedural steps** |  |
| **C** | **Designated Safeguarding Lead – main procedural steps** |  |

**A. General**

1. The Local Safeguarding Children Board Procedures contain the inter-agency processes, protocols and expectations for safeguarding children. (Available on LSCB website www.lrsb.org.uk: The Designated Safeguarding Lead is expected to be familiar with these, particularly the referral processes.
2. It is important that all parties act swiftly and avoid delays.
3. Any person may seek advice and guidance from the First Response Children’s Duty Professionals Consultation Line, particularly if there is doubt about how to proceed. Any adult, whatever their role, can take action in his/her own right to ensure that an allegation or concern is investigated and can report to the investigating agencies.
4. Written records, dated and signed, must be made to what has been alleged, noticed and reported, and kept securely and confidentially.
5. In many cases of concern there will be an expectation that there have already been positive steps taken to work with parents and relevant parties to help alleviate the concerns and effect an improvement for the child. This is appropriate where it is thought a child may be in need in some way, and require assessment to see whether additional support and services are required. An example might be where it is suspected a child may be the subject of neglect. In most cases the parents’ knowledge and consent to the referral are expected, unless there is reason for this not being in the child’s interest. However, there will be circumstances when informing the parent/carer of a referral that might put the child at risk, and in individual cases advice from Children’s Social Care will need to be taken.

**B. Individual Staff/Volunteers/Other Adults – main procedural steps**

1. When a child makes a disclosure, or when concerns are received from other sources, do not investigate, ask leading questions, examine children, or promise confidentiality. Children making disclosures should be reassured and if possible at this stage should be informed what action will be taken next.
2. As soon as possible write a dated, timed and signed note of what has been disclosed or noticed, said or done and report to the Designated Safeguarding Lead in the college.
3. If the concern involves the conduct of a member of staff or volunteer, a visitor, a governor, a trainee or another young person or child, the Principal must be informed.
4. If the allegation is about the Principal, the information should normally be passed to the Chair of Governors or the Local Authority Allegations Manager (LADO).
5. If this has not already been done, inform the child (or other party who has raised the concern) what action you have taken.
6. **Designated Safeguarding Lead – main procedural steps**
7. Begin a case file which will hold a record of communications and actions to be stored securely (see Section on Records, Monitoring and Transfer).
8. Where initial enquiries do not justify a referral to the investigating agencies, inform the initiating adult and monitor the situation. If in doubt, seek advice from the First Response professionals Consultation line.
9. Share information confidentially with those who need to know.
10. Where there is a child protection concern requiring immediate, same day, intervention from Children’s Social Care (Priority 1), the First Response Children’s Duty should be contacted by phone. Written confirmation should be made within 24 hours on the LSCB Agency Referral Form to Children’s Social Care. All other referrals should be made using the online form (see link <http://lrsb.org.uk/childreport>).
11. If the concern is about children using harmful sexual behaviour, refer to the separate guidance.
12. If it appears that urgent medical attention is required arrange for the child to be taken to hospital (normally this means calling an ambulance) accompanied by a member of staff who must inform medical staff that non-accidental injury is suspected. Parents must be informed that the child has been taken to hospital.
13. Exceptional circumstances: If it is feared that the child might be at immediate risk on leaving college, take advice from the First Response Professionals Consultation line (for instance about difficulties if the college day has ended, or on whether to contact the police). Remain with the child until the Social Worker takes responsibility. If in these circumstances a parent arrives to collect the child, the member of staff has no right to withhold the child, unless there are current legal restrictions in force (eg a restraining order). If there are clear signs of physical risk or threat, First Response Children’s Duty should be updated and the Police should be contacted immediately.

**APPENDIX 2**

**PROCESS FOR DEALING WITH ALLEGATIONS AGAINST STAFF (INCLUDING PRINCIPALS) AND VOLUNTEERS**

These procedures should be followed in all cases in which there is an allegation or suspicion that a person working 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.

Relevant documents:

* DfE “Keeping children safe in education: Statutory guidance for schools and colleges” September 2016 (part 4: Allegations of abuse made against teachers and other staff)

#### Individual Staff/Volunteers/Other Adults who receive the allegation:

* 1. Write a dated and timed note of what has been disclosed or noticed, said or done.
	2. Report immediately to the Principal.
	3. Pass on the written record.

iv. If the allegation concerns the conduct of the Principal, report immediately to the Chair of Governors. Pass on the written record. (If there is difficulty reporting to the Chair of Governors, contact the Allegations Manager, Safeguarding and Improvement Unit as soon as possible.)

##### Principal (or Chair of Governors)

* 1. If there is no written record, write a dated and timed note of what has been disclosed or noticed, said or done.
	2. Before taking further action notify and seek advice from the Allegations Manager, Safeguarding and Improvement Unit on the same day.
	3. You may be asked to clarify details or the circumstances of the allegation, but this must not amount to an investigation.
	4. Report to First Response Children’s Duty if the Allegations Manager so advises or if circumstances require a referral concerning a child.
	5. Ongoing involvement in cases:
* Liaison with the Allegations Manager
* Co-operation with the investigating agency’s enquiries as appropriate.
* Consideration of employment issues and possible disciplinary action where the investigating agencies take no further action.
* Possible referral to the DBS or NCTL, depending on the outcome.

**APPENDIX 3**

**Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Policy for the use of Cameras and Mobile Phones**

To ensure the safety and welfare of the children in our care this policy outlines the protocol for the use of personal mobile phones and cameras in the college.

* All staff must ensure that their mobile phones, personal cameras and recording devices are stored securely during working hours on college premises or when on outings. (This includes visitors, volunteers and students)
* Mobile phones must not be used in any teaching area in college or within toilet or changing areas
* Only college equipment should be used to record classroom activities. Photos should be put on the college system as soon as possible and not sent to or kept on personal devices
* During college outings nominated staff will have access to a college mobile which can be used for emergency or contact purposes
* All telephone contact with parents or carers must be made on the college phone and a note kept
* Parents or carers are permitted to take photographs of their own children during a college production or event. The college protocol requires that photos of other people’s children are not published on social networking sites such as Facebook.

**APPENDIX 4**

**Safeguarding students who are vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation**

Our college recognises the duties placed on us by the Counter Terrorism Bill (July 2015) to prevent our students being drawn into terrorism.

These include:

* Assessing the risk of students being drawn into terrorism (see Appendix 5)
* Working in partnership with relevant agencies under the LSCB procedures
* Appropriate staff training
* Appropriate online filtering

Our college is committed to actively promoting the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; the students are encouraged to develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

There is a current threat from terrorism in the UK and this can include the exploitation of vulnerable young people, aiming to involve them in terrorism or to be active in supporting terrorism.

Our college seeks to protect children and young people against the messages of all violent extremism including but not restricted to those linked to Islamic Ideology, Far Right / Neo Nazi / White Supremacist ideology etc. Concerns should be referred to the Single Point Of Contact (SPOC) (usually a Designated Safeguarding Lead or Principal) who have local contact details for Prevent and Channel referrals. They will also consider whether circumstances require Police to be contacted.

**APPENDIX 5**

# Radicalisation and Extremism Risk Assessment

# College………………………………………………………………..….

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Yes/No** | **Evidence** |
| Does the college have a policy? |  |  |
| Does the college work with outsideagencies on radicalisation and extremism e.g. Channel? |  |  |
| Have staff received appropriate training? |  |  |
| Has the college got a trained Prevent  lead? |  |  |
| Do staff know who to discuss concerns with? (Single point of contact - SPOC) |  |  |
| Is suitable filtering of the internet in place? |  |  |
| Do children know who to talk to about their concerns?  |  |   |
| Are there opportunities for children to learn about radicalisation and extremism? |  |  |
| Have any cases been reported? |  |  |
| Are individual students risk assessed? |  |  |
| What factors make the college community potentially vulnerable to being radicalised?(e.g. EDL local base, extreme religious views promoted locally, tensions between local communities, promotion of radical websites by some students/parents) |  |
| Comment on the college’s community, locality and relevant history |
| Risk evaluation |  **Low****Medium****High** | Way Forward |

Date completed…………………………………….. Signed…………………………………………

**APPENDIX 6**

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**The following link is for additional guidance on the the prevent agenda:** [**http://llrscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p\_viol\_extrem.html#referral**](http://llrscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_viol_extrem.html#referral)

**APPENDIX 7**

**Female Genital Mutilation**

Starting in October 2015, section 5B of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 and section 74 of the Serious Crime Act 2015 placed a mandatory duty on teachers along with social workers and healthcare professionals to report to the police where they discover that FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18 or where a girl discloses that she has undergone FGM. The college’s response to FGM will take into account the government guidance, “Multi-agency statutory guidance on female genital mutilation” April 2016. Staff will also follow the established safeguarding procedure by reporting any such concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and a report must also be made to the Police.

There will be a considered safeguarding response towards any girl who is identified as being at risk of FGM (eg there is a known history of practising FGM in her family, community or country of origin) which may include sensitive conversations with the girl and her family, sharing information with professionals from other agencies and/or making a referral to Children’s Social Care. If the risk of harm is imminent there are a number of emergency measures that can be taken including police protection, an FGM protection order and an Emergency Protection Order.

**Equality Monitoring**

Thomas Estley Community College’s commitment to equality and diversity means that this policy, via an Equality Impact Assessment, has been screened in relation to the use of gender-neutral language, recognition of the needs of disabled people, promotion of the positive duty in relation to race, age, disability and avoidance of stereotypes.

Based on the Equality Impact Assessment findings, this policy is judged to be of low impact against the equality strands of Race, Gender, Religion, Disability Sexual Orientation and Age. A copy of the Equality Impact Assessment of this policy is available from the Principal’s PA.

This Policy is available in alternative formats on request. If you think we can improve the fairness of this Policy, please contact the individual who has responsibility for its update.

**(APPENDIX 8)**

**Peer on Peer Abuse Policy and Procedures**

At Thomas Estley Community College, we continue to ensure that any form of abuse or harmful behaviour is dealt with immediately and consistently to reduce the extent of harm to the young person, with full consideration to impact on that individual child’s emotional and mental health and well-being.

P**urpose and Aim**

Children and young people may be harmful to one another in a number of ways, which would be classified as peer on peer abuse. The purpose of this policy is to explore the many forms of peer on peer abuse and include a planned and supportive response to the issues.

At Thomas Estley, we have the following policies in place that should be read in conjunction with this policy:

Behaviour and rewards Policy

Anti-Bullying policy

# Framework and Legislation

This policy is supported by the key principles of the Children’s Act, 1989 that the child’s welfare is paramount. Another key document that focuses adult thinking towards the views of the child is Working Together, 2015, highlighting that every assessment of a child, ‘*must be informed by the views of the child’* and within that ‘*It is important to understand the resilience of the individual child when planning appropriate services*. (Working Together, 2015:23) This is clearly echoed by Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2016 through ensuring procedures are in place in schools and settings to hear the voice of the child.

**Introduction to abuse and harmful behaviour**

Abusive behaviour can happen to pupils in schools and settings and it is necessary to consider what abuse is and looks like, how it can be managed and what appropriate support and intervention can be put in place to meet the needs of the individual and what preventative strategies may be put in place to reduce further risk of harm.

Abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as ‘banter’ or ‘part of growing up’. Equally, abuse issues can sometimes be gender specific e.g. girls being sexually touched/assaulted and boys being subject to initiation/hazing type violence (KCSIE, 2016). It is important to consider the forms abuse may take and the subsequent actions required.

# Types of abuse

There are many forms of abuse that may occur between peers and this list is not exhaustive. Each form of abuse or prejudiced behaviour is described in detail followed by advice and support on actions to be taken.

# Physical abuse e.g. (biting, hitting, kicking, hair pulling etc.)

Physical abuse may include, hitting, kicking, nipping, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm to another person. There may be many reasons why a child harms another and it is important to understand why a young person has engaged in such behaviour, including accidently before considering the action or punishment to be undertaken.

# Sexually harmful behaviour/sexual abuse e.g. (inappropriate sexual language, touching, sexual assault etc.)

Sexually harmful behaviour from young people is not always contrived or with the intent to harm others. There may be many reasons why a young person engages in sexually harmful behaviour and it may be just as distressing to the young person who instigates it as well as the young person it is intended towards. Sexually harmful behaviour may range from inappropriate sexual language, inappropriate role play, to sexually touching another or sexual assault/abuse

**Bullying (physical, name calling, homophobic etc.)**

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behaviour among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Both young people who are bullied and who bully others may have serious, lasting problems.

In order to be considered bullying, the behaviour must be aggressive and include:

* An Imbalance of Power: Young people who bully use their power—such as physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity—to control or harm others. Power imbalances can change over time and in different situations, even if they involve the same people.
* Repetition: Bullying behaviours happen more than once or have the potential to happen more than once.

Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumours, attacking someone physically or verbally or for a particular reason e.g. size, hair colour, gender, sexual orientation, and excluding someone from a group on purpose.

# Cyber bullying

Cyberbullying is the use of phones, instant messaging, e-mail, chat rooms or social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter to harass threaten or intimidate someone for the same reasons as stated above.

It is important to state that cyber bullying can very easily fall into criminal behaviour under the Malicious Communications Act 1988 under section 1 which states that electronic communications which are indecent or grossly offensive, convey a threat or false information or demonstrate that there is an intention to cause distress or anxiety to the victim would be deemed to be criminal. This is also supported by the Communications Act 2003, Section 127 which states that electronic communications which are grossly offensive or indecent, obscene or menacing, or false, used again for the purpose of causing annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety to another could also be deemed to be criminal behaviour.

If the behaviour involves the use of taking or distributing indecent images of young people under the age of 18 then this is also a criminal offence under the Sexual Offences Act 2003. Outside of the immediate support young people may require in these instances, the school will have no choice but to involve the police to investigate these situations.

**Sexting**

Sexting is when someone sends or receives a sexually explicit text, image or video. This includes sending ‘nude pics’, ‘rude pics’ or ‘nude selfies’. Pressuring someone into sending a nude picture can happen in any relationship and to anyone, whatever their age, gender or sexual preference.

However, once the image is taken and sent, the sender has lost control of the image and these images could end up anywhere. By having in their possession, or distributing, indecent images of a person under 18 on to someone else, young people are not even aware that they could be breaking the law as stated as these are offences under the Sexual Offences Act 2003.

 **Initiation/Hazing**

Hazing is a form of initiation ceremony which is used to induct newcomers into an organisation such as a private school, sports team etc. There are a number of different forms, from relatively mild rituals to severe and sometimes violent ceremonies.

The idea behind this practice is that it welcomes newcomers by subjecting them to a series of trials which promote a bond between them. After the hazing is over, the newcomers also have something in common with older members of the organisation, because they all experienced it as part of a rite of passage. Many rituals involve humiliation, embarrassment, abuse, and harassment.

 **Prejudiced Behaviour**

The term prejudice-related bullying refers to a range of hurtful behaviour, physical or emotional or both, which causes someone to feel powerless, worthless, excluded or marginalised, and which is connected with prejudices around belonging, identity and equality in wider society – in particular, prejudices to do with disabilities and special educational needs, ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds, gender, home life, (for example in relation to issues of care, parental occupation, poverty and social class) and sexual identity (homosexual, bisexual, transsexual).

# Teenage relationship abuse

Teenage relationship abuse is defined as a pattern of actual or threatened acts of physical, sexual, and/or emotional abuse, perpetrated by an adolescent (between the ages of 13 and 18) against a current or former partner. Abuse may include insults, coercion, social sabotage, sexual harassment, threats and/or acts of physical or sexual abuse. The abusive teen uses this pattern of violent and coercive behaviour, in a heterosexual or same gender relationship, in order to gain power and maintain control over the partner.

**Expected action taken from tutor/team leader**

Although the type of abuse may have a varying effect on the victim and initiator of the harm, these simple steps can help clarify the situation and establish the facts before deciding the consequences for those involved in perpetrating harm.

It is important to deal with a situation of peer abuse immediately and sensitively. It is necessary to gather the information as soon as possible to get the true facts around what has occurred as soon after the child(ren) may have forgotten. It is equally important to deal with it sensitively and think about the language used and the impact of that language on both the children and the parents when they become involved. For example; do not use the word perpetrator, this can quickly create a ‘blame’ culture and leave a child labelled.

In all cases of peer on peer abuse it is necessary that all staff are trained in dealing with such incidents, talking to young people and instigating immediate support in a calm and consistent manner. Staff should not be prejudiced, judgemental, dismissive or irresponsible in dealing with such sensitive matters.

Al incidents of unkind behaviour to be recorded onto PARS for both victim and perpetrator.

# Informing parents

If, once appropriate advice has been sought from police/social care you have agreement to inform parents or have been allocated that role from the other services involved then you need to inform the parents as soon as possible. If services are not going to be involved then equally, this information may need to be shared with parents. If a young person is deemed to be ‘Gillick Competent’ following the ‘Fraser’ guidelines and does not wish you to share the information with parents, then the school must consider this especially for example if the young person is pregnant and this is why they are being bullied (unless this has occurred through significant harm in which case a criminal/social care case is likely or the young person is under the age of 13).

In all circumstances where the risk of harm to the child is evident then the school should encourage the young person to share the information with their parent or even with them (they may be scared to tell parents that they are being harmed in any way). Where school can evidence they are acting in the best interests of the young person they would not be criticised, however this would be the case if they actively breached the rights and choices of the young person.

The best way to inform parents is face to face. Although this may be time consuming, the nature of the incident and the type of harm/abuse a young person may be suffering can cause fear and anxiety to parents whether their child is the child who was harmed or who harmed another.

**Points to consider:**

**What is the age of the children involved?**

How old are the young people involved in the incident and is there any age difference between those involved? (In relation to sexual exploration, children under the age of 5, in particular 1-4 year olds who are learning toileting skills may show a particular interest in exploration at around this stage. This, however should not be overlooked if other issues arise (see following)

**Where did the incident or incidents take place?**

Was the incident in an open, visible place to others? If so was it observed? If not, is more supervision required within this particular area?

**What was the explanation by all children involved of what occurred?**

Can each of the young people give the same explanation of the incident and also what is the effect on the young people involved? Is the incident seen to be bullying for example, in which case regular and repetitive? Is the version of one young person different from another and why?

**What is each of the children’s own understanding of what occurred?**

Do the young people know/understand what they are doing? E.g. do they have knowledge of body parts, of privacy and that it is inappropriate to touch? Is the young person’s explanation in relation to something they may have heard or been learning about that has prompted the behaviour? Is the behaviour deliberate and contrived? Does the young person have understanding of the impact of their behaviour on the other person?

In dealing with an incident of this nature the answers are not always clear cut. If you are concerned or unsure as to whether or not there is any risk involved, please seek advice from Children’s Services Social Care.

# Repetition

Has the behaviour been repeated to an individual on more than one occasion? In the same way it must be considered has the behaviour persisted to an individual after the issue has already been discussed or dealt with and appropriately resolved?

# Next Steps

Once the outcome of the incident(s) has been established it is necessary to ensure future incidents of abuse do not occur again and consider the support and intervention required for those involved. PARS log updated with all details of incident

# For the young person who has been harmed

What support they require depends on the individual young person. It may be that they wish to seek counselling or one to one support via a mentor. It may also be that they feel able to deal with the incident(s) on their own or with support of family and friends. In which case it is necessary that this young person continues to be monitored and offered support should they require it in the future by tutor, team leader or a member of staff they trust. If the incidents are of a bullying nature, the young person may need support in improving peer groups/relationships with other young people or some restorative justice work with all those involved may be required.

Other interventions that could be considered may target a whole class or year group for example a speaker on cyber bullying, relationship abuse etc. If the young person feels particularly vulnerable it may be that a risk assessment can be put in place for them whilst in school so that they have someone named that they can talk to, support strategies for managing future issues and identified services tooffer additional support.

# For the young person who has displayed unkind behaviour

In this circumstance it is important to find out why the young person has behaved in such a way. It may be that the young person is experiencing their own difficulties and may even have been harmed themselves in a similar way. In such cases support such as one to one mentoring or counselling may also be necessary. Particular support from identified services may be necessary through a

CAF/strengthening families/early help referral and the young person may require additional support from family members.

Once the support required to meet the individual needs of the young person has been met, it is important that young person receives a consequence for their behaviour. This may be in the form of restorative justice e.g. making amends with the young person they have targeted if this has been some form of bullying. In the cases of sexually harmful behaviour it may be a requirement for the young person to engage in one to one work with a particular service or agency (if a crime has been committed this may be through the police or youth offending service). If there is any form of criminal investigation ongoing it may be that this young person cannot be educated on site until the investigation has concluded. In which case, the young person will need to be provided with appropriate support and education whilst off site.

Even following the conclusion of any investigation the behaviour that the young person has displayed may continue to pose a risk to others in which case an individual risk assessment may be required. This should be completed via a multiagency response to ensure that the needs of the young person and the risks towards others are measured by all of those agencies involved including the young person and their parents. This may mean additional supervision of the young person or protective strategies if the young person feels at risk of engaging in further inappropriate or harmful behaviour.

The school may also choose a punishment as a consequence such as exclusion or internal exclusion/inclusion/seclusion for a period of time to allow the young person to reflect on their behaviour.

# Ongoing support

It is important that following the incident the young people involved continue to feel supported and receive help even if they have stated that they are managing the incident. Sometimes the feelings of remorse, regret or unhappiness may occur at a much later stage than the incident. It is important to ensure that the young people do not engage in any further unkind behaviour either towards someone else or to themselves as a way of coping (e.g. self-harm). In which case, regular reviews with the young people following the incident(s) are imperative.

# References

Whatis.com <http://whatis.techtarget.com/definition/cyberbullying>

New Choices Inc <http://newchoicesinc.org/educated/abuse/TDV/def>

This is abuse campaign

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/41001 0/2015-03-08\_This\_is\_Abuse\_campaign\_summary\_report\_\_2\_.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/410010/2015-03-08_This_is_Abuse_campaign_summary_report__2_.pdf)

Stop bullying.gov [http://www.stopbullying.gov/what-is bullying/definition/index.html#types](http://www.stopbullying.gov/what-is%20bullying/definition/index.html#types)

Holding Together: equalities, difference and cohesion, a resource for school improvement planning, published for Derbyshire Education Authority by Trentham Books, summer 2009.

EACH resources for LGBT CEOP

[https://www.ceop.police.uk/Media-Centre/Press-releases/2009/What-does-sextingmean/](https://www.ceop.police.uk/Media-Centre/Press-releases/2009/What-does-sexting-mean/)

THOMAS ESTLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Initial Equality Impact Assessment

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name/s of policy, procedure, or practice: |  SAFEGUARDING POLICY |
| Date of impact assessment: |  22/02/2018 |
| Is this a proposed or existing policy, procedure or practice? | EXISTING |
| Is this model LA policy, procedure or practice for local adoption? | Yes / ~~In Part / No / Don’t Know~~ |
| What are the overall aim/s or purpose of the policy, procedure or practice? | To ensure a fair implementation of the safeguarding process |
| Who is intended to benefit from the policy, procedure or practice? |  All students |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Equality Strand | Does the policy/ procedure/provision (including access to facilities) or proposed plan have an adverse or positive impact on people from these key equality groups? | If adverse impact, are there any changes or reasonable adjustments which could be made to the policy/procedure/ provision or proposals which would minimise any adverse impact identified? Please describe. | Areas for review/actions taken (with timescales and name of person responsible) |
| Race | No |  |  |
| Gender | No |  |  |
| Religion/Belief | No |  |  |
| Disability | No |  |  |
| Sexual Orientation | No |  |  |
| Age | No |  |  |
| Social Inclusion | No |  |  |
| Community Cohesion | No |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Based on the impact assessment findings, and the reasonable adjustments in place, this policy is judged to be of **~~high/medium~~/low** impact against the above equality strands. (Delete as appropriate).Initial Assessment undertaken by: Mandi Collins (Signed)Copies circulated to P Bates for impact assessment file to include any actions in appropriate plans. |

If high or medium judgement made, the monitoring sub-committee must consult appropriate equality group to gather appropriate monitoring data/consult on redrafting/consult on additional appropriate reasonable adjustments.