



Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

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Role: Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy Safeguarding Lead
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This updated Policy is to be read in conjunction with the South West Child Protection Procedures that can be found at www.swcpp.org.uk and the Local safeguarding website <https://www.safeguarding-bathnes.org.uk/>

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy – COVID-19 Addendum

This document should be read in conjunction with the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy September 2020

This addendum has been updated on 7th January 2021 to reflect the government guidance [Restricting attendance during the national lockdown: schools \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/91121/Restricting_attendance_during_the_national_lockdown_schools.pdf)

Designated safeguarding leads (DSLs) and Deputies

Where possible we will ensure that there is a trained DSL or deputy available on site. Where this is not possible, we will consider these options:

- a trained DSL or deputy from the school can be available to be contacted via phone or online video - for example working from home
- sharing trained DSLs or deputies with other schools (who should be available to be contacted via phone or online video)

Where a trained DSL or deputy is not on site, in addition to one of the above options, we will have a named senior leader who will take responsibility for co-ordinating safeguarding on site. This might include updating and managing access to child protection files, liaising with the offsite DSL (or deputy) and as required liaising with children's social workers where they require access to children in need and/or to carry out statutory assessments at the school.

We will ensure that all staff and volunteers are clear about the arrangements for sharing and reporting any concerns and these must be updated to reflect any changes on any given day.

We will ensure that the contact details for the Safeguarding and Child Protection Leads are shared with all staff and volunteers.

Vulnerable children

We will identify our most vulnerable children and create a register/plan for these children. This will include any children who are not identified as being in a vulnerable group but where the school have concerns. We will consider if we can offer a place to those on the edges of receiving children's social care support or where it would be in the best interests of the child.

[Children of critical workers and vulnerable children who can access schools or educational settings - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/children-of-critical-workers-and-vulnerable-children-who-can-access-schools-or-educational-settings)

Vulnerable children include those who:

- are assessed as being in need under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, including children and young people who have a child in need plan, a child protection plan or who are a looked-after child
- have an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- have been identified as otherwise vulnerable by educational providers or local authorities (including children's social care services), and who could therefore benefit from continued full-time attendance, this might include:
 - children and young people on the edge of receiving support from children's social care services or in the process of being referred to children's services
 - adopted children or children on a special guardianship order

- those at risk of becoming NEET ('not in employment, education or training')
- those living in temporary accommodation
- those who are young carers
- those who may have difficulty engaging with remote education at home (for example due to a lack of devices or quiet space to study)
- care leavers
- others at the provider and local authority's discretion including pupils and students who need to attend to receive support or manage risks to their mental health

We will liaise with the family and the social worker (where applicable) where it is deemed in the best interest of the child not to attend. This will be regularly reviewed in line with the expectation that these children are attending school. We will establish the best way to maintain contact with these children and monitor them.

We will continue to work with and support children's social workers to help protect vulnerable children and follow the guidance issued by the Local Authority.

Attendance

We will allow and strongly encourage vulnerable children to attend. If vulnerable children do not attend, we will:

- work together with the local authority and social worker (where applicable) to follow up with the parent or carer to explore the reason for absence, discussing their concerns using supporting guidance considering the child's circumstances and their best interests.
- work together with the local authority and social worker (where applicable) and other relevant partners to encourage the child to attend, particularly where the social worker agrees that the child or young person's attendance would be appropriate.

Where we grant a leave of absence to a vulnerable child or young person we will still speak to parents and carers, and social workers (where applicable) to explore the reasons for this and any concerns raised. The discussions will focus on the welfare of the child and will ensure that the child is able to access appropriate education and support while they are at home.

If we have to temporarily stop on-site provision on public health advice, we will inform the local authority to discuss alternative arrangements for vulnerable children and work towards welcoming back pupils as soon as possible, where feasible to do so.

We will work collaboratively with other schools and education providers and other local partners (including the local authority, social workers, police, youth services, key workers etc.) to maximise opportunities for face-to-face provision for vulnerable children.

As vulnerable children are still expected to attend school full time, they will not be marked as Code X if they are not in school (except if they are shielding, self-isolating or quarantining). If the parent of a vulnerable child wishes their child to be absent, we will ask the parent to let the school know. We will grant applications for leave of absence given the exceptional circumstances. This will be recorded as code C (leave of absence authorised by the school) unless another authorised absence code is more applicable.

Children moving schools and colleges

Where children need to attend another school/setting we will do whatever we can to provide the receiving institution with any relevant welfare and child protection information. This will be especially important where children are vulnerable. We will ensure that the receiving institution is aware of the reason the child is vulnerable and any arrangements in place to support them. As a minimum we will, as appropriate, make sure that they have access to a vulnerable child's EHC plan, child in need plan, child protection plan or, for looked-after children, their personal education plan and know who the child's social worker. We will also ensure that we share any relevant information relating to allergies, medical conditions and dietary requirements. We will endeavour to make sure that this happens before a child arrives and, where that is not possible as soon as reasonably practicable. Any exchanges of information will happen at DSL (or deputy) level, and likewise between special educational needs co-ordinators/named individual with oversight of SEN provision for children with EHC plans. Where this is not possible a senior leader will take responsibility.

We will continue to have appropriate regard to data protection and GDPR, but this will not prevent the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe. We will continue to follow advice about information sharing at paragraphs 82-86 of KCSIE.

Mental health - Pupil wellbeing and support

We will be aware that negative experiences and distressing life events, such as the current circumstances may affect the mental health of children and their parents.

For those children of critical workers, vulnerable children and children who are working remotely, within restriction, we will ensure appropriate support is in place for them. We will have package of support available for all children. We will refer to the mental health and behaviour guidance as appropriate [mental health and behaviour in schools](#).

Where there is a concern for a child, we will ensure that any concerns are reported to the DSL or deputy and recorded. We will draw on external support where necessary and consider any referral to statutory services (and the police) as appropriate. We have a named Mental Health Lead in school and trained THRIVE practitioners who will be consulted. The Mental Health Lead is also a deputy DSL.

Remote learning and online safety

We will ensure that we are doing everything we can to keep all children safe online. We will ensure that all staff who interact with children, including online, continue to look out for signs a child may be at risk. Any such concerns will be reported and recorded like any other safeguarding concern and where appropriate referrals will be made to children's social care and as required the police.

We will be aware of the impact the current circumstances can have on the mental health of those children (and their parents) who are working remotely, including when setting expectations of children's work.

We will ensure that we are monitoring how children and parents are feeling about the work that they are being asked to do and any other concerns that they have.

We will ensure that any concerns are reported to the DSL or deputy and recorded.

We will ensure any use of online learning tools and systems is in line with privacy and data protection/GDPR requirements. We will seek advice from the DPO where there are any concerns about a breach of the requirements.

We will issue guidance to parents to reinforce the importance of children being safe online. We will ensure that parents and carers are made aware of what their children are being asked to do online, including the sites they will be asked to access, and we will make it clear which members of school staff their children will have interaction with

Safer recruitment/volunteers and movement of staff

We will comply with our legal duties regarding pre-appointment including having regard to part three of the statutory safeguarding guidance keeping children safe in education. We will follow the updated guidance issued by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) [guidance on standard and enhanced DBS ID checking](#) to minimise the need for face-to-face contact.

Where we are recruiting volunteers, we will continue to follow the checking and risk assessment process as set out in paragraphs 183 to 188 of KCSIE. We will ensure that under no circumstances will a volunteer who has not been checked be left unsupervised or allowed to work in regulated activity. Mixing of volunteers across groups will be kept to a minimum, and we will ensure that they remain 2 metres from pupils and staff where possible.

We will ensure that new staff and volunteers are added to the Single Central Record, that the assurance from the current employer is recorded and the risk assessments are held on file.

We will seek advice from the HR Department if there are any concerns about a member of staff or a volunteer's suitability to work with children.

Staff training and safeguarding induction

We will ensure that all school staff and volunteers are made aware of any new arrangements or changes to reporting and recording concerns, so they know what to do if they are worried about a child or an adult's behaviour towards children.

We will ensure that where new staff are recruited, or new volunteers enter the school, they will continue to be provided with a safeguarding induction.

Where we have new staff/volunteers on a temporary basis in response to COVID-19 we will judge, on a case-by-case basis, the level of safeguarding induction required. In most cases, the individuals will receive a copy of the receiving setting's safeguarding and child protection policy, confirmation of local processes and confirmation of DSL arrangements and contact details. We will also ensure that they are clear about how to report and record a concern. We will keep a signed record of what was included in the induction.

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Newbridge Primary School

Headteacher:

Gill Kennaugh

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DSL:

Gill Kennaugh

Deputy DSLs:

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Designated Looked After Children/Previously Looked After Children teacher:

Alex Bacon

Nominated Governor for child protection:

Emma Puzey

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Bath and North East Somerset Council

Deputy Safeguarding Lead and Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO):

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Contact details: (01225) 396810

Email: LADO@bathnes.gov.uk

Director for Education, Inclusion and Children's Safeguarding

Name: Chris Wilford

Contact details: (01225) 477109

Director of Children Services

Name: Mary Kearney-Knowles

Contact details: (01225) 396289

Service Manager Care Outcomes

Name: Rachael Ward

Contact details: (01225) 477914

Service Manager Safeguarding Outcomes

Name: Leigh Zywek

Contact details: (01225) 477394

Triage Team (Children and Young People's Specialist Service) Team Manager

Names: Louise Taffinder

Contact details: (01225) 396312 or (01225) 396313

Email: ChildCare_Duty@bathnes.gov.uk.

Virtual School Headteacher

Name: Sarah Gunner

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Part A: Core operational policies and procedures

1 Purpose of policy

This Policy sets out how Newbridge Primary School will meet its statutory duty under section 175 of the Education Act 2002 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and help them to achieve good outcomes. The school will achieve this by providing a safe learning environment and ensuring school staff have the skills and knowledge to take action where children need extra support from early help services or require a social work service because they are in need of help or protection.

COVID-19

Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) remains in force throughout the response to coronavirus (COVID-19). The DfE has issued non-statutory interim guidance on safeguarding in schools, colleges and other providers during the coronavirus outbreak. This guidance supports governing bodies, proprietors, senior leadership teams and designated safeguarding leads to continue to have appropriate regard to KCSIE and keep their children safe. It suggests where schools and colleges might consider safeguarding policy and process differently when compared to business as usual.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>

2 Roles and responsibilities

2.1 B&NES CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The Directorate includes Specialist and Targeted Children's Services; Safeguarding and Quality Assurance services and Education services; they are responsible for:

- co-ordinating the delivery of integrated children's services within B&NES, including an early help service
- providing statutory social work services under the Children Act 1989 and the Children and Social Work Act 2017; Working Together 2018; Keeping Children Safe In Education 2020 and all associated guidance and other relevant legal frameworks
- providing the maintained schools with advice, support and guidance, model policies and procedures, training in relation to all aspects of safeguarding children
- dealing with allegations against members of staff and volunteers through the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)
- taking responsibility for those children who are not in education, including children who are known to be home educated.

2.2 Governing Body

Maintained schools should carry out section 128 checks on their governors. Associate members don't need to have an enhanced DBS check

The governing body will ensure that Newbridge Primary School meets its statutory duties with regard to safeguarding and protecting pupils and that the following are in place:

- The school has the following policies in place and that these are regularly monitored, reviewed and updated where necessary;
- safeguarding policies and procedures covering early help and child protection that are consistent with B&NES Safeguarding Children Board procedures (and B&NES internal policies if a maintained school)
- a staff code of conduct policy including policies covering staff/pupil relationships and communications and staff use of social media
- a procedure for responding to incidents where children go missing from education, particularly where there are repeated incidents that suggest potential safeguarding risks may be present.
- The school is able to work jointly with other agencies in order to ensure pupils can access help and support from early help services and statutory services and that children's plans are implemented and monitored.
- There is a nominated governor with responsibility for liaising with B&NES on safeguarding and child protection matters and who links with the LADO in the event of an allegation against the Headteacher.
- A senior member of staff is appointed as the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) with responsibility for carrying out the statutory duties as set out in this policy, the individual is given sufficient time and resources to carry out their responsibilities and that another member of staff is appointed to deputise in their absence.
- There is a designated teacher nominated to promote the educational achievement of looked after and previously looked after children and that this person has received appropriate training for their role.
- Staff receive a thorough induction, including on the school's approach to safeguarding, as soon as possible after joining and at most within seven days of their start date. Staff are given copies of all relevant safeguarding and child protection policies including the staff code of conduct policy and are required to read them

- Staff are confident that they can raise issues with leaders where there are concerns about safeguarding practice at Newbridge Primary School and there are robust whistleblowing procedures in place.
- Steps are taken to ensure parents and pupils are aware of the school's safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures.
- Governors take steps to ensure children are given opportunities within the curriculum to learn how to keep themselves safe, including on-line.
- The school has appropriate written procedures in place to ensure safer recruitment practices and reasonable checks on visitors to the school, to deal with allegations against staff or volunteers and to report matters to the Disclosure and Barring Service as required, and that these policies are consistent with statutory guidance and reviewed on an annual basis. Making a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service if a person in regulated activity has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns, or would have been had they not resigned, is a legal duty. Failure to refer when the criteria are met is a criminal offence.
- At least one member of the governing body has undertaken accredited safer recruitment training.
- All staff receive safeguarding and child protection training at least every 3 years and receive regular updates (eg: via email, e-bulletins and staff meetings) as required, but at least annually, from the DSL to ensure they remain up to date with new legislation and current local and national safeguarding issues.
- The school has procedures in place to deal with allegations made against other pupils.
- Children's wishes and feelings are taken into account when deciding on what action to take or services to provide to protect individual children, and there is a robust system in place for gaining feedback from pupils.

2.3 School and Headteacher

The Headteacher will ensure that the school meets its statutory safeguarding duty by ensuring the following:

- Staff are inducted thoroughly and have read all the school's safeguarding and child protection policies, behaviour policies and the B&NES children missing from education policy so that they are fully aware of their role in safeguarding children and are able to fully implement policies.
- All staff are able to identify those children who need extra help and can make appropriate referrals to early help services.

- All staff are vigilant to harm and abuse, are able to identify those children for whom there are child protection concerns and can make appropriate referrals to B&NES Children's Services.
- Staff are able to work in partnership with other agencies to safeguard children, including providing early help support, contributing to assessments and the implementation of the child's plan, attending network meetings and case conferences, monitoring children's progress and liaising with social workers.
- Safer recruitment practice is followed when recruiting to posts and appropriate action is taken whenever an allegation is made against a member of staff.
- The school offers a safe environment for staff and pupils to learn, and for children who may have concerns to report them.
- The school's curriculum educates children to be safe and to recognise and stay safe from abuse.
- Safeguarding issues are brought to the attention of the governing body.
- The Headteacher is responsible for liaising with the Local Authority Designated Officer about all allegations against a person in a position of trust. The Headteacher will, where it is necessary, complete a referral to the LADO in respect of allegations made and will work directly with the LADO to ensure allegations are appropriately responded to, investigated and appropriate action is taken to ensure children are safeguarded.

2.4 Role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead

The role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead and their deputies are to take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection within the school and to be available during school hours for staff to discuss safeguarding concerns.

Additional procedures: Newbridge Primary School will endeavour to have two safeguarding leads on site or who are contactable.

The DSL (and their deputies) will:

- liaise with and manage referrals to relevant agencies such as B&NES Children's Services, the Channel Panel, the Police and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS);
- keep the Headteacher and the board of governors informed of on-going safeguarding and child protection issues and enquiries;
- provide advice and guidance for staff on safeguarding and child protection issues and completing Request for Service forms;

- ensure the school's safeguarding and child protection policies are up to date and consistent with B&NES Safeguarding Children Board policies and that policies are reviewed annually;
- ensure all staff, including temporary staff, are aware of and understand policies and procedures and are able to implement them;
- attend regular training (in line with BCSSP requirements), including Prevent awareness and Exploitation training, Child Protection Forums meetings hosted by B&NES in order to keep up to date with new policy, emerging issues and local early help, safeguarding and child protection procedures and working practices;
- provide regular updates received from B&NES Council and BCSSP to all staff members and governors on any changes in safeguarding or child protection legislation (updated information will be provided by B&NES at the Child Protection Forum meeting and safeguarding trainers via BCSSP bulletins; DSLs will be responsible for communicating this information to staff immediately; they may decide to hold workshops or discuss in staff meetings);
- have an awareness of those children who may be in need, young carers and children who have special educational needs /disabilities and liaise with the SENCO when considering any safeguarding action for a child with special needs;
- liaise with the designated teacher for LAC/Post LAC whenever there are safeguarding concerns relating to a looked after child or previously looked after child;
- oversee child protection systems within Newbridge Primary School, including the management of records, standards of recording concerns and referral processes;
- provide a link between the school and other agencies, particularly B&NES Children's Services and the B&NES Local Safeguarding Children Board;
- liaise with the three safeguarding partners and work with other agencies in line with [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#). The National Police Chiefs Council ([NPCC](#))- [When to call the police](#) should help designated safeguarding leads understand when they should consider calling the police and what to expect when they do.
- ensure staff, including temporary staff, receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training every 3 years and receive regular updates (eg: via email, e-bulletins and staff meetings) as required, but at least annually;
- ensure parents are fully aware of the school policies and procedures and that they are kept informed and involved;

- ensure relevant records are passed on appropriately when children transfer to other schools and where appropriate, share relevant information with schools or colleges to enable continued support to the child on transfer.

2.5 Working with parents and carers

The school/ recognises the importance of working in partnership with parents and carers to ensure the welfare and safety of pupils.

The school will:

- make parents aware of Newbridge Primary School's statutory role in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils, including the duty to refer pupils on where necessary, by making all school policies available on the school website or on request;
- provide opportunities for parents and carers to discuss any problems with class teachers and other relevant staff;
- we will take account of parents and carers feedback in the development of school policies to ensure their views are taken into account;
- ensure a robust complaints system is in place to deal with issues raised by parents and carers;
- provide advice and signpost parents and carers to other services and resources where pupils need extra support.

Additional procedures

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dealing-with-issues-relating-to-parental-responsibility>

- The school shares a purpose with parents and carers to keep children safe from harm and to have their welfare promoted. At Newbridge Primary School we are committed to working with parents positively, openly and honestly and ensure that all parents are treated with respect, dignity and courtesy. We respect parents' rights to privacy and confidentiality and will not share sensitive information unless we have permission or it is necessary to do so in order to protect a child. We encourage parents to discuss any concerns they may have about any child with Gill Kennaugh, Headteacher.
- School will share with parents any concerns they may have about their child unless to do so may place a child at risk of harm. The DSL or Deputy DSL will do this in the event of a suspicion or disclosure. Other staff will only talk to parents about any such concerns following consultation with the DSL.
- If the safeguarding team believes that notifying the parents would increase the risk to the child, this will be discussed with social care

- The school will make parents aware of our policy through the school website and through the school newsletter. Parents/Carers are made aware that they can view this policy on request.

2.6 Multi-agency working

The school will work in partnership with relevant agencies in order to meet its obligations under section 11 of the Children Act 2004, *Working together to safeguard children 2018* and *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020*.

The school recognises its vital role in safeguarding school-age children and will co-operate with the B&NES Community, Safety and Safeguarding Partnership (BCSSP) to ensure joint working with partner agencies in order to improve outcomes for children in B&NES. The Governing body and their senior leadership teams, especially their designated safeguarding leads, should make themselves aware of and follow the BCSSP arrangements.

3 Safeguarding children

The school will carry out its duty to safeguard pupils which is:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development
- ensuring children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- undertaking that role so as to enable children to have optimum life chances so they can enter adulthood successfully
- educating children to enable them to live safely now and in the future.

The school will refer to B&NES thresholds and eligibility criteria (available at the link below) to help make decisions on the child's level of need and the appropriate service to refer on for services. Staff will consult with the DSL for advice and to discuss the case prior to making any referral for services.

[Threshold for Assessment](#) (June 2019)

All referrals for a children's social care service will be made by way of an **Early Help or Children's Social Care Request for Service Form**

Parental consent for referral must be sought but a referral will be made regardless of consent being given in cases where the child is deemed to be at risk of significant harm.

Staff will also share information and work in an integrated way to ensure a co-ordinated response from agencies to support families and meet the child's needs.

3.1 Early Help cases

Staff will identify children who need extra help at an early stage and provide help and support in order to prevent concerns from escalating. In particular, staff will be aware of the needs of the following groups of children whose circumstances may mean they will require early help:

- children with disabilities and additional needs, including those with special educational needs
 - young carers
 - children showing early signs of being drawn into anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gangs and organised crime;
 - children who frequently go missing from home, school or care;
 - children who are misusing drugs or alcohol;
 - children at risk of exploitation through modern slavery and trafficking;
 - children whose home circumstances are negatively affected by adult substance misuse or mental ill health or domestic abuse;
 - children who have returned home from care;
 - children who show early signs of abuse or neglect;
 - children at risk of radicalisation;
 - privately fostered children.
- Where the child's extra needs require services, consideration will be given to what early help support can be offered to a child by the school.
 - If the child requires an early help service from another agency, the school will make a referral to the Early Help service for appropriate help and support. Staff will consult with parents prior to making any referral to discuss the matter and gain consent to refer the child.
 - Where the child is receiving an Early Help service, the school will work as part of the Team around the Child and take up the role of lead professional where this is appropriate.
 - Early help provision should be monitored and reviewed to ensure outcomes for the child are improving. If the school believes that this is not the case, consideration should be given to making a referral for a statutory social work service.
 - Reference should also be made to the Neglect Toolkit [Neglect Toolkit](#) (November 2018) and associated documents.
[Neglect Toolkit Checklist](#) (Word doc to use)

[Key Areas of Neglect](#)

3.2 Request for Service (Referral) for a statutory social work service

Where there are concerns about a child's welfare, staff will act immediately by seeking the advice of the DSL or deputy. Following consultation the DSL should decide on whether to make a request for service to B&NES Children's Services via the Triage Team.

Where the risks identified do not meet the threshold for a strategy meeting but there is concern that a section 17 child in need assessment might not be the right course of action, the concern is passed on to B&NES MASH team to gather relevant information from other agencies in order to make the recommendation of which route to pursue.

The Triage Team will inform the school of the outcome within 24 hours of receipt of any referral.

4 Child protection procedures

4.1 Role of school

The school will work to the following policy documents in order to support the protection of pupils who are at risk of significant harm.

- Working together to safeguard children (*DfE 2018*)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/729914/Working_Together_to_Safeguard_Children-2018.pdf
- What to do if you're worried a child is being abused (*DfE2015*)
[What to do if you're worried a child is being abused - Publications - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused)
- The South West Safeguarding Children Board child protection procedures
<https://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp>
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (*DFE 2020*)
- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/892394/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2020.pdf

In line with these policies and procedures, the school will:

- identify those pupils where there are child protection concerns and make a referral to B&NES Children's Services.
- provide a written report and attend child protection case conferences in order to effectively share information about risk and harm
- contribute to the development and monitoring of child protection plans as a member of the core group (for children who are not deemed to be at risk but who have a child in need plan, the school will contribute to the development and monitoring of that plan)
- carry out the school's role in implementing the child protection plan and continually monitoring the child's wellbeing and liaising with the allocated social worker as required.

4.2 Recognition

- Staff have a responsibility to identify those children who are suffering from abuse or neglect and to ensure that any concerns about the welfare of a pupil are reported to the DSL.
- Staff should refer to Appendix 1 for a full definition of significant harm and the specific indicators that may suggest a pupil may be at risk of suffering significant harm.
- Any concerns held by staff should be discussed in the first instance with the DSL or their deputy and advice sought on what action should be taken. Where required, advice on thresholds and indicators of harm can be obtained from the duty social worker on a no-names basis.

Concerns may be monitored over time and recorded on MyConcern. Details of any concerning incidents should also be recorded on MyConcern.

4.3 Dealing with disclosures

If a pupil discloses to a member of staff that they are being abused, the member of staff should;

- listen to what is said without displaying shock or disbelief and accept what the child is saying;
- allow the child to talk freely;
- reassure the child but not make promises that it may not be possible to keep, or promise confidentiality, as a referral may have to be made to B&NES Children's Services;
- reassure the child that what has happened is not their fault and that they were right to tell someone;
- not ask direct questions but allow the child to tell their story;
- not criticise the alleged perpetrator;
- explain what will happen next and who has to be told;
- make a formal record and pass this on to the DSL.

Additional procedures:

Staff will use the MyConcern software to make a formal record, supporting the DSL and Deputies in creating electronic chronologies to further enhance safeguarding practice. Additional training will be given to familiarise staff with MyConcern, with the expectation that this is now established practice.

4.4 Request for Service (Referral)

- Where possible, a decision on whether or not to refer a pupil to B&NES Children's Services should be made by the DSL or their deputies following a discussion with the member of staff who has raised concerns. However this should not delay any referral and any member of staff may make a referral if this is necessary but staff should discuss the matter with a member of the senior management team and take advice from the Duty social worker. The DSL should be informed as soon as possible.

- Referrals should be in writing using an electronic **Children’s Social Care Request for Service Form**, completed either by the teacher raising concerns or by the DSL.
Urgent child protection referrals will be accepted by telephone but must be confirmed in writing immediately via the correct form.
[request for service form](#)

- Calling the Triage Team numbers: 01225 396312 or 01225 396313
- Please email the form to: ChildCare_Duty@bathnes.gov.uk. Send by Fax: 01225 395416 (this is received by the duty team via email)

Referrals for disabled children can also be made using the request for service form above or by calling (01225) 396967

- Where there is any doubt about whether the concerns raised meet the thresholds for a child protection referral, the DSL may discuss the case on a “no names” basis with the duty social worker to obtain advice on how to proceed.
- Out of good practice the safeguarding team will notify a parent or carer prior to the request for service being made unless informing the parent or carer would place the child at risk of further harm, interfere with a criminal investigation or cause undue delay. If parents do not consent, but the child is at risk of significant harm, the referral should still be made.
- If the child already has an allocated B&NES social worker, the referral should be made directly to them. There is no need to complete another Request for Service form as an email can be sent directly to the allocated social worker copying in their Team Manager also. If the child lives outside B&NES, a referral should be made to their home local authority.
- All referrals will be acknowledged by the Triage Team within 24 hours.
- If the school does not think the child’s situation is improving within a reasonable timescale following referral, this should be taken up with Children Services via the DSL.
[BCSSP Escalation Protocol](#) (March 2019)
[Escalation Report Proforma](#) (March 2019)

4.5 Attendance at case conferences and core groups

- The DSL will liaise with B&NES Children’s Services to ensure that all relevant information held by Newbridge Primary School is provided to B&NES Childrens Services during the course of any child protection investigation.
- The DSL will ensure that the school is represented at child protection case conferences and core group meetings:
 - a report will be provided for all child protection case conferences and shared with the parents /carers for the child in advance of the conference

- where possible, a member of staff who knows the child best, such as a class teacher, Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher or DSL/DDSL will be nominated to attend
- if no-one from Newbridge Primary School can attend, the DSL will ensure that a report is made available to the conference or meeting.

4.6 Monitoring

Where a pupil has a child protection plan in place and the school has been asked to monitor their attendance and welfare as part of this plan;

- monitoring will be carried out by the relevant staff member in conjunction with the DSL and this will be shared in preparation for the conference or with the social worker if needed separately to the conference;
- the completed monitoring information will be kept on the pupil's separate child protection file (that should be separate from the school record) and copies made available to all conferences and core group meetings;
- the DSL will notify the allocated social worker if the child is removed from the school roll, excluded for any period of time or goes missing and will report to other Council staff as required.

4.7 Records

- Child protection records relating to pupils are highly confidential and will be kept in a designated welfare file separate to the pupil's education records. These records will be securely held within Newbridge Primary School.
- The DSL is responsible for ensuring that records are accurate, up to date and that recording is of a high standard.
- All information should be recorded on MyConcern. All records should be signed and dated, or the electronic equivalent.
- Records should show:
 - what the concerns were;
 - what action was taken to refer on concerns or manage risk within Newbridge Primary School;
 - whether any follow-up action was taken;
 - how and why decisions were made;
 - who was notified of the concerns.

- Any incidents, disclosures or signs of neglect or abuse should be fully recorded with dates, times and locations. Records should also include a note of what action was taken.
- The monitoring/incident form must be completed;
 - whenever concerns arise or there is a serious incident **or**
 - where a child is being monitored, prior to a case conference or core group meeting.
- Where a child who is subject to a child protection plan transfers to another school, the DSL is responsible for ensuring that copies of all relevant records are passed to the DSL at the new school.
- Child protection records will only be kept until the pupil leaves Newbridge Primary School and should be disposed of as confidential waste; this will be done in accordance with the record retention policy.

4.8 Confidentiality and information sharing

- The Governing body should ensure relevant staff have due regard to the relevant data protection principles, which allow them to share (and withhold) personal information, as provided for in the Data Protection Act 2018 and the GDPR.
- All information must be shared in line with national and local procedures:
 - [BCSSP Information Sharing Protocol](#) (June 2018)
 - [Information Guidance Part 1](#) (June 2018)
 - [Information Guidance Part 2: Case Studies](#)
 - [Information Sharing](#): Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers July 2018
- All information obtained by school staff about a pupil will be kept confidential and will only be shared with other professionals and agencies with the family's consent.
- If the child is under 12, consent to share information about them must be obtained from their parents or carers. Young people aged 12 to 15 may give their own consent to information sharing if they have sufficient understanding of the issues. Young people aged 16 and 17 are able to give their own consent if they are thought to have the capacity to do so under the Mental Capacity Act 2005; otherwise consent should be sought from parents.
- Where a child is at risk of suffering significant harm, the school has a legal duty to share this information with B&NES Children's Services and make appropriate referrals. Equally, where a child protection investigation is taking place, schools and colleges must share any information about the child requested by B&NES Children's Services.

- Parental consent to making a child protection referral should be sought but if withheld, the referral must still be made and parents made aware of this. Before taking this step, schools and colleges should consider the proportionality of disclosure against non-disclosure.
- Parental consent to referral can be dispensed with if seeking consent is likely to cause further harm to the child, interfere with a criminal investigation or cause undue delay in taking action to protect the child. However, schools should discuss this with the Duty and Assessment team on a “no names” basis to gain advice on whether this course of action should be taken.
- Only relevant information should be disclosed, and only to those professionals who need to know. Staff should consider the purpose of the disclosure and remind recipients that the information is confidential and only to be used for the stated purpose.
- In the event that a child makes a disclosure of neglect or abuse, staff cannot guarantee them confidentiality, but must explain why they have to pass the information on, to whom and what will happen as a result. Parents should also be made aware of Newbridge Primary School’s duty to share information.
- Staff should discuss any concerns or difficulties around confidentiality or information sharing with the DSL or seek advice from B&NES Children’s Services.

5 Early Years settings within schools

5.1 Legal and policy framework

As an early years provider delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), the school must meet the specific safeguarding and child protection duties set out in the Childcare Act 2006 and related statutory guidance

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/596629/EYFS_STATUTORY_FRAMEWORK_2017.pdf

The school will ensure that children taught in nursery and reception classes are able to learn and develop and are kept safe and healthy so that they are ready for school by providing a safe, secure learning environment that safeguards and promotes their welfare, and takes appropriate action where there are child protection concerns.

5.2 Safeguarding and child protection

All safeguarding and child protection policies listed in sections 3 and 4 of this Policy will apply equally to children in early years settings so far as they are relevant to that age group.

- In addition, the school has the following child protection policies:

- parents are generally prohibited from taking any photographs of children in the early years setting, but for special events such as school performances, may do so on the understanding that the images are not posted onto social media sites or otherwise shared;
- staff seek parental permission to take photographs of the children, which must be linked to teaching the curriculum and that they use school equipment only for this purpose;

5.3 Suitable people

The school will follow the Safer Recruitment Policy set out in section 6 of this Policy to ensure that staff and volunteers who are recruited to work in the early years setting are carefully selected and vetted to ensure they are suitable to work with children and have the relevant qualifications.

Staff policies set out in section 6 of this Policy will apply equally to staff and volunteers in the early years settings, and the school will ensure that they receive proper training and induction so that they are aware of their role and responsibilities, all school policies and the school's expectations regarding conduct and safe teaching practice.

Whenever an allegation is made against a member of staff in the early years setting, the school will follow the B&NES Policy "*Guidance of the management of an allegation against a member of staff*" as referred to in section 6 of this document.

Where early years staff are taking medication that may affect their ability to care for young children, this will be notified to the Headteacher.

5.4 Staff training, skills and supervision

The school will ensure that:

- all staff in early years settings have the relevant qualifications and skills for their role and receive the relevant induction, child protection and safeguarding training in line with this policy;
- all policies set out in section 7 of this Policy will apply equally to early years staff;
- all early years staff are able to communicate effectively in English both orally and in writing;
- a member of staff who holds a current paediatric first aid certificate is available on the school premises at all times and accompanies children on school trips;

5.5 Staff ratios

The school will ensure that:

- staff levels within the early years setting comply with statutory guidance and can meet the needs of the children, provide suitable levels of supervision and keep them safe;
- parents are kept informed of staff members and numbers;
- children are kept within staff sight and hearing at all times.

For reception classes:

- class sizes will be limited to 30 pupils
- classes will be led by a qualified teacher supported by suitably qualified support staff.

For before and after school provision, schools will decide how many staff will be required for adequate supervision based on the age and needs of the children attending.

5.6 Health

The school will:

- promote the health of children attending the early years provision
- take necessary steps to stop the spread of infection
- administer medicines only in line with the school's policy
- take appropriate action where children are ill
- ensure any meals provided are nutritious and prepared in a hygienic manner
- notify Ofsted of any serious accident, illness or death of any child whilst attending the early years setting within 14 days.

5.7 Health and safety and suitability of premises

The school will ensure that all indoor and outdoor spaces and facilities used for early years settings are safe and fit for purpose and comply with school policies and standards for site safety and health and safety as set out section 8 of this policy. Additionally, the school will ensure that all potential hazards within the school and during school trips are regularly risk assessed.

The school has specific policies for ensuring that records of parents' details, and contact numbers for emergencies are kept up to date and that children are released to the care of their parent or other responsible adult with the parent's consent at the end of the day as well as policies for dealing with uncollected children.

5.8 Managing Behaviour

The school will take all reasonable steps to ensure that behaviour management techniques are appropriate to the child's age and that corporal punishment is not used or threatened. However, staff will be permitted

to use appropriate physical intervention in line with the school's safe touch policy and plans which will be specific for each child depending on their situation.

6 Safer recruitment

6.1 General principles

The school recognises safer recruitment practices are an essential part of creating a safe environment for children and will ensure that staff working in Newbridge Primary School are suitable to do so and do not pose any kind of risk to children.

Newbridge Primary School will follow the *Keeping Children Safe in Education* guidance (DfE 2020).

- The school will carry out extensive checks and enquiries on applicants for all positions, including voluntary and support roles and governors and those involved in the management of an independent school, in accordance with statutory requirements.
- Checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service will be carried out at the level appropriate to the candidate's role in the school (see section 6.4).
- All job advertisements and application forms will clearly state that the role is one in which safeguarding is of prime importance and that applicants will be expected to agree to undergo DBS and other checks as part of safer recruitment practices.
- Staff and governors who normally sit on interview panels will be trained in safeguarding interviewing techniques and no interview should go ahead unless at least one member of the panel has undertaken safer recruitment training. Schools will take up the safer recruitment training offered through B&NES Children's Services or any other accredited training provider.
- Although the Headteacher will have day-to-day responsibility for the recruitment of staff, the board of governors will ensure that they maintain an overview of recruitment systems in order to scrutinise practice and ensure all statutory checks are carried out.
- School and Human Resources staff with responsibility for carrying out recruitment checks should ensure they have a copy of any relevant documents or take relevant issue numbers from documents as proof that the document has been seen.
- Checks will be taken out on existing staff where concerns arise regarding their suitability to work with children or a person moves into a post that is a regulated activity.
- In school, the Headteacher will be responsible for keeping a single central record of all staff and volunteers who work at the school.

- The single central records should include details of all checks carried out and the outcome of these checks or any certificates obtained in the format shown at Appendix 4.
- Where the school has salaried trainee teachers, the school will ensure that all necessary checks are carried out on the trainees, including DBS checks, and that the outcome of these checks is recorded on the single central record.
- For trainee teachers that are fee-funded, the school will obtain written confirmation from the training provider that the necessary checks have been carried out and that the trainee has been judged to be suitable to work with children.
- Where staff are recruited via third parties such as employment agencies, the Headteacher will:
 - seek written confirmation from the agency that the agency has carried out all necessary checks on the individual
 - request written confirmation of the outcome of all checks
 - request written confirmation that an enhanced DBS certificate has been received by the agency
 - check the identity of agency staff when they first present for work to ensure they are person against whom the checks were taken out.

6.2 Checks to be taken out

The school will verify the following information for all new staff:

- The applicant's identity must be verified from their passport or other photographic ID and proof of address must be provided.
- The applicant's right to work in the UK must be evidenced through documentation. Only original documentation should be accepted and its validity checked in the presence of the applicant.
- Where the applicant will be involved in regulated activity, an enhanced DBS check will be taken out, including information from the barred list. If the applicant will begin work before an enhanced DBS check can be completed, a barred list check will be obtained.
- In the case of teaching staff, checks will be made on the applicant's academic and vocational qualifications and further checks made on TRA Teacher Services system to ensure they are not prohibited from teaching under a teacher prohibition order.
- Where the applicant has been living abroad, similar enquiries will be made in the country of origin relating to the applicant's qualifications and suitability to teach via the TRA Teacher Services system.

The school follows central government guidance:

[Criminal records checks for overseas applicants - Publications - GOV.UK](#)

[Employing overseas-trained teachers from outside the EEA - Publications - GOV.UK](#)

- Enquiries will be made regarding the applicant's state of physical and mental health to the extent that it may affect their capacity to carry out their role.
- Newbridge Primary School will keep copies of the following documents on staff personnel files:
 - documents used as proof of identity such as passports or driving licences;
 - a summary of the DBS certificate (but all other documents relating to the DBS check must be destroyed);
 - documents that prove the staff member's right to work in the UK (failure to do so can result in a fine for employing illegal workers).

6.3 References

- Applicants will be asked to provide a full employment history and details of at least two referees, including previous and recent employers, and who should be a senior member of staff with the authority to provide references. References from colleagues will not be acceptable.
- All references will be taken up prior to interview and will be requested directly from the referee, including references for internal candidates. Referees will be contacted to resolve any issues that emerge from the references provided.
- References must be taken up from current employers; if the applicant is not currently employed, verification will be sought from their previous school/college as to the dates the applicant was employed and the reasons for leaving the post.
- Any information provided by applicants as part of an application process will be verified with independent sources and any reference received electronically will be checked to verify the originating source.

6.4 DBS checks

In order to ensure that people who work in Newbridge Primary School are suitable to do so and are not barred from working with children, Newbridge Primary School will apply to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) for police checks and other barred list information as part of the recruitment process.

Enhanced DBS checks which include barred list checks will only be taken out on individuals who are involved in regulated activity.

Regulated activity

The full legal definition of regulated activity is set out in Schedule 4 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 as amended by the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012.

Regulated activity includes:

a) teaching, training, instructing, caring for (see (c) below) or supervising children if the person is unsupervised, or providing advice or guidance on physical, emotional or educational well-being, or driving a vehicle only for children;

b) work for a limited range of establishments (known as 'specified places', which include schools and colleges), with the opportunity for contact with children, but not including work done by supervised volunteers.

Work under (a) or (b) is regulated activity only if done regularly. Some activities are always regulated activities, regardless of frequency or whether they are supervised or not. This includes:

c) relevant personal care, or health care provided by or provided under the supervision of a health care professional:

- personal care includes helping a child with eating and drinking for reasons of illness or disability or in connection with toileting, washing, bathing and dressing for reasons of age, illness or disability
- health care means care for children provided by, or under the direction or supervision of, a regulated health care professional

Staff, contractors and supervised volunteers who have opportunities for regular contact with children but do not carry out a regulated activity will be subject to an enhanced DBS check but not barred list checks.

Decisions on whether a person is carrying out a regulated activity or whether their role provides opportunities for regular contact with children requiring a DBS check will be made by whoever is responsible for recruitment in the school, for example the head teacher or governor.

The school has robust procedures for day to day staff management and supervision and clear procedures for reporting and acting on concerns. Staff carrying out roles involving regulated activity will be suitably supervised on a regular basis by senior staff carrying out a similar role.

6.5 Volunteers

The Headteacher will ensure that the following are carried out in relation to unpaid volunteers such as parents who accompany pupils on school outings or provide help in the classroom:

- All volunteers will be required to undergo a recruitment process including a DBS and other checks and interviews that is appropriate and proportional to the duties assigned to them. This includes signing a confidentiality agreement in respect of working with pupils and their families.
- Volunteers who are carrying out a regulated activity, for example being left unsupervised with children or providing personal care to children should be subject to an enhanced DBS check, including barred list information.

- New volunteers who are not carrying out regulated activity but who have an opportunity for regular contact with children will be subject to an enhanced DBS check but this may not include a barred list check.
- For other volunteers who are not carrying out regulated activity and do not have regular contact with children, the Headteacher will carry out a risk assessment to decide whether an enhanced DBS check should be carried out depending on:
 - the nature of the role
 - what information is already known about the volunteer
 - what references from work or volunteering activity the volunteer has provided regarding suitability
 - whether the role is eligible for an enhanced DBS check.
- All volunteers will be inducted in the school's safeguarding procedures.

6.6 Governors and independent school management

The school will take out an enhanced DBS check on governors but a barred list check will only be taken out if the individual governor will be carrying out a regulated activity within the school.

The school will also take out a check with the Teaching Regulation Agency Teacher Services system to establish whether any individual seeking to become the governor of a maintained school has been disqualified and therefore unable to do so.

The school will undertake checks for governors, under *section 128 of the Education and Skills Act to establish if the individual has been barred from being involved in the management of schools.*

6.7 Alternative education provision

Whenever the school places a pupil with an alternative education provider, the school will obtain written confirmation of the provider's safeguarding and child protection policies and ensure that appropriate safeguarding checks on individuals working at the establishment have been carried out.

7 Staff practice and conduct

7.1 Induction and training

- The Headteacher will ensure that all staff are fully inducted, are made aware of the following policies of Newbridge Primary School and that staff are fully aware of their role in implementing these:

- Safeguarding and child protection policy and procedures
 - Behaviour policy
 - Staff code of conduct
 - The school attendance policy.
- Staff will be asked to read and sign for reading the current version of Keeping Children Safe in Education Part 1 and Annex C, the school Code of Conduct, this policy and the Whistle Blowing Policy and “What to do if you are worried a child is being abused” guidance [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/419604/What to do if you re worried a child is being abused.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/419604/What_to_do_if_you_re_worried_a_child_is_being_abused.pdf)
 - The DSL will ensure that all staff are fully inducted with regard to the school child protection procedures within 7 days of starting work, and that they receive safeguarding and child protection training on a two yearly basis.
 - All school staff should be aware that abuse, neglect and safeguarding issues are rarely stand-alone events that can be covered by one definition or label. In most cases, multiple issues will overlap with one another.
 - All staff should be aware that safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours can be associated with factors outside the school and/or can occur between children outside of these environments. All staff, but especially the designated safeguarding lead (and deputies) should consider whether children are at risk of abuse or exploitation in situations outside their families. Extra-familial harm takes a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple harms including (but not limited to) sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, and serious youth violence.
 - The Headteacher will keep a central record of all statutory and other training undertaken by staff members, governors and volunteers.
 - As well as basic safeguarding training, the designated safeguarding lead and their deputy will receive specific training on their role and other relevant multi-agency training courses provided by the BCSSP.
 - School staff receive single agency training led by one of the safeguarding team who are trained to train.
 - School governors complete online training.
 - As well as basic safeguarding training, the DSL and deputies will receive specific training on their role and other relevant multi-agency training courses provided by the BCSSP. The DSL and deputies

will meet weekly to review safeguarding across the school, both in terms of individual pupils/families and general safeguarding practice.

- School staff will also receive training on the use of the Common Assessment Framework assessment and referral process as part of their safeguarding training.
- School staff will receive regular and timely updates on child protection and safeguarding issues via the DSL in order to ensure they remain up to date with new legislation.

7.2 Conduct and safe teaching practice

- The school expects staff and volunteers to set a good example to pupils through their own conduct and behaviour and aims to protect them from the risk of allegations being made against them by ensuring they maintain high standards of professionalism and appropriate boundaries.
- The Headteacher will ensure that there is a written code of conduct in place and that each member of staff, signs a code of conduct agreement on appointment that sets out the school expectations with regards to standards of professional behaviour and that all staff receive copies of relevant policies.
- All staff and necessary volunteers will sign an acceptable use agreement before being given access to the school's computer system.
- Staff and volunteers should be aware of current guidance on safe teaching practice contained in the DCSF "Guidance for safer working practice for adults working with children & young people" (2009). <http://www.childrenengland.org.uk/upload/Guidance%20.pdf>
- Staff will be expected to follow the school's Code of Conduct in terms of their use of social media, particularly in relation to professional standards and relationships with pupils. All staff and volunteers will sign an acceptable use agreement before being given access to the school/college computer system.

7.3 Providing intimate or personal care to pupils

School staff may need to provide intimate or personal care to younger pupils, for example helping a child who has soiled themselves or supervising pupils who are changing for P.E.

Schools must have a written policy in place in order to promote safe working practices for staff and ensure children's privacy. Children should be encouraged to carry out self-care tasks for themselves where appropriate, but where adult intervention is needed, the following should be observed;

- *Staff should follow any agreed school policy or practice when providing intimate or personal care.*

- *When taking pupils to the toilet, staff should make colleagues aware of the task to be undertaken and explain to the child what will happen.*
- *Parents should always be notified if intimate care has been provided.*
- *When providing intimate care, staff should carefully and sensitively observe the child's emotional response and report any concerns to the designated teacher.*
- *When children are changing, levels of supervision should be appropriate to the pupil's age.*
- *Staff should avoid any physical contact unless a child needs help.*
- *Staff should ensure that changing areas are private and that others are not able to enter whilst children are changing.*

7.4 Behaviour management, physical intervention and restraint

The school will put in place a behaviour management policy in line with government guidance and any use of physical intervention and restraint will be linked to the implementation of the school behaviour policy.

The school will use physical intervention and restraint only in line with the school's policy and the child's specific plan.

Guidance from the Department of Education provides schools with the powers to intervene in a variety of ways in order to manage behaviour within and outside the school. Details of these may be found at:

[Behaviour and discipline in schools - Publications - GOV.UK](#)

[B&NES policy on physical intervention and restraint](#)

Physical intervention and restraint on pupils should only be used as a last resort, normally when de-escalation strategies have failed, and when there is a clear risk of serious harm to the pupil or others or serious damage to property.

Decisions on when to use physical intervention is a matter of professional judgement, and any intervention or restraint should be proportionate, reasonable and necessary to the perceived risk and should continue only for as long as the risk remains. Should such an intervention be required the school should record the details using MyConcern, including any injury, and contact the parent/carer on the same day to explain the circumstances involved.

7.5 Music tuition

It is recognised that music tutors are vulnerable to allegations being made against them because they often work with children alone and the activity can involve some physical contact with a child.

Music tutors need to be aware of the possibility of their conduct and behaviour, including physical contact, being misinterpreted by a child or taken out of context by other adults and:

- *ensure they behave in an appropriate manner and maintain professional boundaries at all times*

- *only use physical contact as necessary within the context of the activity, for example as a means of demonstrating technique, and only for as long as needed*
- *make sure any physical contact cannot be misinterpreted by a child by explaining in advance what contact will be involved and why*
- *ask the child's permission first and respect their wishes*
- *ensure that the pupil is always nearest the door in the room so that their exit is not blocked*
- *not to share musical instruments in particular woodwind or brass on grounds of health & safety*
- *report any incidents or issues that arise to the appropriate member of staff and make sure a record is taken*
- *strongly suggest that all tutors keep a written record of every lesson*
- *never travel alone with children in a car*
- *seek permission from parents before contacting children by mobile phone, for instance to rearrange a lesson or rehearsal, and use home telephone contacts wherever practicable.*

The school

- *should carry out a risk assessment around providing music tuition. This should include:*
- *providing rooms/spaces that are adequately safe and open locations where the teacher can be easily observed by others, for example a door with glass in it*
- *passes on any relevant information about children that may have a bearing on how they could react to physical contact so the tutor can adapt their practice accordingly*
- *shares information with tutors regarding any needs the pupils might have which will affect their learning*
- *let parents know when they arrange tuition what level of physical contact may take place as part of the activity*
- *record any reported incidents or issues and deal with these within the framework of our policies*
- *make sure music tutors are aware of the school's safeguarding and staff conduct policies prior to starting.*

7.6 Allegations against staff

In the event that an allegation is made against a member of staff or volunteer, Newbridge Primary School will follow BCSSP Managing Allegations Protocol

[Managing Allegations Protocol](#) (June 2018)

This guidance should be followed where it is alleged that anyone working in the school or college that provides education for children under 18 years of age, including supply teachers and volunteers, has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child;
- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child;
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she may pose a risk of harm to children; or

- behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children. The Headteacher acts as the school representative for the purposes of the allegations procedures and will link with the Local Authority Designated Officer for all allegations raised. The deputy Headteacher will act in their absence or if allegations are made against the responsible staff member

All allegations in relation to staff members will be referred to the Head Teacher; allegations against the Head Teacher will be referred to the Chair of Governors.

Please use the form Appendix 3: **Managing Allegations Referral Form to make a referral**

7.6 Whistleblowing

The school fosters a culture of openness in and will put in place strategies and procedures to ensure that staff feel enabled to raise concerns relating to the safeguarding of children or poor practice within the school that may cause a risk to children.

The school recognises that there may be circumstances where staff and pupils feel unable to raise concerns or incidents of malpractice within Newbridge Primary School environment as there is reasonable doubt that these would be dealt with adequately.

All staff and volunteers have a legal duty to raise concerns where they feel individuals or schools are failing to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Where it is not possible to raise concerns within Newbridge Primary School, staff and volunteers may report concerns to the following;

- B&NES LADO Name: Sarah Hogan; Contact details: (01225) 396810
- The following numbers can be used where there are issues regarding the school's overall procedures around safeguarding
 - B&NES Education Transformation and School Improvement (01225) 394364
 - The Ofsted whistle-blowing line on **0300 123 3155**
 - The NSPCC whistleblowing helpline on **0800 028 0285**.
- The Headteacher is responsible for ensuring that these numbers are advertised on the school premises and made available to staff and pupils.

Additional policies

This policy links to the following policies and procedures:

- Anti-Bullying and Behaviour
- Staff, Volunteers, Students and Governors Code of Conduct
- Whistle Blowing
- Complaints
 - Health and Safety
 - Attendance

- Medical Needs
- Online safety

8 Health and safety and risk assessments

8.1 Responsibility for health and safety

The governing body and Headteacher will ensure that there is a robust health and safety policy in place in order to meet the statutory responsibility for the safety of pupils and staff within the school environment.

Any health and safety policy adapted by Newbridge Primary School will be based on the government guidance (link below) and will seek to balance risk avoidance against providing pupils with opportunities to take part in activities that help them learn to manage risk themselves.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/279429/DfE_Health_and_Safety_Advice_06_02_14.pdf

Day-to-day responsibility for health and safety issues in the school will be delegated to a member of staff who is competent to carry out these duties and who has received the appropriate training.

Name: Dave Clark

Designation: Site Manager

Contact details: The school office

8.2 Risk assessments

The school will seek to identify and manage risk through the use of risk assessments. These will be carried out:

- on an annual basis for the school environment as a whole;
- for all school trips;
- for pupils travelling between locations during the school day;
- for all work-based learning or work experience placements;
- when a pupil who has been excluded for risky or violent behaviour is returning to the school;
- whenever there are any changes to the school environment or school practices;
- following any serious incident.

8.3 Working with aggressive and violent parents

Where schools are working with families who are known to services and there are concerns about the behaviour of parents towards members of school staff, this must be discussed with the Headteacher and the DSL and the information shared with B&NES Children's Services.

8.4 Site security and visitors

- The board of governors is responsible for the security of the school premises and will take steps to ensure it is a safe environment and securely protected against trespass and/or criminal damage.
- The Headteacher will decide whether or not contractors should be subject to DBS checks before being allowed access to the building, depending on the level of access they are likely to have to pupils.
- Where the visitor is employed by an organisation where DBS checks are normally required, for example NHS staff, the Headteacher will request written confirmation that relevant checks have been carried out for that individual.
- All visitors and contractors will be:
 - informed to report to reception on arrival;
 - expected to provide proof of identity
 - expected to wear a name-badge or carry some form of identification at all times when on Newbridge Primary School premises;
 - suitably supervised by school staff at all times;
 - made aware of school health and safety procedures.
- The Headteacher and the board of governors will ensure that any contract entered into with contractors, sets out clearly the expectations for workers' behaviour and the responsibility of contractors to monitor and ensure compliance with school policies.
- Contracted workers will not be allowed to approach or speak to pupils in any circumstances and must ensure that all equipment and working practices are in line with health and safety standards.
- Visiting organisations such as theatre groups who will be performing for or working directly with pupils will be expected to have adequate child protection procedures in place and must agree with class teachers in advance what level of supervision or contact they will have regarding pupils.

8.5 Use of the school premises by other organisations

The school will only allow use of the school premises by other organisations schools, outside of school hours, for the purposes of providing supplemental schooling if:

- the school's articles of trust or other incorporating document allows this;
- the organisation provides an overview of what it intends to teach so that the board of governors is able to make a judgement on whether this is in line with the promotion of British values;

- the organisation can provide evidence that they have followed safer recruitment practices and that their staff have the requisite DBS checks;
- the following reasonable and due diligence checks are taken out on the organisation by the school;
 - an internet search on the organisation eg charities commission
 - checks with B&NES Children's Services – LADO
 - checks with local Police

8.6 Monitoring and review

To enable the school to monitor the safety of the premises and the school environment, as well as the implementation of policies, the Headteacher and the board of governors will ensure that;

- all school policies are regularly monitored by the DSL and annually reviewed by the Headteacher and governing body;
- the school keeps a central record of all accidents and incidents including what action was taken and by whom;
- staff are aware of their responsibility to record accidents and incidents;
- the Headteacher has an overview all accidents/incidents;
- serious accidents and incidents are reported to the board of governors;
- the DSL ensures a high standard of recording of all concerns held about children;
- all accidents and incidents are scrutinised on a regular basis by the board of governors to identify any problems or weaknesses around school safeguarding policies and procedures or any emerging patterns, and agreeing to any course of action
- all aspects of health and safety are regularly monitored.

Part B: Additional safeguarding policies and procedures

B.1 Non-collection of children from school

Parents will be asked to provide the details of the person who will normally collect the child and will be informed of the need to notify the school in advance if this changes, giving details of the person authorised to collect the child. (This applies to pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2). The school will also ensure that the details of at least two people who can be contacted in an emergency in the event that the child is uncollected.

Parents will also be asked to inform schools where children are subject to court orders that limit contact with a named individual.

In the event that anyone who is not authorised to do so attempts to collect the child, the school will not allow the child to leave but contact the parent immediately.

If a child is uncollected at the end of the school day, the school will follow the usual procedure:

- The school will check with the child to see if there are any changes to arrangements for collection and try to make contact with the parent or other family members and wait with the child until someone comes to collect them.
- Children will not be released into the care of another parent even where they offer to take the child home.
- The school will contact B&NES Children's Services and put them on notice at 4.00 pm if there are difficulties in contacting parents or other family members.
- If no contact can be made with the parent by 4.15pm, the school will contact the B&NES Children's Services who will arrange for a social worker to collect the child or make arrangements for the child.
- The school will regularly ask parents to confirm and update contact details and to nominate a family member or friend who can collect the child in the event that they are unable to do so.
- Where children are regularly uncollected or collected late, this should be discussed with the DSL and reported to the Children's Missing in Education Service. If there are also child protection concerns, a referral should be made to B&NES Children's Services.

B2 Children who are missing from education or home educated

All staff need to be aware of those children who are persistently absent or missing from school as this may be an indicator of welfare concerns.

Attendance policies should state clearly who needs to be notified and what action should be taken and any relevant timescales. Parents should be asked to provide contact details for at least two or more people who can be contacted in the event that a child does not attend school. Schools should refer to B&NES "Children missing from education" policy and the B&NES missing children protocol for further details available at

http://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/B&NES/p_ch_missing_educ.html

http://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/B&NES/p_ch_miss_care_home_ed.html

Where a parent notifies the school that they are removing the child so they can be educated at home, the following notifications should be made:

- *The CMEO must be notified of all decisions.*
- *If the child is already known to B&NES Childrens Services, their allocated social worker should be notified immediately.*
- *If the child is not known to B&NES Childrens Services, but the school has concerns about their welfare, the DSL should make a referral to B&NES Childrens Services.*

B3 Peer on peer abuse

All staff should be aware that children can abuse other children (often referred to as peer on peer abuse). This is most likely to include, but may not be limited to:

- bullying (including cyberbullying);
- physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm;
- sexual violence, such as rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault;
- sexual harassment, such as sexual comments, remarks, jokes and online sexual harassment, which may be stand-alone or part of a broader pattern of abuse;
- upskirting, which typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm;
- sexting (also known as youth produced sexual imagery); and
- initiation/hazing type violence and rituals.

All staff should be clear as to the policy and procedures with regards to peer on peer abuse. Where a pupil's behaviour is likely to cause significant harm to other pupils, for example but not limited to, bullying, cyberbullying, upskirting, physical violence or initiation rites, the school will refer the perpetrator and the victim to Children Services who may hold additional information on the children.

Where the harm is attributable to sexually abusive behaviour or sexual harassment, the school will follow the B&NES Harmful sexual behaviour procedure;

http://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/B&NES/p_sexually_harm_behav.html

Further details can be found in section B4 below.

B4 Harmful sexual behaviour, sexual violence and harassment

Policy

- The school recognises that sexual violence and sexual harassment between pupils is a serious safeguarding issue and such behaviour will not be tolerated. School behaviour management and anti-bullying policies will reflect the school's approach and staff and pupils will be made aware of the standard of expected behaviour and the likely responses to any incidents of sexual violence and harassment.
- The school will follow the statutory guidance *Sexual violence and sexual harassment between pupils* and will work with relevant agencies to safeguard and support victims, take appropriate action against alleged perpetrators and ensure a safe learning environment for all pupils.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/719902/Sexual_violence_and_sexual_harassment_between_children_in_schools_and_colleges.pdf

- The school will take all necessary steps to put in place a planned PHSE curriculum to convey the school's policy for preventing harmful sexual behaviour and to promote respectful behaviour between pupils with regards to sexual conduct.
- The school will promote an environment where victims feel empowered to raise concerns and report incidents. Any reports of sexual violence or harassment will be taken seriously and thoroughly investigated by Newbridge Primary School and appropriate referrals made to the police and B&NES Children's Services.
- The school will ensure that staff and governors receive relevant training to help them ensure an effective response to incidents that protects individual victims and safeguards the welfare of all pupils and staff.
- Newbridge Primary School will ensure staff are able to provide appropriate support to victims and alleged perpetrators that meets their needs and continues to promote their education.

Procedures

- The school will ensure there is a robust response to all incidents and will follow the procedures set out in Part 5 of the *Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020* statutory guidance.
- Reported incidents will be investigated by the member of staff to whom the young person discloses in partnership with the DSL, who will also carry out a risk assessment to look at any continued risk to the victim or other pupils and staff from the alleged perpetrator within Newbridge Primary School environment.
- Where the allegation involves material posted online, the school will request that the electronic device is handed over as part of the investigation and will use legal powers to search and confiscate property as set out in the statutory guidance *Searching, screening and confiscation advice for schools*.
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/674416/Searching_screening_and_confiscation.pdf
- The member of staff and DSL will write up a record of the investigation that will set out how the school will respond to the incident.
- Decisions on responses will be based on the harmful sexual behaviour risk assessment and thresholds set out in the B&NES *Harmful sexual behaviour protocol*
http://bathnes.proceduresonline.com/pdfs/yp_with_sexually_harmful_behaviour_pr.pdf The DSL may take advice from Duty social workers before making a decision. Possible outcomes include

referral to Early Help Services, B&NES Childrens Services or the police, or managing the matter internally under school behaviour policies.

- Where a referral will be made to B&NES Childrens Services or the Police under the protocol, the DSL will discuss the issue with the relevant agency and following this discussion a decision will be made on whether and how to inform the alleged perpetrator and their parents.
- The school will take any necessary action to continue to safeguard the victim and other pupils within Newbridge Primary School environment based on the level of risk established from the risk assessment, including decisions about the victim and alleged perpetrator sharing classrooms. These decisions will be reviewed in the light of on-going police and B&NES Childrens Services investigations to take account of any changes in the status of investigations and any bail conditions placed on the alleged perpetrator.
- Where necessary and appropriate, the school will consider the support needs of the alleged perpetrator and will make referrals to relevant agencies for support on their behalf under the *Harmful sexual behaviour* protocol.

http://bathnes.proceduresonline.com/pdfs/yp_with_sexually_harmful_behaviour_pr.pdf

Additional procedures

Sexual violence is defined as any act which is an offence under the Sexual Offences Act 2003, including rape, assault by penetration or sexual assault without the consent of the victim.

Sexual harassment is defined as unwanted sexual conduct likely to violate the victim's dignity and/or make them feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated or create a hostile, offensive or sexualised environment. This includes making sexual comments or jokes, physical contact such as touching or interfering with clothing or displaying sexual images. It also includes online harassment.

When dealing with incidents, the school should ensure that the written report of the incident contains objective facts and sets out clearly the next steps to be taken, with the views of the victim clearly recorded.

Schools should be aware of their equality duty as victims of sexual violence and harassment are more likely to be female but should follow the same procedures and ensure the same level of response for incidents involving male pupils or incidents where victim and perpetrator are the same sex.

Cases may be managed internally by Newbridge Primary School without referral to other agencies where the incident involves low-level concerns and is a "one-off" occurrence where there is no further risk to the victim or other pupils.

Schools should give careful thought to the day to day management of risk and support for the victim, taking into account the victim's views when considering practical issues such as separating the victim and perpetrator. However, schools/colleges must be able to justify any measures taken and that they do not interfere with the educational opportunities of either party.

Schools may wish to consider developing specific policies around responding to incidents of sexual violence and harassment towards staff members.

Schools need to ensure that staff and governors are able to take up training and support offered by B&NES around relationships and peer on peer abuse and how these messages should be delivered within the PSHE curriculum. Sexual violence and harassment will also be addressed in general, whole-school safeguarding training delivered by B&NES, with DSLs receiving more intense training in view of their role.

B5 Prevention of radicalisation

The school's safeguarding duty includes the duty to promote British Values in order to counter the extremist narrative and prevent young people from being radicalised and drawn into terrorism.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/380595/SMSC_Guidance_Maintained_Schools.pdf

Under Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, Newbridge Primary School also has a duty to refer young people on to B&NES Channel Panel under the Prevent strategy where there are concerns that they are being radicalised.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/417943/Prevent_Duty_Guidance_England_Wales.pdf

Where a school has concerns that a young person might be considering extremist ideologies and/or may be radicalised and would benefit from specialist support to challenge extremist ideologies, or that a younger pupil may be at risk due to their parent's radicalisation, Newbridge Primary School will follow the guidance set out in the B&NES guidance "Safeguarding children and young people from radicalisation and extremism" available at: https://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/B&NES/p_ch_from_abroad.html

Schools should always be a safe space for young people to explore new ideas and perspectives and develop their critical thinking skills. Where there are concerns about radicalisation and a referral to Channel Panel is being considered the school should discuss these concerns internally and also consider external advice and guidance where necessary and appropriate.

The school DSL should be consulted for internal advice on making a referral. Prior to making a referral the school may also speak to and get advice from Children Services or the B&NES Prevent Lead (01225) 396364

School staff complete Prevent training via:

<https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/edu/screen1.html>

B6 Mandatory reporting of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

The school will follow the statutory guidance on FGM in order to safeguard girls who are at risk of FGM:

[Multi-agency statutory guidance on female genital mutilation - Publications - GOV.UK](#)

Where a pupil makes a disclosure of FGM, Newbridge Primary School will follow the mandatory reporting rules and make appropriate referrals to the police as set out in the B&NES guidance available at [LSCB & LSAB Female Genital Mutilation Guidance](#) (March 2019)
All concerns around FGM, including any disclosure made by a pupil, will be discussed with the DSL before any action is taken.

B7 Online safety

As schools and colleges increasingly work online, it is essential that children are safeguarded from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material. As such, governing bodies should ensure appropriate filters and appropriate monitoring systems are in place.

As part of its duty to provide a safe learning environment and ensure pupils know how to remain safe online, the school will implement the recommendations of model schools' online policy available at: <https://swgfl.org.uk/products-services/online-safety/resources/online-safety-policy-templates/>

B8 Looked after and previously looked after children and care leavers

The school recognises that looked after and previously looked after children and care leavers are particularly vulnerable due to their status and their pre-care experiences.

The school's designated teacher for LAC and care leavers has specialist knowledge of the issues faced by this cohort and for this reason; the DSL will consult with the designated teacher to seek advice whenever there are concerns about the welfare of a looked after or previously looked after child or care leaver.

Additional procedures

The school should be aware of the new duty to promote the education of previously looked after children; these are defined as children who have left the care system as a result of adoption or special guardianship order. It is recognised that these children may face the same difficulties and have the same vulnerabilities as looked after children.

B9 Children with special education needs or disabilities (SEND)

The school is aware that children with special education needs or disabilities may be more vulnerable to harm and abuse and may be more likely to experience bullying. They may also have difficulty in reporting harm and abuse due to communications difficulties and professionals may miss vital indicators.

We recognise that additional barriers can exist when identifying abuse and neglect in this group of children.

These can include:

- Assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to the child's disability without further exploration;
- The potential for children with SEN and disabilities being disproportionately impacted by behaviours such as bullying, without outwardly showing any signs; and
- Communication barriers and difficulties in overcoming these barriers

School policies reflect these issues and recognise that staff need to be able to help this group to overcome barriers to seeking help. The school will follow the B&NES guidance

http://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/B&NES/p_disabled_ch.html

B10 Safeguarding vulnerable groups

The school is aware that some pupils may be living in circumstances that may make them more vulnerable to abuse, neglect or poor outcomes and who may need help or intervention from Early Help Services, B&NES Childrens Services or other agencies in order to overcome problems or keep them safe.

Newbridge Primary School will adhere to the following policies in order to respond to the needs of these vulnerable groups and referrals into B&NES Children Services need to be made:

- **Children at risk of forced marriage**

[Forced marriage - Detailed guidance - GOV.UK](#)

- **Domestic abuse and/or sexual violence**

http://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/B&NES/p_dom_viol_abuse.html

https://www.safeguarding-bathnes.org.uk/sites/default/files/B&NES_domestic_abuse_statement_final.pdf

- **Privately fostered children**

http://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/B&NES/p_ch_living_away.html?zoom_highlight=private+fostering

The school has a legal duty to notify B&NES Council of any pupil they know to be privately fostered. The school should notify B&NES Triage team of any private fostering arrangements that come to their notice.

- **Young carers**

https://bathnes.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_young_carers.html?zoom_highlight=young+carers

If the school has concerns about a pupil they believe to be a young carer, they can contact B&NES Children Service for advice and can refer the pupil on for services and support.

B11 Contextual safeguarding for young people

The school is aware that as young people grow more independent, they may face more risk from safeguarding threats from outside of the home, either from within the community, at school or from their own peer group.

All staff should be aware of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE). Both are forms of abuse and occur where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance in power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into sexual or criminal activity. Whilst age may be the most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, sexual identity, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources. In some cases, the abuse will be in exchange for something the victim needs or wants and/or will be to the financial benefit or other advantage (such as increased status) of the perpetrator or facilitator.

The abuse can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and children or adults. The abuse can be a one-off occurrence or a series of incidents over time, and range from opportunistic to complex organised abuse. It can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance and may, or may not, be accompanied by violence or threats of violence. Victims can be exploited even when activity appears consensual and it should be noted exploitation as well as being physical can be facilitated and/or take place online.

County lines is a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs (primarily crack cocaine and heroin) into one or more importing areas [within the UK], using dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of “deal line”. One of the ways of identifying potential involvement in county lines are missing episodes (both from home and school), when the victim may have been trafficked for the purpose of transporting drugs and a referral to the National Referral Mechanism should be considered. If a child is suspected to be at risk of or involved in county lines, a safeguarding referral should be considered alongside consideration of availability of local services/third sector providers who offer support to victims of county lines exploitation.

The school will adhere to the following policies whenever there are concerns that young people are at risk from any of these issues:

Schools/colleges should also be aware that many of these forms of exploitation are linked and that going missing from home or from education can be an indicator that young people are involved in child sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, gang activity, modern slavery and trafficking.

- **Children at risk of sexual exploitation**

http://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/B&NES/p_ch_sexual_exploit.html

Further information and help can be obtained from;

Androulla (Andri) Nicolaou
Prevention Officer and Coordinator
Topaz Child Exploitation Team (Child Sexual & Criminal Exploitation)
CSEPrevention@avonandsomerset.police.uk

- **Young people at risk from gang activity or serious youth violence**

[Safeguarding children and young people who may be affected by gang activity - Publications - Inside Government - GOV.UK](#)

- **Modern slavery and trafficked children**

http://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/B&NES/p_modern_slavery.html

The B&NES BCSSP protocol provides guidance for agencies where it is thought children have been trafficked into or within the UK or where they are vulnerable to modern slavery/forced labour.

- **Children who run away/go missing**

http://www.proceduresonline.com/swcpp/B&NES/p_ch_miss_care_home_ed.html

B12 Mental Health

Schools and colleges have an important role to play in supporting the mental health and wellbeing of their pupils

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

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

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

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

Further information can be found here

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/623895/Preventing_and_tackling_bullying_advice.pdf

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mental-health-and-behaviour-in-schools--2>

B13 Opportunities to teach Safeguarding

Governing bodies should ensure that children are taught about safeguarding, including online safety.

Relationships Education (for all primary pupils) and Health Education (for all pupils in state-funded schools) is compulsory from September 2020. Schools have flexibility to decide how they discharge their duties effectively within the first year of compulsory teaching and are encouraged to take a phased approach (if needed) when introducing these subjects. The statutory guidance can be found [HERE](#).

B14 Other relevant safeguarding policies

Schools can access guidance on the following policies at www.nspcc.org.uk and Department for Education - GOV.UK

Alternative provision

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/alternative-provision>

Anti-discrimination & harassment

Attendance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/parental-responsibility-measures-for-behaviour-and-attendance>

Behaviour and discipline

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/behaviour-and-discipline-in-schools-guidance-for-governing-bodies>

Children missing from school

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/268987/cme_guidance.pdf

Complaints

Drugs/substance misuse

[Drugs: advice for schools - Publications - GOV.UK](#)

Educational visits

Equality and diversity

Exclusion of pupils

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-exclusion>

Fabricated or induced illness

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/277314/Safeguarding_Children_in_whom_illness_is_fabricated_or_induced.pdf

Faith abuse

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-action-plan-to-tackle-child-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief>

First aid and administration of medicines

Supporting children with medical conditions

[Supporting pupils at school with medical conditions - Publications - GOV.UK](#)

No smoking (EYFS)

Physical intervention

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/268771/use_of_reasonable_force_-_advice_for_headteachers_staff_and_governing_bodies_-_final_july_2013_001.pdf

Private fostering

Promoting British values/Radicalisation and violent extremism

[Promoting fundamental British values through SMSC - Publications - GOV.UK](#)

SRE

Sexting

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/545997/Sexting_in_schools_and_colleges_UKCCIS_4.pdf

Gender-based violence/teenage relationship abuse

Trafficking

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/177033/DFE-00084-2011.pdf

Upskirting

Appendix 1:

CHILD PROTECTION; DEFINITIONS AND INDICATORS**Definitions**

Child protection is part of the safeguarding agenda that focuses on preventing maltreatment and protecting children at risk of neglect or abuse. Under the Children Act 1989, CSSW have a legal duty to investigate and take any action to protect children where there are concerns that they are at risk of suffering **significant harm**, which is defined as:

Neglect: failure to provide basic care to meet the child's physical needs, such as not providing adequate food, clothing or shelter; failure to protect the child from harm or ensure access to medical care and treatment.

Physical abuse: causing physical harm or injury to a child.

Sexual abuse: involving children in sexual activity, or forcing them to witness sexual activity, which includes involving children in looking at or the production of pornography.

Emotional abuse: failure to provide love and warmth that affects the child's emotional development; psychological ill treatment of a child through bullying, intimidation or threats.

Possible indicators of abuse and neglect

Neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate or inappropriate clothing • Appears underweight and unwell and seems constantly hungry • Failure to thrive physically and appears tired and listless • Dirty or unhygienic appearance • Frequent unexplained absences from school • Lack of parental supervision
Physical abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any injury such as bruising, bite marks, burns or fractures where the explanation given is inconsistent with the injury • Injuries in unexpected places or that are not typical of normal childhood injuries or accidents • High frequency of injuries • Parents seem unconcerned or fail to seek adequate medical treatment
Sexual abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual knowledge or behaviour that is unusually explicit or inappropriate for the child's age/stage of development • Sexual risk-taking behaviour including involvement in sexual exploitation/older boyfriend • Continual, inappropriate or excessive masturbation • Physical symptoms such as injuries to genital or anal area or bruising, sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy • Unwillingness to undress for sports
Emotional abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developmental delay • Attachment difficulties with parents and others • Withdrawal and low self-esteem
Indirect indicators of abuse and neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sudden changes in behaviour • Withdrawal and low self-esteem • Eating disorders • Aggressive behaviour towards others • Sudden unexplained absences from school • Drug/alcohol misuse • Running away/going missing

Parental attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misusing drugs and/or alcohol • Physical/mental health or learning difficulties • Domestic violence • Avoiding contact with school and other professionals
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Appendix 2

<h2>Report for an Initial Child Protection Conference</h2>	<h2>BCSSP</h2>
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It is the expectation of Bath and North East Somerset BCSSP that all agencies will provide a written report for the conference.

Completing the Agency Child Protection Conference Report

The attached Agency Child Protection Conference Report Template should be completed by all professionals in order to provide information to the Conference. Please complete all areas where you are able to comment.

The report should be provided to, and discussed with, parents, and children when appropriate, in advance of the Conference. It is important that families do not hear new information at the Conference and it is the responsibility of **all agencies** that have relevant information to make this available to the Conference in the form of a written, legible and signed Report.

In line with local arrangements, agency representatives attending the Conference should bring sufficient copies of their report to the Conference.

Confidentiality

Information shared verbally or in writing in the Conference must only be shared outside the meeting if it is to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Conference reports and minutes are confidential and should not be passed to a third party without the consent of the parents or order of court.

If for any reason information needs to be shared with the Conference which cannot be shared with all parties (e.g. confidential **and** sensitive health information relating to one parent), please put this information on a supplementary sheet, clearly identifying why the information is sensitive, and with whom it can be shared. It is the responsibility of the agency submitting sensitive information to ensure that the party to which it pertains has been notified of its inclusion.

If there is information that you need to be taken into account by the Conference which should not be shared with the child/family or other professionals, please discuss this with the Conference Chair in advance of the meeting.

Once the report has been discussed with the parents and their views about the report recorded, it should be submitted to the Safeguarding Administration Team if you have a secure e-mail to: safeguarding_administrationteam@bathnes.gov.uk) at least **2 working days** prior to an Initial Child Protection Conference and **5 working days** in advance of a Review Conference. These

timescales are to give families sufficient time to prepare for such important meetings about their family life.

Please be aware your report may be audited as part of the BCSSP Learning and Improvement activity.

Family Information for an Initial Child Protection Conference	BCSSP
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This report will contribute to the holistic assessment of the strengths, risks and concerns of the named child at an Initial Child Protection Conference.

Initial Child Protection Conference Date:	
Conference Venue	
Reason for Conference	

Home address of Child(ren)	
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Have parents requested any of the personal information to be withheld? If so, who from? Please give details	No
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Child(ren)' s Information	Surname / Forename	DOB / Gender	Ethnicity	Disability or special need	School <u>and</u> Legal Status

Others in Household	Surname / Forename inc. address	Relationship to child	DOB / Gender	Ethnicity	Disability or special need	School <u>and</u> Legal Status

Other significant people including	Surname / Forename INCLUDING ADDRESS	Relationship to the child	DOB / Gender	Ethnicity	Disability or special need

Agency Report for an Initial Child Protection Conference	BCSSP
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This report will contribute to the holistic assessment of the strengths, risks and concerns of the named child at an initial child protection conference.

Children to be considered at Conference:	
Initial Child Protection Conference Date:	

Agency Information	Agency Name:				
	Agency Address:				
	Contact number:				
	Report completed by:		Signed:		
	Designation/ job role		Date report completed:		

Child or member of the family your agency is working with	Full Name:	NHS number	Date of Birth

Have parents requested any of the personal information to be withheld? If so, who from? Please give details	Yes/No
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<p>Summary of your Agencies Involvement with child/family</p>	<p>Include information which is relevant to your service, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reason for your agency's involvement with the child/family member. • History of your agency's involvement. • Details of services or care provided and Child/Family's attendance and engagement. 	
<p>Agency Involvement continued</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include information which is relevant to your service, including: Any significant events (including offences committed) during your involvement with the child or family. • Any referrals which have been made to other services, including why they were made, and if they were engaged with, • Are there any relevant actions outstanding? 	

<p>Child's profile</p>	<p>Paint a picture of each child that your agency is working with. It should provide an overview of each child's strengths and needs in respect to their development including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the child's aspirations and what they want to happen • health and development • behaviour • emotional • social • identity • relationships • self-care • independence and learning, important relationships 	
<p>Voice of the child</p>	<p>Provide details of your conversations/ interactions with the child and their view of their situation at home. If the baby or child is non-verbal please include important observations, including those of their interactions with significant carers. (If there are additional supporting documents such as a drawing or piece of work, please attach this to the back of the report.)</p>	
<p>Parent/Carers profile</p>	<p>Comment on the physical care, safety, protection, emotional warmth, stability, guidance, boundaries and stimulation etc. each parent is able to provide to each child.</p>	

	<p>Comment on any relevant information/ key events in each parent's life including their childhood, as well as taking into consideration any specific vulnerability that you are aware of, e.g., physical and emotional health, substance misuse, domestic abuse and mental health etc...</p>	
	<p>Comment on the family's response to day to day life, and crisis events. Please include any indication of family's motivation to change</p>	

<p>Support systems and wider environment</p>	<p>Comment on wider family's history and functioning.</p> <p>Comment on factors such as their housing arrangements, employment and training, income and financial management.</p>	
<p>What's working well?</p>	<p>Safety: Proven and tested over time – times when the risks were present and it was managed or lessened by parents or others and the child was protected.</p>	

Strengths: Assets, resources of family – includes capacities within the wider family, individual or community. What strengths exist relevant to the identified harm or dangers?	
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Managing Risks	What are the Needs/ Risks that you have identified during your work with the family, and what impact do they have on the child/ren?	
	What action needs to be taken to reduce these needs/risks? (When and by whom? - Please make these SMART)	
	What can your agency do to help reduce these risks? (When and by whom?)	
	Outcome. What will be different for the child/ren or young people?	

If nothing changes?	What are the risks if nothing changes?	
	What action does your agency think may need to happen if nothing changes?	

Significant risk?	Comment on your agency's analysis of harm – do you believe that the identified child/children are at risk of significant harm?	
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With what you know now, in the event of a Child Protection Plan being made, what category of abuse (Emotional, Neglect, Physical, Sexual) would you envisage being appropriate and why?	
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	Yes	Date report seen	No
Has this report been seen by the parents/ carers?	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Has this report been seen by the child/ren / young people?	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

If you have not shared the report please state why not.

What are the views of the parents and/ or carers on this report?
Signed (Parent/ Carer): _____ Date: _____

What are the views of child/ren or young people on this report?
Signed (Child): _____ Date: _____

Managing Allegations Referral Form

Appendix 3

Name of referring organisation	
Referrer's Name and Contact Details	

Details of Member of Staff/Volunteer against whom the allegation is being made			
Full Name		DoB	
Gender		Ethnicity	Disability?
Employer			
Post Held		Status	
Home Address			
Any previous concerns?			

Details of Child(ren) involved			
Full Name		DoB	
Gender		Ethnicity	Disability?
Home Address			
Parent's Name			
Child in Care?		If Yes, child placed by B&NES or other LA	

Details of Alleged Incident	
Date and Time of incident	
Place of Incident	
Brief circumstances of incident – to include any precipitating factors or injuries	
Names of Potential Witnesses	
Any other agencies informed/involved	
What was the impact on the child/young person?	

Nature of Allegation			
Category:	Physical Emotional	Sexual Unsuitable to work with children	
Was Technology involved?		If yes what type?:	

Signed by Referrer	
Date	

Once completed please return securely to LADO@bathnes.gov.uk

Appendix 4: School central record

Important notes

This record should indicate what checks have been taken out for the following:

- For schools, all staff, including supply staff and teacher trainees on salaried routes, who work in school and others who work in regular contact children in school, including volunteers
- For independent schools, including academies and free schools as above plus all members of the proprietorial body and involved in the management of the school
- For colleges, all staff providing education and/or whose positions involve a relevant activity

Agency staff

Please give details of confirmation of checks that have been carried out by the supplying agency.

Volunteers

- Unsupervised volunteers should not be left alone or allowed to work in regulated activity.
- For new volunteers in regulated activity who regularly teach children unsupervised an enhanced DBS is needed with a barred list check.
- Existing volunteers in regulated activity do not have to be re-checked if they have already had a DBS check (which includes barred list information). However, schools and colleges may conduct a repeat DBS check (which should include barred list information) on any such volunteer should they have concerns.
- For existing volunteers not in regulated activity there is no requirement for an enhanced DBS check (a school can request one but may not request a check of the barred list).
- Existing volunteers who provide personal care, the school should consider obtaining an enhanced DBS.
- Existing volunteers who are unsupervised do not need to have a DBS check with a barred list check because the volunteer should have been checked originally.
- For existing volunteers not in regulated activity there is no requirement for an enhanced DBS check (a school can request one but may not request a check of the barred list).
- For a volunteer not engaging in regulated activity a risk assessment should be made and a professional judgement made about the need for an enhanced DBS check.
- Supervision of volunteers – there must be supervision by a person in regulated activity, where supervision occurs, this must be regular and day to day and the supervision must be reasonable in all the circumstances to ensure the protection of children.

Regulated activity

Regulated activity (see p20 for definition) – the period condition is at any time on more than three days in any period of 30 days. ‘Frequently’ is doing something once a week or more. Work of the nature defined is considered regulated activity if done regularly; where this is the case an enhanced DBS check is needed with a barred list check.

Contractors

Contractors or employees of contractors working at the school should have the appropriate level of DBS check if a check is required, eg if the contractor is carrying out teaching or providing a level of care or supervision of children regularly. Contractors engaging in regulated activity will require an enhanced DBS certificate (including barred list information). For all other contractors who are not engaging in regulated activity, but whose work provides them with an opportunity for regular contact with children, an enhanced DBS check (not including barred list information) will be required. In considering whether the contact is regular, it is irrelevant whether the contractor works on a single site or across a number of sites. Under no circumstances should a contractor in respect of whom no checks have been obtained be allowed to work unsupervised, or engage in regulated activity. Schools and colleges are responsible for determining the appropriate level of supervision depending on the circumstances.

Documents and certificates

Please give details of any documentary evidence obtained as part of each check. Please note that there is no requirement to list DBS numbers. Also, to comply with the Data Protection and the DBS Code of Practice, DBS certificates should not be retained any longer than necessary. Other documents to verify identity, right to work in the UK etc, should be kept in personnel files.

Record of checks taken out and/or certificates obtained

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Name	Date of service	Address	DOB	Position held/regulated activity?	Evidence of identity: (name of person carrying out check and date of check)	Barred list check (date and name of person carrying out check)	Enhanced DBS check (date and name of person carrying out check)	Prohibition from teaching check (date and name of person carrying out check)	Prohibition from management of schools under section 128 check (independent and free schools and academies only)	Checks on persons from overseas (date and name of person carrying out check)	Checks on professional qualifications/ Certificates obtained (date and name of person carrying out check)	Checks on right to work in the UK/documents obtained (date and name of person carrying out check)	For supply staff, evidence from the employment agency that relevant checks have been carried out (date of confirmation and name of school staff checking)

Appendix 5: Schools Safeguarding Checklist

The BCSSP sends out a Safeguarding Audit for all schools and colleges every year in addition to any that schools may like to use the checklist below:

To be used by the Headteacher and governors to carry out an assessment of the school’s safeguarding framework

Name of school:

Address:

Headteacher:

Contact details:

Date of safeguarding assessment:

Requirement	Yes	No	Comments/action
Leadership and the safeguarding and child protection framework			
The school has comprehensive safeguarding policies covering early help and child protection and a staff conduct policy covering use of technology, relationships with pupils, communications and use of social media			
The school has agreed procedures for dealing with incidents of sexual violence and sexual harassment that are linked to the school’s behaviour and bullying policies			

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There are agreed local procedures in place for making referrals to CSC where there are concerns about the safety and welfare of a child			
There is a designated governor with responsibility for safeguarding and child protection who has received the appropriate training			
A senior member of the leadership team has been appointed as the DSL and a nominated deputy to carry out the role in their absence and they have the time and resources allocated to carry out their responsibilities			
The DSL and their deputy have received safeguarding and child protection training at the appropriate level on appointment and this training is updated every 2 years.			
All staff (including temporary/supply/volunteers) and governors know name of DSL and deputy and role. Their names are included in the CP Policy.			
Pupils know there are adults in school whom they can approach if they are worried			
Arrangements are in place to ensure staff can liaise with the safeguarding lead or their deputy at all times during school hours			
Policy is clear that all verbal conversations should be promptly recorded in writing			
The school promotes a multi-agency approach to safeguarding and child protection in line with <i>Working Together</i> and staff are able to attend child protection conferences and other multi-agency meetings as appropriate			
The curriculum offers opportunities for pupils to learn how to develop skills to recognise and stay safe from abuse, including online, and offers pupils guidance on healthy relationships.			
The school promotes positive behaviour and this is reflected in behaviour management strategies used; reasonable force and restraint is used only in line with legislation; use of any behaviour management strategy is tailored to the needs of the pupil and carefully monitored for effectiveness			
The school has effective policies for dealing with bullying and discrimination, including cyberbullying, sexting and inappropriate language			
There is a policy around dealing with allegations against staff and all staff are aware of the policy and know what action to take if they have concerns about another member of staff			
The school has a policy of openness and challenge and staff and pupils feel safe to raise concerns; there is a whistleblowing policy in place and all staff and pupils know who to contact if they are concerned that safeguarding issues are not being adequately dealt with by the school			
The school has an internet safety policy setting out how pupils will be kept safe online and the standards for use of technologies expected from pupils and staff including mobile devices; all pupils and staff have signed an acceptable use agreement			
The school have taken steps to implement the Prevent duty and staff are aware of how to make appropriate referrals to Channel Panel			

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The school has a policy on dealing with children who harm other children and all staff are aware of what action to take under this policy			
The school seeks the views of pupils and parents with regard to safeguarding issues and all safeguarding and child protection policies are available on the school website			
Staff knowledge and Online safeguarding practice			
All staff are inducted in safeguarding arrangements in the school and have received and read all relevant policies			
All staff have received safeguarding and child protection training at the appropriate level on appointment and this training is updated every 3 years.			
All staff receive regular updates to safeguarding and child protection legislation via the DSL as required			
All staff are able to identify those children who may benefit from early help and are able to provide support within the school or make appropriate referrals to B&NES' Early Help service			
All staff are able to recognise the indicators of abuse and harm, can identify children who may be at risk of harm			
All staff know what action to take to refer children appropriately to CSSW where there are concerns and make timely referrals and follow up referrals where it is thought the child's situation is not improving			
All staff are aware of their legal duty under the mandatory reporting rules for FGM and can make appropriate notifications to the police and CSC in known cases of FGM			
All staff are aware of what actions to take when a child goes missing from education or does not attend and that missing episodes are monitored; all staff are aware of the link between going missing and safeguarding issues such as sexual exploitation, criminal behaviour, substance misuse and trafficking; there are procedures in place to notify B&NES where a child is removed from the school roll in line with the local <i>Children Missing from Education</i> policy			
All staff are able to share information lawfully and appropriately and work jointly with partner agencies; parents are informed of concerns and actions taken unless this puts the pupil at further risk			
Records of concerns and referrals are up to date and timely and kept securely			
All staff receive regular supervision that enables them to raise safeguarding issues			
Risk assessments are routinely carried out to ensure the health and safety of pupils on site, on school trips and during work experience			
Pupils feel safe and are aware of how to raise concerns and complaints with a trusted adult			
Safer recruitment			
The school has a safer recruitment procedure that is in line with statutory requirements			
The school has a single central record providing details of when and by whom the following checks on candidates were taken out:			

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identity checks • DBS/barred list checks • Prohibition from teaching/section 128 checks • Appropriate checks with overseas organisations where the candidate is from abroad • Checks to establish right to work in the UK • Professional qualifications check 			
The school has a clear system in place in line with statutory requirements for volunteers or contractors coming into the school. Enhanced DBS checks are taken out on all staff members, volunteers and governors; barred list checks are also taken out on staff, volunteers and governors who are involved in regulated activity			
The Headteacher or other member of the senior leadership team decides on whether or not volunteers, visitors or contractors require a DBS check and this decision is informed by a risk assessment; arrangements are put in place to supervise and oversee volunteers, visitors and contractors where a DBS check is not carried out and children are not left unsupervised with any individual who has not undergone a DBS check			
The school seeks written confirmation from agencies that these checks have been taken out on all agency and supply staff prior to appointment; all agency and supply staff are required to present proof of identity prior to beginning work			
A member of the governing board or senior leadership team involved in interviewing has completed an accredited safer recruitment training course			
Dealing with allegations against staff			
There is a named staff member with responsibility for liaising with the police and LADO			
Appropriate referrals are made to the DBS where staff cease to work at the school following investigation into allegations			

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INFORMATION WHICH SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE CHILD PROTECTION POLICY			
<i>The government categories/descriptors of abuse</i>		<i>Forced marriage</i>	
<i>Roles and responsibilities of DSL</i>		<i>Gangs and youth violence</i>	
<i>Referral process including telephone numbers</i>		<i>Gender identity and sexuality</i>	
<i>Safer recruitment – accredited persons</i>		<i>Gender-based violence, including VAWG</i>	
<i>Safer working practice</i>		<i>Hate</i>	
<i>Allegations management</i>		<i>Honour-based violence – signs of</i>	
<i>Whistle-blowing</i>		<i>Mental health</i>	
<i>Bullying, including cyber-bullying</i>		<i>Missing children and adults</i>	
<i>Child sexual exploitation</i>		<i>Peer on peer abuse</i>	
<i>Children looked after: reference to safeguarding</i>		<i>Private fostering – duty to report to LA</i>	
<i>Children missing education</i>		<i>Radicalisation; Prevent duty</i>	
<i>Domestic violence</i>		<i>SEND: safeguarding challenges for pupils</i>	
<i>Drug concerns</i>		<i>Sexting</i>	
<i>Fabricated and induced illness</i>		<i>Teenage relationship abuse</i>	
<i>Faith abuse</i>		<i>Trafficking</i>	
<i>Female genital mutilation – signs of</i>		<i>Multi-agency public protection arrangements</i>	
<i>Duty to report FGM disclosures to police</i>		<i>Multi-agency risk assessment conference</i>	