

# Whole School Policy for Safeguarding & Child Protection

Policy Leader / DSL	Katy Stringer
Backup DSL (s) Paula Barlow/Laura	
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Safeguarding Governor Amanda Howarth	
Last Updated September 2023	
Approved by the Governing	
Body	
Date of Review	September 2024

#### Philosophy and purpose

Safeguarding and wellbeing is an ongoing priority at Acorns and is everyone's business.

This policy reflects Acorns Primary School values and philosophy in relation to safeguarding.

It sets out a framework within which ALL staff can operate and gives guidance on procedures in relation to Child Protection. All staff should be familiar with and know the whereabouts of the following documents, which should be read and understood in conjunction with this policy:

- Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board, Procedures & Guidance
- Working to safeguard children
- Keeping children safe in education 2023
- Behaviour Management Policy: Known as Social, Emotional and mental health support policy
- Care and Control Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Whistle-blowing policy
- Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs in School: Information & Guidance for Schools

The purpose of this safeguarding policy is to ensure every child who is a registered pupil at Acorns Primary School is safe and protected from harm. The Department for Education (DfE) 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (September 2023), states 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 mental and physical health or development;
- Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

\*Children – refers to anyone under the age of 18.

This policy will give clear direction to all stakeholders about expectations and our legal responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children at our school.

Acorns Primary School fully recognises the contribution it can make to protect children from harm and to support and promote the welfare of all children who are registered pupils at our school. This policy applies to all stakeholders; pupils, staff, parents, governors, volunteers and visitors.

No single professional 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.

The Children Acts 1989 and 2004, states a child is anyone who has not reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. The commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children however will extend to all children who visit Acorns Primary School as well as all pupils of school.

Statutory GuidanceEducation Act 2002: Section 175 of the Education Act requires local education authorities and the governors of maintained schools and further education (FE) colleges arrangements to ensure that their functions are carried view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of child • Section 157 of the same act and the Education (Independent)	of s to make d out with a
<ul> <li>Schools Standards) (England) Regulations 2003 required proprietors of independent schools (including academied technology colleges) to have arrangements to safeguard promote the welfare of children who are pupils at the set organisational responsibilities for schools and colleges applies to maintained, independent, academies, free sch alternative non provision academies</li> <li>Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023: Statutory for schools and colleges 2023 was issued under Section Education Act 2002, the Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014 and the Education (Non-M Special Schools) (England) Regulations 2011. This containformation on what schools and colleges should do an the legal duties with which schools must comply</li> </ul>	ndent e es and city d and chool. s out and this hools and y guidance 175 of the ol Maintained cains

Acorns Primary School Preston

	<ul> <li>What to do if you are worried a child is being abused</li> <li>Guidance for Safer Working Practice (with Addendum April 2020)</li> <li>The Children Act 1989</li> <li>The Children Act 2004</li> </ul>
Ethos	<ul> <li>Acorns Primary School recognises that high self-esteem, confidence, peer support and clear lines of communication with trusted adults helps all children, especially those at risk of, or suffering abuse. We therefore ensure that: <ul> <li>ALL staff, volunteers and governors contribute to an ethos where children feel secure and safe.</li> <li>ALL children have opportunities to communicate and know that they are listened to.</li> <li>ALL children's wishes, feelings and views will be taken into account when decisions are being made about how to keep them safe.</li> <li>ALL children know that they can communicate with any adult in school if they are worried or in difficulty.</li> <li>ALL staff and volunteers will contribute to providing a curriculum which will equip children with the skills they need to stay safe and be able to communicate when they do not feel safe.</li> <li>ALL staff and volunteers will contribute to providing a curriculum which will help children develop an attitude which will enable them to enter adulthood successfully and reach their full potential.</li> <li>ALL staff, volunteers and governors will establish effective, supportive and positive relationships with parents, carers, pupils and professionals.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Roles & Responsibilities	<ul> <li>Acorns Primary School is committed to providing the relevant personnel with clear and explicit roles and responsibilities to ensure accountability when safeguarding children. We therefore ensure that:</li> <li>All adults, including volunteers, working in or on behalf of the school will: <ul> <li>Demonstrate an understanding that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.</li> <li>Maintain and demonstrate a mind set of "it could happen here"</li> <li>Do all they can within the capacity of their role, to keep ensure that children are protected from harm.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<ul> <li>ALL staff are fully aware of the importance of mental health in relation to safeguarding and are aware of the addition of mental health in the definition of safeguarding. (Definition above.)</li> <li>All staff should also be aware that mental health problems can, in some cases, be an indicator that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation.</li> <li>Do all they can within the capacity of their role, to ensure that children grow up in circumstances consistent with safe and effective care.</li> <li>Do all they can within the capacity of their role, to ensure that children have the best outcomes.</li> <li>Report cases of suspected abuse or concerns to the DSL. This will be done as soon as</li> <li>Report lower-level concerns to the DSL</li> <li>Monitor all pupils, particularly those that are deemed vulnerable.</li> <li>Report any concerns regarding adults conduct to the Katy Stringer- Deputy Head teacher/DSL and Paula Barlow - Headteacher/deputy DSL</li> <li>All staff, if they have concerns, should act immediately and should always speak to the DSL or Deputies, recognising that early information sharing is vital in keeping childrens afe. In exceptional circumstances staff will consider speaking to a member of SLT or Children's Social Care to discuss safeguarding concerns if the DSL is not immediately and whistleblowing policy can also be found by accessing the QR codes located around school and in the staff bathroom areas.</li> <li>All staff should be aware of the process for making referrals to children 's social care and for statutory assessments under the children afe, social care and for statutory assessments under the children '4 (a child suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm) that may follow a referral, along with the role they might be expected to play in such assessments.</li> </ul>

The Governing Body will:
• Ensure that the policies, procedures and training in Acorns
Primary School are effective and comply with the law at all times.
• Ensure that safeguarding policies and procedures are followed by
all staff.
• Put in place safeguarding responses in cases where children go
missing from education.
<ul> <li>Appoint a DSL and back-ups and ensure that they are provided with appropriate support, funding, training, resources and time to carry out their role</li> </ul>
• Ensure the school or college contributes to inter-agency working in
line with statutory guidance Working together to safeguard children 2018
• Ensure that safeguarding procedures take into account local
guidance including Lancashire Continuum of Need and
<u>Thresholds Guidance</u>
• Ensure that staff members undergo safeguarding training at
induction.
<ul> <li>Ensure that DSLs and all staff, volunteers and Governors are</li> </ul>
trained and updated regarding safeguarding regularly in
compliance with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023
• Ensure that children are safe online by ensuring that appropriate
filters and monitoring systems are in place *
<ul> <li>Ensure that safeguarding is embedded within the curriculum.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Prevent people who pose a risk of harm from working with children.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Ensure there are procedures in place to manage allegations</li> </ul>
against teachers, head teachers, principals, volunteers and other staff including supply staff.
<ul> <li>Ensure staff in school are aware of, and policies reflect, an</li> </ul>
understanding of specific issues such as child on child abuse,
harmful sexual behaviours and safeguarding children with
disabilities and special educational needs.
<ul> <li>Ensure that all practice and procedures operate with the <b>best</b></li> </ul>
interests of the child at their heart.
<ul> <li>Appoint a designated teacher to promote the education of CLA         <ul> <li>Katy Stringer</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Ensure that all staff are aware of safeguarding issues and</li> </ul>
vulnerabilities associated with CLA.

<ul> <li>The DSL will:</li> <li>Be fully familiar with the role of the DSL as detailed in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023, Annex B and adhere to this role. This includes but is not conclusive to:-</li> <li>take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection.</li> <li>act as a point of contact with safeguarding partners</li> <li>manage referrals to Children's Social Care, Police and other agencies including Channel</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>work together with other agencies in order to improve outcomes for children</li> <li>attend DSL training at least every 2 years</li> <li>attend any other relevant training as required</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>undertake Prevent awareness training</li> <li>update their skills and knowledge on a regular basis, but at least annually</li> <li>raise awareness of safeguarding throughout school and act as a</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>point of support for all staff</li> <li>ensure that this policy is reviewed annually and is available publicly</li> <li>maintain, update and amend the school's safeguarding portfolio</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>maintain, update and unrend the school's sujeguarding portfolio regularly</li> <li>ensure that parents are aware of schools responsibilities regarding safeguarding and child protection</li> <li>maintain accurate safeguarding records that are stored securely.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>be available during school hours.</li> <li>arrange cover of DSL role for any out of hours/out of term activities</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>represent school in multi-agency meetings</li> <li>be provided with appropriate support and supervision in order to carry out the role safely and effectively</li> <li>understand relevant data protection legislation and regulations,</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>and relevant data protection registration and regulations, especially the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation;</li> <li>take a holistic view to ensure wider environmental factors are</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>considered which may be a threat to safety and welfare of children (Contextual Safeguarding).</li> <li>be responsible for the sharing of child protection files when a child moves to a new school or college.</li> </ul>

	• liaise with the Local Authority Personal Advisors for any Care
	Leavers.
	Note: Deputy DSLs should be trained to the equivalent standard as DSL's.
Induction,	Acorns Primary School is committed to providing staff and
Training &	volunteers with the skills and knowledge needed to safeguard
Updates	children. We therefore ensure that:
	• ALL staff and volunteers will receive Safeguarding Training on
	<i>induction using LCC Safeguarding Induction Pack or equivalent,</i>
	which includes <u>Keeping Children Safe in Education (Part One)</u> .
	<u>Guidance for Safer Working Practice</u> , School Code of Conduct
	/ Staff Handbook and Whistleblowing Policy
	• Staff induction will also include Child Protection Policy, Staff
	Behaviour Policy, Role of the DSL and Deputies, Pupil Behaviour
	Policy and Safeguarding response to children who go missing from education.
	• ALL staff and volunteers will receive Safeguarding Training (at least) annually.
	• The DSL/s will provide ALL staff, volunteers and governors with regular safeguarding updates
	• ALL staff, volunteers and governors will read and show an
	understanding of any updates that are provided
	• DSLs will attend DSL training every 2 years
	• DSLs will update their knowledge, skills and understanding of
	relevant safeguarding issues on a regular basis
	The DSL will undertake Prevent awareness training
	• At least one member of staff and one governor will attend Safer
	Recruitment Training. This will be renewed at least every 5 years.
	• ALL staff, volunteers and governors will undertake any additional
	specialised training on matters such as Child Sexual Exploitation,
	Prevent, child on child abuse, Online Safety, FGM etc as is deemed necessary by the SLT/DSL and that is particularly relevant to the
	context and needs of the setting.
	<ul> <li>Any staff member will discuss any specific training requirements or</li> </ul>
	gaps in knowledge or understanding with the DSL/s
	<ul> <li>Detailed records will be held of staff safeguarding training.</li> </ul>

Child	Acorns Primary School is committed to PREVENTING abuse,
Protection	PROTECTING children from abuse and SUPPORTING those
	involved in cases of abuse. We therefore ensure that:
	• <i>ALL staff and volunteers understand the importance of teaching</i>
	children how to keep themselves safe from all types of abuse
	• ALL staff and volunteers seek out opportunities that are relevant to
	their role, to teach children the skills to keep themselves safe
	• ALL staff and volunteers make and maintain positive and
	supportive relationships with children which enable children to feel
	safe and valued
	• Safeguarding has a high status throughout school by being on the
	agenda at staff meetings/briefings, information being readily
	available on notice boards, regular updates and 7 minute briefings
	• ALL staff feel confident in approaching DSLs to raise concerns
	• ALL staff and volunteers have an understanding of the four
	categories of abuse: NEGLECT, EMOTIONAL ABUSE, SEXUAL
	ABUSE, PHYSICAL ABUSE.
	• We will use Lancashire's new Neglect Strategy and accompanying
	toolkit to identify and assess children whose developmental needs
	are being insufficiently met at an early stage, placing them at risk
	of achieving poor educational, emotional and social outcomes.
	• Graded care profile 2 will be used in case of neglect or suspected
	neglect.
	• ALL staff and volunteers understand that there are other ways in
	which children can be abused such as : Online, Child Sexual
	Exploitation, Child Criminal Exploitation, Female Genital
	Mutilation, Honour Based Abuse, Radicalisation, Trafficking,
	Slavery, Peer Abuse, Forced Marriage, child on child.
	• ALL staff and volunteers have the knowledge, skills and expertise to
	recognise the signs and symptoms of all types of abuse
	• All staff, if they have concerns, these should be acted on
	immediately: early information sharing being vital in keeping
	children safe. In exceptional circumstances staff should consider
	speaking to a member of SLT or Children's Social Care to discuss
	safeguarding concerns if the DSL is not immediately available.
	• DSLs keep up to date with emerging and specific safeguarding
	issues and update training accordingly
	• DSLs update staff and volunteers knowledge and understanding of
	such issues in order for them to be able to identify children who are
	at risk of such specific safeguarding issues

<ul> <li>ALL staff and volunteers will maintain and demonstrate an attitude of "it can happen here"</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>ALL staff and volunteers are child-centred in their practice and act in the best interests of the child at all times</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>ALL staff recognise and understand that behaviour can be a child's way of communicating distress and changes to behaviour may be an indicator of abuse</li> </ul>
• ALL staff and volunteers have the skills to respond appropriately and sensitively to disclosures or allegations of abuse
• ALL staff and volunteers report cases of suspected abuse to the DSL. This will be done as soon as possible using CPOMS and face to face conversations.
• Where a child is at risk of immediate harm, ALL staff understand that they must refer to the Police or Children's Social Care
<ul> <li>ALL staff know how to refer to Children's Social Care</li> <li>DSLs will make a Section 47 referral to Children's Social Care where a child is in need of protection, has been significantly harmed or is at risk of significant harm, using Lancashire's new continuum of need, to determine whether this threshold has been</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>met</li> <li>This referral will be done by telephone and followed with an online referral via Lancashire's 'Front Door' as soon as possible.</li> <li>Consent from parents/carers and child (if age appropriate) will be sought prior to this referral, except where this will cause delay or</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>place anyone at risk</li> <li>Where consent is not given, parents and carers are informed that a referral will still be made, except where this will cause delay or place anyone at risk</li> </ul>
• DSLs adhere to policy, procedures and guidance from Lancashire Children's Safeguarding Assurance Partnership (Formally Lancashire Safeguarding Children's Board) with regard to sharing information.
• DSLs contribute to Strategy Discussions, Strategy Meetings, Initial and Review Child Protection Conferences, Core Group Meetings and other CP meetings
• DSLs or another appropriate member of staff, will attend CP meetings, produce and present reports, liaise with staff, work with parents, work with other agencies and ensure the voice of the child is evidenced throughout these processes

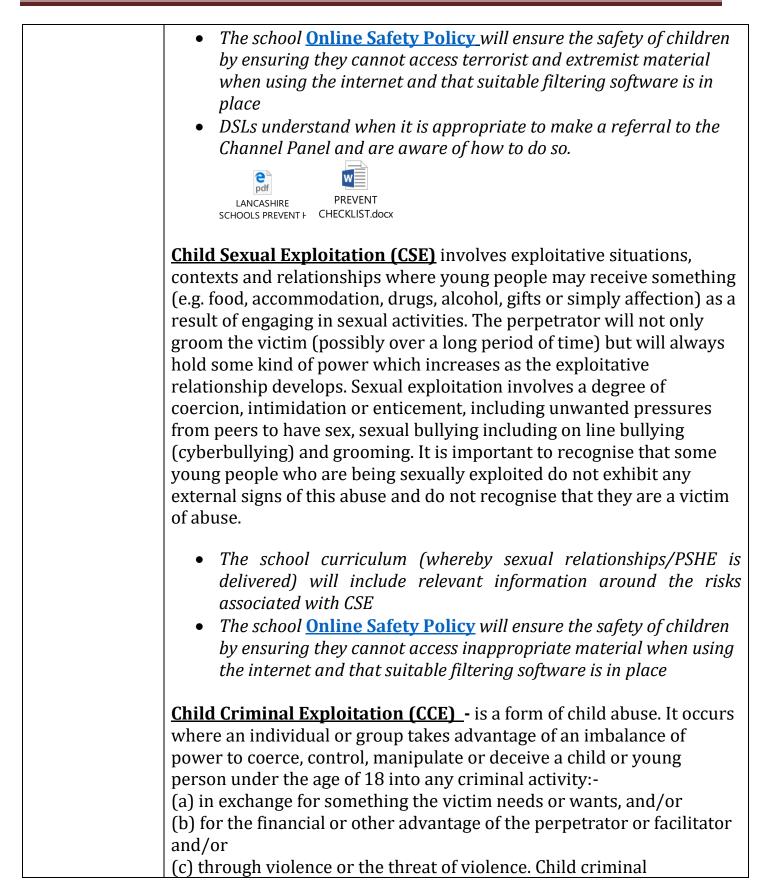
	<ul> <li>DSLs meet regularly to ensure that decisions made about children who are subjects of CP Plans are agreed and a clear rationale for the decision is documented.</li> <li>A copy of the child's CP Plan is included in the child's individual safeguarding file stored electronically on CPOMS</li> <li>ALL staff and volunteers will support victims of abuse in a capacity that is relevant to their role. This will be determined by the DSL</li> <li>DSLs will determine what information staff members need to know in order to safeguard and support children.</li> <li>Staff are offered appropriate support and/or supervision that is relevant to their role or involvement in particular cases.</li> <li>Communication and work with parents and carers will always be undertaken in a supportive manner and in the best interests of the child.</li> <li>ALL staff understand that children who perpetrate abuse or display harmful behaviour should be treated as victims first and foremost and supported.</li> <li>Specific programmes of intervention and support are offered to children and families who are vulnerable.</li> <li>Risk Assessments will be undertaken where a child's behaviour poses a risk to others, themselves or the environment.</li> <li>In cases where a child has displayed harmful sexual behaviour, the Hackett Sexual Behaviour Gontinuum (2010) will be used to firstly categorise the behaviour displayed harMP (Risk Assessment Management Plan) completed. All allegations will be recorded using CPOMs.</li> <li>All allegations of harmful sexual behaviour will be taken seriously and dealt with proportionately.</li> </ul>
	individual needs as identified in the AIMs assessment and RAMP.
Child in Need	Acorns Primary School is committed to ensuring the appropriate
	level of support is offered to a "Child in Need" and their family. We
	therefore ensure that:
	• DSLs will make a Section 17 referral to Children's Social Care
	where Early Help has not been successful in reducing risk and
	meeting unmet needs using Lancashire's Continuum of Need

Early Help	<ul> <li>and threshold guidance and a request for support completed and submitted via the 'Front Door'</li> <li>DSLs will make a Section 17 referral to Children's Social Care where there is evidence that the Level 3 threshold has been met on the Continuum of Need</li> <li>this will be determined and assessed by the DSL using the Lancashire Continuum of Need and Thresholds Guidance</li> <li>DSLs will obtain parental consent for the referral and for information to be shared, prior to contacting Children's Social Care</li> <li>When consent is not given, DSLs will continue to offer Early Help with consent, gather evidence of engagement or lack thereof, disguised compliance, impact on the child, increase in risk or level of unmet need, improvements or deteriorations.</li> <li>DSLs will review such cases regularly and assess whether there is evidence that meets Level 4 threshold on the Continuum of Need. In such cases Child Protection Procedures will be followed</li> <li>DSLs, or other appropriate members of staff, will contribute to Child in Need Meetings and Reviews</li> <li>DSLs, or other appropriate member of staff, will attend CIN meetings, produce and present reports, liaise with staff, work with parents, work with other agencies and ensure the voice of the child is evidenced throughout these processes.</li> <li>DSLs will meet regularly to ensure that decisions made about children who are subjects of CIN Plans are agreed and a clear rationale for the decision is documented.</li> <li>A copy of the child's CIN Plan is included in the child's individual safeguarding file.</li> <li>Acorns Primary School is committed to providing our families with the right thelp at the right time. Any child may benefit from early help, but ALL school staff should be particularly alert to the potential need for early help for a child who:</li> </ul>
Early Help	
	need for early help for a child who:
	• is disabled and has specific additional needs:
	<ul> <li>has special educational needs (whether or not they have a</li> </ul>
	statutory education, health and care plan);
	<ul> <li>is a young carer;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>is showing signs of being drawn in to anti-social or criminal</li> </ul>
	behaviour, including gang involvement and association with
	organised crime groups;
	• is frequently missing/goes missing from care or from home;

	is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves;
	Is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation;
	<i>is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for the child, such</i>
	as substance abuse, adult mental health problems or domestic abuse;
	has returned home to their family from care;
	is showing early signs of abuse and/or neglect;
	is at risk of being radicalised or exploited;
	• is a privately fostered child
	any other identified reason not listed above that requires extra
	support or intervention to improve outcomes for families and
	children <b>including mental health support</b> .
We	therefore ensure that:
	• ALL staff and volunteers can identify the risk factors that indicate a
	family or pupil may benefit from Early Help
	• ALL staff and volunteers will use the school's agreed format for
	letting the DSL know about Early Help requirements.
	DSLs will undertake Early Help Assessments, when appropriate, to
	identify what Early Help is required.
	• DSLs will signpost and refer to appropriate support agencies.
	<ul> <li>DSLs will lead on TAF meetings where is it appropriate for them to do so</li> </ul>
	• DSLs will utilise Children and Family Wellbeing Service follow the
	completion of an Early Help Assessment and subsequent referral
	• DSLs will refer to CSC where Early Help has not been successful in
	reducing risk and meeting unmet needs using Lancashire
	continuum of need and threshold guidance and request for
	help form (online)
	• DSLs and other identified staff will identify and work with any
	organisations that are relevant in meeting the needs of pupils and their families.
	• DSLs and other identified staff will initiate and maintain positive
	and supportive relationships with parents and carers of children
	who may benefit from Early Help
	<ul> <li>DSLs or appropriately trained school staff will generally be the lea</li> </ul>
1	for Early Help cases if this is in the best interests of the family.

Acorns Primary School is committed to keeping children safe both in school, within their home and local community.	
Acorns Primary school are aware that being absent from school regularly or for long periods of time, as well as being missing from education, can be a warning sign of a range of safeguarding concerns, including sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or child criminal exploitation.	
Those who are absent from school receive daily telephone calls in line with the school's attendance policy. See policy for specific details.	
Acorns Primary school recognises the need to be vigilant when dealing with pupils who are absent from school and are aware that this is a vital element to safeguarding those pupils.	
<ul> <li>Should it be necessary the school will refer to:</li> <li>pupil attendance support team (PAST)</li> <li>report a pupil as missing education to the local authority (Pupil missing education – PME) - pme@lancashire.gov.uk.</li> <li>children's social Care and/or police.</li> </ul>	
And at any point Acorns become aware that a child may be 'missing education', school will refer to the Children Missing Education team so that the matter can be investigated.	
This includes but is not limited to situations where:	
<ul> <li>A child/young person has been removed from roll after being permanently excluded and no alternative provision is in place</li> <li>A child/young person has not been attending school and a home visit reveals that the family may have moved away</li> <li>A child/young person has moved into the area but no arrangements have been made to access a new school</li> <li>A child/young person has moved out of the area (this includes moving outside of the UK) or is about to move out of the area, but no arrangements have been made to access a new school</li> <li>A child/young person who has been offered a school place, but parents have refused the place offered and the authority is not</li> </ul>	

	aware of alternative arrangements for the child/young person's	
	education	
	Acorns Primary School will undertake their own enquiries to try to	
	ascertain the whereabouts of pupils prior to making a CME referral.	
	However, if there is uncertainty whether there should referral, the	
	CME team will be contacted on 01257 517333 or email cme@lancashire.gov.uk for advice.	
Specific	Acorns Primary School is committed to keeping our children safe	
Safeguarding	from specific forms of abuse.	
	We will formulate risk management plans where required using the guidance and template below.	
	We will ensure that:	
	• ALL staff and volunteers understand that there are specific and	
	emerging ways in which children can be abused and are aware of	
	these specific issues, reporting any concerns, in the appropriate	
	manner to the DSL. Specific issues include (but are not limited to):	
	<b><u>Radicalisation</u></b> : refers to the process by which a person comes to	
	support terrorism and forms of extremism. There is no single way of	
	identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist	
	ideology.	
	• Acorns Primary School recognises that protection from extremism	
	& radicalisation is a vital element of safeguarding.	
	• ALL staff and volunteers will have 'due regard to the need to	
	prevent people from being drawn into terrorism', known as the	
	'Prevent Duty'	
	Prevent Safeguarding Lead – Katy Stringer/Paula Barlow	
	<ul> <li>Prevent Governor Lead – Amanda Howarth</li> <li>Prevent Curriculum Lead – Laura Hall</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Prevent Curriculum Lead – Laura Hall</li> <li>ALL staff and volunteers will have a general understanding of how</li> </ul>	
	• ALL staff and volunteers will have a general understanding of how to identify a child who may be at risk of radicalisation.	
	<ul> <li>ALL staff and volunteers will use professional judgement in</li> </ul>	
	identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act	
	proportionately.	
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exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology. CCE:-

- can affect any child or young person (male or female) under the age of 18 years
- 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 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.

Criminal exploitation of children can include **County Lines**. This is a geographically widespread form of harm that is a typical feature of county lines criminal activity: drug networks or gangs groom and exploit children and young people to carry drugs and money from urban areas to suburban and rural areas, market and seaside towns or move drugs from A to B. Key to identifying potential involvement in county lines are missing episodes, when the victim may have been trafficked or the purpose of transporting drugs and a referral to the <u>National Referral Mechanism</u> should be considered in addition to normal safeguarding procedures.

**Honour Based Abuse (HBA) Honour based abuse** is a collection of practices used to control behaviour within families in order to protect perceived cultural and religious beliefs and/or **honour**. **Violence or abuse** can occur when perpetrators perceive that a relative has shamed the family and/or community by breaking their **honour** code.

**Forced Marriage** is one whereby one or both parties do not consent to marriage but are forced to do so through violence, threats or any form of coercion. Schools play an important role in safeguarding children from being forced to marry.

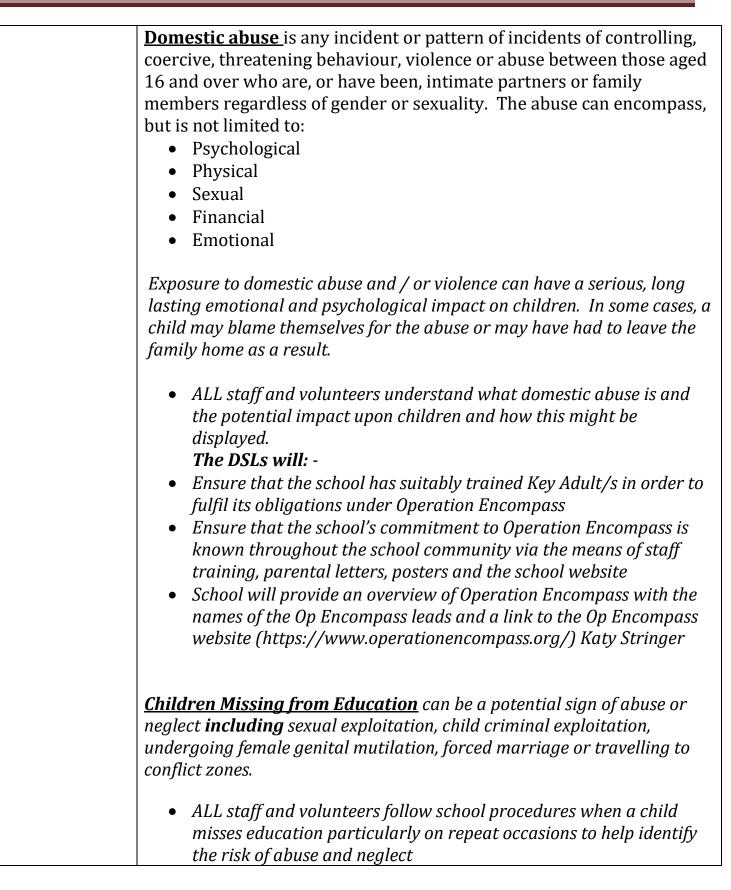
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is encompassed within the term Honour Based Abuse: • ALL staff and volunteers are aware of the "one chance rule" and will report all cases of suspected Honour Based Abuse or FGM to the DSL immediately. • FGM is illegal in the UK and a form of child abuse with long-lasting harmful consequences. • *ALL staff need to be alert to the possibility of when a female pupil* may be at risk of FGM or when it may have been conducted on them. 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 or there are concerns this may be about to happen, the teacher **must** report this to the police. **Modern Slavery** The Modern Slavery Act 2015 places a new statutory duty on public authorities, including schools, to notify the National Crime Agency (NCA) (section 52 of the Act) on observing signs or receiving intelligence relating to modern slavery. The public authority (including schools) bears this obligation where it has 'reasonable grounds to believe that a person may be a victim of slavery or human trafficking': • *Staff must be aware of the above and contact the DSL should they* suspect or receive information that either parents or their children may be victims of modern slavery. The DSL should then contact the NCA and follow their normal safeguarding procedures. **Child on Child Abuse (including sexual violence and harassment)** occurs when a young person is exploited, bullied and / or harmed by their peers who are the same or similar age; everyone directly involved in peer on peer abuse is under the age of 18. Please see Keeping Children Safe in Education, Section 5 for further information.

Acorns Primary School will refer to specific guidance in Keeping Children Safe in Education Part five: Child on Child Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment.

This is most likely to include, but may not be limited to: *bullying (including cyberbullying);* physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm; sexual violence and sexual harassment; sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery); and initiation/hazing type violence and rituals. This will also include **Upskirting.** *It typically involves taking a photograph under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks for sexual gratification or causing humiliation, distress or alarm.* 

- ALL staff and volunteers understand that children can abuse other children
- ALL staff and volunteers will inform the DSL of suspected child on child abuse and record in line with schools recording policy, via CPOMs
- Child on Child abuse will be taken as seriously as any other form of abuse
- All staff understand that abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as "banter", "just having a laugh" or "part of growing up
- All staff will understand that pupils with SEND are more prone to peer group isolation and school will have extra pastoral support to address this.
- All staff understand that both the child that has harmed and the child that been harmed will require individualised support as both are likely to have unmet needs.
- The DSL will use the Hackett Sexual Behaviours Continuum (2010) to categorise the behaviour and inform future risk assessments.
- The DSL will carry out an AIMS assessment and RAMP if appropriate.
- Emotional abuse between peers will be managed under the school's <u>Anti-Bullying Policy</u>
- All staff are aware that they can seek additional support and guidance from LCC Schools Safeguarding Officers
- Sexting (See specific guidance below in regards to Sexting)

<ul> <li>In cases of suspected or actual peer on peer abuse a risk assessment will be undertaken and appropriate and proportionate control measures put in place to manage and reduce risk.</li> <li>The DSL will assess on a case-by-case basis, supported by children's social care and the police if required to ensure the most appropriate response for the children / young people involved</li> <li>The DSL will consider:</li> <li>the wishes of the child that has been harmed in terms of how they want to proceed</li> <li>the nature of the alleged incident</li> <li>the ages of the children involved</li> <li>any power imbalance between the children</li> <li>is the incident a one-off or a sustained pattern of abuse</li> <li>are there ongoing risks to the child that has been harmed, other children, school or college staff</li> <li>contextual safeguarding issues.</li> <li>Following a report of sexual violence, the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) will make an immediate risk and needs assessment, considering:</li> <li>the child that has been harmed</li> <li>the alleged child that has carried out the harm</li> <li>all other children (and if appropriate adult students and staff).</li> <li>Risk assessments will be recorded and kept under review as appropriate.</li> </ul>
(Further detailed guidance on Child on Child Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment is found in Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023, part 5).
<u>Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB)</u>
Harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) is developmentally inappropriate sexual behaviour which is displayed by children and young people and which may be harmful or abusive It's harmful to the children and young people who display it, as well as those it is directed towards



<ul> <li>The school Attendance Policy is up to date, reviewed annually and includes reference to CME and procedures followed in the case of children missing or who have attendance concerns.</li> <li>School staff are to make daily contact with the family of a child that is absent from school.</li> <li>If the school has concerns regarding a child that is absent, a police welfare check will be requested stating all available evidence.</li> <li>There is an admissions policy and an attendance register.</li> <li>The Local Authority is informed of any pupil who fails to attend school regularly, or has been absent without the school's permission for a continuous period of 10 school days or more.</li> <li>A referral to the pupil attendance support team will be completed where appropriate and consent has been sought (all other process have been exhausted)</li> <li>Where reasonably possible school should hold more than one emergency contacts will be updated yearly.</li> <li>ALL staff will be aware that children going missing from education can be a warning sign of a range of safeguarding concerns, including: sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or child criminal exploitation</li> </ul>
Sexting (Youth produced sexual imagery) is defined as the
production and/or sharing of sexual photos and videos of and by young people who are under the age of 18. (UKCCIS, 2016), It includes nude or
nearly nude images and/or sexual acts. It is also referred to as 'youth
produced sexual imagery'. 'Sexting' does not include the sharing of sexual photos and videos of under-18 year olds with or by adults. This is
a form of child sexual abuse and must be referred to the police.
• School staff are aware of how to manage sexting incidents and must pass on any incidents or concerns to the DSL
<ul> <li>School staff are aware that they should never view, download or share the imagery, or ask a child to share or download – this is illegal.</li> </ul>
• If staff have already viewed the imagery by accident (e.g. if a young
person has showed it to them before they could ask them not to), report this to the DSL
• Staff will not delete the imagery or ask the young person to delete it.

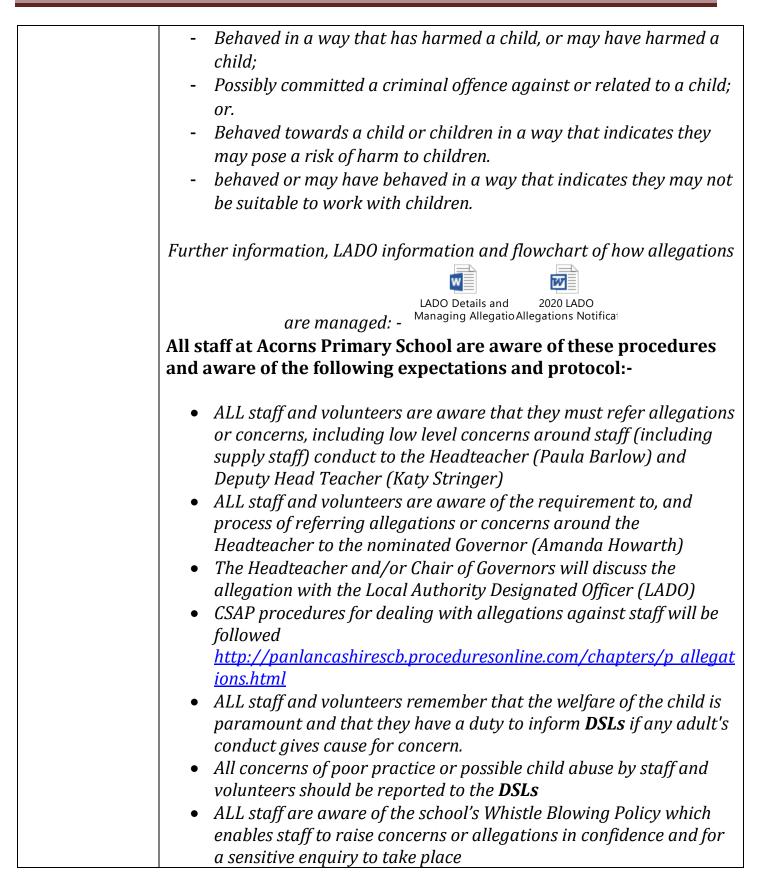
	<ul> <li>Staff will not ask the young person(s) who are involved in the incident to disclose information regarding the imagery. This is the responsibility of the DSL</li> <li>Staff will keep details of the incident confidential, reporting this to the DSL</li> <li>Staff are mindful not to do anything to blame or shame any young people involved.</li> <li>The incident will be followed up by the DSL or Deputies and follow appropriate guidelines as set in (UKCCIS, 2016).</li> <li>If the DSL/SLT must view the images, this should be discussed and done so in a private space and the reasoning behind this must be logged on the incident report.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Other vulnerable categories</li> <li>ALL staff will have read Annex A of Keeping Children Safe in Education and be aware of specific forms of abuse and safeguarding issues and vulnerable groups of children including;</li> <li>Children in the Court system;</li> <li>Children with family members in prison</li> <li>Child Criminal Exploitation</li> <li>Homelessness</li> </ul> For all specific safeguarding issues, DSLs will seek advice from LCC Schools Safeguarding Officers or MASH Education Officers and follow national and local guidance.
Online Safety	<ul> <li>Acorns Primary School is committed to keeping pupils safe online.</li> <li>We therefore ensure that:         <ul> <li>ALL staff and volunteers understand that children can be harmed online via hurtful and abusive messages, enticing children to engage in age-inappropriate conversations, sharing and production of indecent images or encouraging risk taking behaviour</li> <li>The school's <u>Online Safety Policy</u> details how we keep pupils safe when using the internet and mobile technology. Pupils accessing the Semi-formal bridge and formal curriculum are taught the 'Be SMART' rules (Safe, Meeting, Accepting, Reliable, Tell)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<ul> <li>Online bullying by pupils, via texts and emails, will be treated as seriously as any other type of bullying and will be managed</li> </ul>
through our <mark>Anti-bullying Policy</mark>
<ul> <li>There is a clear and explicit procedure for dealing with mobile phones that are brought into school by children</li> </ul>
• DfE advice; Searching, Screening and Confiscation is followed
where there is a need to search a pupil for a mobile device
• When school become aware of an online safety issue that has
occurred outside of school, it is managed in accordance with the
school Online Safety Policy
• The school has appropriate filters and monitoring systems in place regarding use of internet in school - these should be detailed in the Online Safety Policy.
Filtering and Monitoring of online activity
• Acorns Primary school is part of Education Filtering Services (EFS)
provided by Lancashire County Council (LCC)
• EFS provides Acorns with the following: Emails, Net sweeper,
Antivirus, SIMs and Domain Name Service (DNS -word to number
converter for IP addresses)
<ul> <li>Net Sweeper provides Acorns with daily reports that are sent</li> </ul>
directly to Martin White, IT Technician.
<ul> <li>Net sweeper reports are shared with Katy Stringer, DSL and Dan</li> </ul>
Williams, School Business Manager.
<ul> <li>Should Martin White be absent from work, emails will be</li> </ul>
forwarded to Katy Stringer and Dan Williams
• Daily reports highlights activity under the following headings:
Pornography, substance misuse, drugs, gambling, hate speech,
suspicious search or malicious webpages (sites that have been
hacked or contain coding to hack others)
• Daily reports indicate the source computer, which then allows
senior leaders to undertake a full internal/external investigation.
• Acorns is aware that the newest version of chrome has had the 'ad
blocker' disabled which can trigger false flags due to adverts.
• Termly reports are collated and shared with Mandy Howarth,
Safeguarding Governor and the main governing body as
appropriate.
• All mobile devices, including iPads and laptops are 'locked'
disabling the ability to access web pages. Only verified and
installed apps are accessible to pupils.

	• Pupils are only able to access the main class computer under the direct supervision of a suitably skilled and identified member of the staff team
Record Keeping	

• A receipt will be obtained at time of transfer (via CPOMS) and the responsibility for the safeguarding records will pass to the receiving school
• The educational establishment where the pupil attends at statutory school leaving age (18) will securely retain the safeguarding records until the child's 25 <sup>th</sup> birthday. Safeguarding records will then be destroyed securely.
<ul> <li>School will seek advice from legal services and/or Schools Safeguarding Officers if any staff are unclear about any aspects of safeguarding record keeping.</li> </ul>
Acorns Primary School is committed to keeping pupils safe by
ensuring that adults who work or volunteer in school are safe to do so. We therefore ensure that:
• <u>LCC Human Resources guidance</u> is adhered to, to ensure that
there is a strong reference and commitment to safeguarding
during advertisement, selection and recruitment of new staff
• Ensure that there are sufficient staff/Governors who have
undertaken appropriate Safer Recruitment training in the last 5
years to enable at least one person on every recruitment panel to
be appropriately trained. This is a legal requirement.
• There are at least 2 people on each selection panel.
<ul> <li>Applicants are told explicitly about online searches that will be done as part of due diligence checks ahead of any potential interview.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>ALL staff will monitor the conduct of all adults who come into</li> </ul>
contact with children at school and report any concerns to the DSL
<ul> <li>Relevant, proportionate and lawful checks are undertaken on all adults who regularly work at, or visit the school.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>A Single Central Record is kept of checks that are undertaken on all</li> </ul>
adults who regularly work at, or visit the school.
• The SCR is stored securely electronically and only accessed by designated staff and governors.
<ul> <li>HT, Safeguarding Governor/Chair of Governors should evidence</li> </ul>
regular (at least termly) oversight/scrutiny of the SCR.
<ul> <li>Evidence of staff members identity, required qualifications and the</li> </ul>
right to work in the UK will be kept in individual personnel files
which are stored electronically on MStore
<ul> <li>Covering (umbrella) letters will be obtained from agencies and other employers that provide staff to work in school to confirm that</li> </ul>
appropriate checks have been undertaken. Agencies will be

	requested to complete the checklist found at Appendix Q of the R&S Guidance. (Copy here) Appendix Q - Agency R&S checklis
	<ul> <li>Individual identity checks will be undertaken on those staff detailed above to ensure they are employees of the named agency/employer.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>A transfer of control agreement will be used where other agencies/organisations use school premises and are not operating under school's safeguarding policies and procedures.</li> </ul>
	• Adults who are involved in the management or provision of child care of children in Early Years, or in out of school provision for children up to 8 years old, will make a declaration that they are not disqualified under the Child Care Act 2006.
	• With regard to Disqualification Under the Childcare Act we will adhere to Guidance from Lancashire County Council Human Resources
	• This declaration will be renewed annually and evidenced using the LCC staff declaration form April 2022. This form will be retained and stored securely.
	ANNUAL STAFF Guidance and CONFIRMATION FOI FAQs.docx
	<ul> <li>When an issue is declared, advice will be sought from Ofsted about the need to apply for a waiver. If a waiver is necessary, a risk assessment will be carried out and proportionate measures put in place until a waiver has been issued or matters resolved. If it is not resolved, this must be reported:- <u>disqualification@ofsted.gov.uk</u></li> <li>Advice will be sought from Human Resources, LADO and/or Schools Safeguarding Officers if any staff are unclear about any aspects of</li> </ul>
	Safer Recruitment.
Managing allegations	There are clear policies in line with those from the CSAP (Childrens Safeguarding Assurance Partnership) for dealing with
against staff, external	allegations against people who work with children.
individuals or	Such policies make a clear distinction between an allegation, a concern
organisations	about the quality of care or practice or a complaint. An allegation may
	relate to a person who works with children who has:
	1



	• Staff are fully aware of Guidance for Safer Working Practice and Staff Code of conduct and are aware of professional expectations of their own behaviour and conduct.
	<ul> <li>Allegations made against external individuals or organisations</li> <li>Acorns staff are to follow the schools own safeguarding policies and procedures and to inform the local authority designated officer (LADO) if a safeguarding allegation is made by Acorns against an external individual or organisation.</li> <li>For specific individuals that are causing concern, confidential</li> </ul>
	notes or allegations may be logged and stored on the SLT shared and confidential drive. •The DSL and other authorized staff will audit the information
	added and determine the appropriate steps according to Acorns' safeguarding policies and procedures.
Visitors	Acorns Primary School is committed to keeping pupils safe by
	ensuring that visitors to school do not pose a risk to children at
	our school. We therefore ensure that:
	• Visitors to school sign in on <b>Inventory</b> and wear an identification
	<i>sticker</i> to indicate they have done so.
	• ALL staff and children, where appropriate, will challenge visitors to school who are not wearing correct identification.
	• Visitors sign out and remove/hand in their identification when they leave the school.
	• Visitors are made aware of who to speak to if they are worried about a child during their visit by a member of the office team and will be given a copy of the safeguarding information leaflet to read prior to entering the school building.
	• Visitors are accompanied during their visit, when children are present, unless they have undergone relevant checks and these are accepted and verified by DSL or Headteacher
	• Visitors will behave in a way that is compliant with the school's code of conduct.
	• Visitors will not use mobile phones or other similar electronic devices during their visit unless agreed by the Headteacher or DSL.
	• Visitors will not initiate contact or conversations with pupils unless this is relevant and appropriate to the reason for their visit.
	• When there are several visitors to the school at the same time (such as for an assembly etc.) there will be adequate staff supervision of children and visitors. A risk assessment will be undertaken if deemed necessary or appropriate.

	• When visitors are undertaking activities with children, content of the activity will be agreed with the Headteacher or DSL, prior to the visit.	
Cameras, Mobile Phones and Devices	Acorns Primary School is committed to keeping pupils safe by ensuring that electronic devices such as cameras, phones and tablets are used in an appropriate manner. School will therefore ensure that:	
	<ul> <li>parental consent is obtained to take and use photographs and/or videos of children.</li> <li>parental consent is obtained for photographs to be taken by the media for use in relation to promoting or publishing the school,</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>with the exception of those children that are identified as being looked after by the local authority.</li> <li>separate parental consent is obtained if any other agency requests to take photographs of any child.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>parental consent will be valid for 5 years but may be sought more regularly at the discretion of the Headteacher</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>images will be uploaded to, and stored in a secure place for a relevant amount of time, this may be for longer than the child is at school if appropriate</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>photographs and videos of children are only taken to provide evidence of their achievements for developmental records or for other school related purposes.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>staff, visitors, volunteers and students do not use their own mobile phones to take or record any images of children.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>The schools iPads must not leave the school setting unless this is agreed by the Headteacher for official school business.</li> <li>Photos are uploaded onto the schools server and then onto</li> </ul>	
	Evidence for Learning (EFL) to be shared securely with parents and or carers	
	<ul> <li>parents are reminded frequently of the risks associated with posting images of children to social media.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>parents are reminded frequently that they are not permitted to distribute or post images that contain children other than their own.</li> </ul>	
	• staff, volunteers and visitors will not use mobile phones in toilet or changing areas.	
	The Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use will outline when and where staff, volunteers and visitors can use their mobile phones.	

and Training Sa Details (D Da Tr Ba	where there is a i	rching, Screening and Confiscation is followed need to search a pupil for a mobile device.
Tr Ba	esignated Ifeguarding Lead OSL)	Katy Stringer
	ate DSL Advanced raining Attended	30/11/21
	ack-up/Deputy SL(s)	Paula Barlow Laura Hall
	ate DSL Training tended	
Pr	revent Lead	Katy Stringer
	ate Prevent training tended	19/7/23
Не	eadteacher	Paula Barlow
tra (st	ate safeguarding aining attended tate type of aining)	LCC safeguarding DSL training
Ch		

	Safeguarding Governor	Amanda Howarth
	Date safeguarding training attended	July 20 – Prevent webinar 14/10/21 – Safer Recruitment 14/9/22 – Child Protection – Acorns School 27/2/23 – Governors Strategic Management of Safeguarding – LCC 16/5/23 – Online safety – LCC 25/5/23 – Safeguarding – Governors Responsibilities – NGA 7/7/23 – Transgender pupils – Issues for Schools - NGA 13/7/23 – KCSIE – Changes for 2023 – ENTRUST Training
Useful Contacts	LCC Schools Safeguarding Officer	Victoria Wallace 01772 531196 <u>school.safeguarding@lancashire.gov.uk</u>
	LADO - ( <u>Local</u> <u>Authority</u>	Tim Booth / Shane Penn / Donna Green/Amanda Quirk 01772 536694 <u>LADO.admin@lancashire.gov.uk</u>
	MASH Education Officer	Matt Chipchase 01254 220989 <u>matt.chipchase@lancashire.gov.uk</u>
	Children and Family Wellbeing Service	The <u>Children and Family Wellbeing</u> Service (CFW) offers <b>support</b> to children, young people age 0-19+yrs (0 - 25yrs for SEND) and their families across Lancashire.
		Any agency can request access to this <b>support</b> for a <b>family or individual child</b> by making a <u>Request for Support</u> . Please note that a EHA (Early Help Assessment) should be in place.

Lancashire Children's Social Care / MASH	Anyone can raise a concern about the safety and welfare of a child by calling 0300 123 6720 (or between 5.00pm - 8.00am on 0300 123 6722.)*
	Before you make contact with MASH you need to consider if the child or young person's needs can be met by services from within your own agency, or by other professionals already involved with the family, including consideration to initiating a EHP (Early Help Assessment)
	Where possible, share information with consent, and where possible, respect the wishes of those who do not consent to having their information shared. Under the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 you may share information without consent if, in your judgement, there is a lawful basis to do so, such as where safety may be at risk. 7 golden rules
	Where the needs of the child meet Levels 3 and 4** of the Continuum of Need and cannot be supported by an EAP (Early Help Assessment) professionals are advised to submit an online referral directly to Children's Social Care via the Multi Agency Safeguarding request for help button
	**Where there are immediate safeguarding concerns about a child or young person (level 4 of the CON / child protection), you should make direct contact with MASH on the following number <b>or</b> the Police (999 in an emergency) - and complete the referral form once the immediate concerns have been addressed. If the child you are concerned about already has an allocated Social Worker go directly to this person by contacting 0300 123 6720:

	01772 532500 WhistleblowingComplaints@lancashire.gov.uk
	whisticblowingcomplaints@lancashire.gov.ak

Where possible, share information with consent, and where possible, respect the wishes of those who do not consent to having their information shared. Under the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 you may share information without consent if, in your judgement, there is a lawful basis to do so, such as where safety may be at risk.