



Swiss
Cottage
School
Development &
Research Centre

Inclusive
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Safeguarding Policy 2022-23

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Part A: Core operational policies and procedures

1 Purpose of policy

This policy sets out how Swiss Cottage 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. As a special school recognised that our pupils have a range of complex needs as a result have additional vulnerabilities that that must be taken in account when we consider risk and safety. All staff work together to providing a safe learning environment for all of our pupils and their families. We ensure that school staff have the skills and knowledge to act when children need extra support from early help services or require a social work service because they are in need or need to be protected from harm. We recognise that the most effective way to keep pupils safe is through a whole school approach the includes training for staff, a well-planned curriculum, and effective partnerships with families and their professional networks.

Our integrated approach to safeguarding, pupil wellbeing and child protection enables a culture of safety that ensures:

- pupils can raise concerns and that their concerns will be taken seriously;
- pupils have a voice that is enabled and supported in a way that is appropriate to their needs.
- The voice of the child or young person is enabled through our curriculum, personalised provision that includes the use of AAC and through adult advocacy.
- staff are equipped to deal sensitively and effectively with concerns and disclosures;
- inclusive and anti-discriminatory behaviour is an expectation for staff and pupils;
- all forms of bullying, harassment and discrimination, or inappropriate, sexualised or offensive language and behaviour are not tolerated;
- the wishes and feelings of pupils are considered at all times;
- all stakeholders are included in the shared task and responsibilities of safeguarding and children protection;
- We recognise that the impact that parenting a child with a disability can have on whole family wellbeing.
- we are committed to working with parents and carers in an open and transparent way when we have concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing.
- No child or their family will be discriminated against because of their protected characteristics, and all reasonable adjustments are made to reduce the additional risk of harm they may face.

2 Linked policies and processes

The following policies and processes make up the school's safeguarding and child protection responses and contribute to a safe learning environment. These policies are reviewed and ratified by the PWC and wider Governing Body:

- Safer recruitment process.
- Swiss Cottage School Staff Handbook for Code of Conduct.
- CSCP guidance on dealing with allegations against staff and volunteers
- Child on Child abuse protocol.
- Harmful sexual behaviour protocol.
- Intimate Care Policy.
- Health and Safety Policy.
- The Positive Behaviour Policy.
- The Relationship and Sex Education Policy.
- Low Level Concerns Policy.

3 Roles and responsibilities

Camden Supporting People Directorate

We work with Children's Safeguarding and Social Work (CSSW), Early Intervention and Prevention and Education divisions and Camden Learning and these services will support Swiss Cottage School to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils by:

- co-ordinating the delivery of integrated children's services within the borough, including an early help service.
- providing statutory social work services under the Children Act 1989
- Co-ordination of our school based integrated model of pupil support
- (MAST) to provide help to families in school and in the community.
- providing the school/college with advice, support and guidance, model policies and procedures, training and dedicated lead officers with responsibility for child protection, safeguarding and online safety
- Dealing with allegations against members of staff and volunteers through the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)
- Taking responsibility for those children who missing from or not education, including children who are known to be home educated.

Governing body

The governing body will ensure that the school meets its statutory duties regarding safeguarding and protecting pupils and that processes are in place to enable staff to understand the nature of safeguarding children with SEND in education and their role and

responsibilities in doing so. In particular, the governing body will ensure the following are in place:

- Swiss Cottage school has the following policies in place and that these are regularly monitored, reviewed, and updated where necessary;
- Safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures covering early help and online safety, extra-familial harm and Child on Child abuse that are consistent with Camden Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures and Camden's internal policies.
- The Staff Code of Conduct addresses and sets out a wide range of procedures that always uphold a high standard of professional practice for all staff including when they are off-site.
- The Staff Code of conduct provides clear expectations about the use of social media and information about recruitment processes linked to Safer Recruitment, due diligence, and the use of online checks.
- The Positive Behaviour policy includes measures to address bullying and harassment, including prejudice based and discriminatory bullying in the context of a complex and vulnerable population.
- The Attendance Policy for responding to incidents where children go missing from education, particularly where there are repeated incidents that may suggest potential safeguarding risks might be present. This policy also sets out our support for children and families who are unable to attend school for related to medical needs including complex mental health needs.
- At Swiss Cottage School we are committed to working jointly with our multi agency partners in order to ensure pupils can access help and support from early help services and statutory social work services and that children's plans are implemented and monitored.
- Our nominated governor for child protection is Jonathon Hilliard, he has responsibility for liaising with Camden CSF on safeguarding and child protection matters and will link with the LADO in the event of an allegation against the head teacher.
- Lucy Hall is the senior member of staff appointed as the designated safeguarding lead with responsibility for carrying out the statutory duties as set out in this policy. The wider Leadership team recognised the need for protected time and resources to carry out the extensive responsibilities set out and will also ensure that and that another member of staff is appointed to deputise in their absence as part of the safeguarding team.

- The designated member of staff nominated to promote the educational achievement of looked after children and previously looked after children is Lucy Hall and that this person has received appropriate training for the role.
- Our Staff receive a thorough induction on joining and are given copies of all relevant safeguarding and child protection policies and the staff code of conduct policy.
- Our Staff are confident that they can raise issues with leaders where there are concerns about safeguarding practice at the school and that 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. Regular updates are provided to parents through the newsletter and school website.
- Governors take steps to ensure children are given opportunities within the curriculum to learn how to keep themselves safe, including on-line.
- We have 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.
- At least 4 members of the governing body has undertaken accredited safer recruitment training. All members of the Governing Body have safeguarding training.
- All staff receive safeguarding and child protection training at every year and receives regular updates from the designated safeguarding lead to ensure they remain up to date with new legislation. This is through a combination of online , face to face and written briefings.
- There is a weekly safeguarding drop-in to support staff discuss any concerns that that have in relation to children and young people or their families. These sessions can also provide top up training or referral / signposting issues for non-urgent issues.
- The school/college has procedures in place to deal with allegations made against other pupils.
- Children's wishes and feelings are considered when deciding 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. For some pupils at Swiss Cottage, this is not possible due to the complexity of their needs, for these children key member of their team will represent their voice.

- The Governing Body are regularly updated by the IT Lead (Edward Pitcher) on the effectiveness of our IT monitoring and filters and that key members of the leadership team are clear about how to escalate issues when they are identified.

Principal and Senior Leadership Team.

The Principal and Senior Leadership Team will ensure that the school meets its statutory safeguarding duty by ensuring the following:

- All staff are aware of their role and responsibilities for safeguarding under Part 1 of the guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education 2022. We do this by providing an annual briefing to accompany a copy KCISE which they are required to read and demonstrate they have understood.
- Staff are thoroughly inducted in line with section 5.1 of the Safer recruitment and Swiss Cottage staff Code of conduct, and have read The Safeguarding and Child protection policies, behaviour policies so that they are fully aware of their role in safeguarding children and young people and are able to fully implement policies.
- All staff can 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 safeguarding and child protection concerns and can make appropriate referrals to CSSW and the CYPDs 0-25 service for children who live in Camden and the equivalent teams for children and young people who live out of borough.
- 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. At Swiss Cottage we use an integrated model of care and shared responsibility to safeguard children and young people.
- Safer recruitment policy is followed when recruiting to posts and appropriate action is taken whenever an allegation is made against a member of staff in line with the policy. Safer recruitment and staff conduct policy for schools and colleges.
- Swiss Cottage School, Development and Research Centre offer a safe environment for staff and pupils to learn.
- Safeguarding issues are brought to the attention of the governing body. The DSL or one of the Deputies will report to committees on key issues, themes in CP casework and referral data.

Role of the designated safeguarding lead

The role of the designated safeguarding lead and their deputies is 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. The Governing Body ensure an appropriate senior member of staff is appointed to the role of designated safeguarding lead. Their additional responsibilities include providing advice and support to other staff on child welfare, safeguarding and child protection matters, taking part in strategy discussions and inter-agency meetings, and/or supporting other staff to do so, and to contributing to the assessment of children.

Additional procedures

A named duty DSL is on call during holidays if a DLS is not on site. The duty rota is agreed this information is also shared with any staff who might be undertaking home visits or community-based interventions with children and young people. This information is shared with the safeguarding governor and CYPDS leads.

The designated safeguarding lead (and their deputies) will:

- liaise with and manage referrals to relevant agencies such as CSSW, the LADO, the Channel Panel, the Police and the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS);
- keep the principal, senior leadership team 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 making referrals and support them through the referral process;
- ensure the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection policies are up to date and consistent with Camden's Children's Safeguarding Partnership 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 through robust induction processes;
- attend regular training, including Prevent awareness training, and the designated teachers' meetings hosted by Camden 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 Camden to all staff members and governors on any changes in safeguarding or child protection legislation (updated information will be provided by Camden at the designated teachers meeting and safeguarding trainers via 6 weekly bulletins; designated safeguarding leads will be responsible for communicating this information to staff immediately; they may decide to hold workshops or discuss in staff meetings);

- to ensure that all staff understand the additional vulnerability of the pupils at Swiss Cottage School and to provide specific personalised training for staff working with pre-verbal children and young people across all curriculum pathways.
- has an awareness of those children who may be more vulnerable to poor educational outcomes due to safeguarding and other issues such as children in need, children with child protection plans, children with mental health issues, young carers and those living in temporary or over-crowded accommodation.
- liaise with the designated teacher for LAC (Lucy Hall) whenever there are safeguarding concerns relating to a looked after child or previously looked after child;
- liaise with the school mental health lead (Lucy Hall) or CAHMs team as appropriate where there are safeguarding concerns are linked to mental health issues;
- raise awareness with staff on how children's vulnerabilities and exposure to safeguarding issues such as , neglect, abuse and trauma can negatively influence their educational attainment and behaviour and how staff can work to meet these challenges and improve outcomes.
- oversee child protection systems within the school, including the management of records, standards of recording concerns and referral processes;
- provide a link between the school/and other agencies, particularly CSSW and the Camden Safeguarding Children Partnership;
- ensure staff, including temporary staff, receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training every year including online safety training to identify the early signs of Child on Child abuse.
- ensure that all the members of the Governing Body receive appropriate training, which is offered regularly. This training should equip them with the knowledge to provide strategic challenge to test and assure themselves that the safeguarding policies and procedures in place at Swiss Cottage are effective and support the delivery of a robust whole school approach to safeguarding.
- ensure parents and carers are fully aware of the school's policies and procedures and that they are kept informed and involved;
- encourage a culture where pupil voice is enabled for all , children are listened to , their views taken into account and where they are encouraged to keep themselves safe.

- 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 the child on transfer.

Working with parents and carers

- Swiss Cottage School, Development and Research Centre recognise the importance of working in partnership with parents and carers to ensure the welfare and safety of pupils. We are committed to working with parents and carers to for the best outcomes for our children and young people. To do this we will:
- Include our shared safeguarding responsibilities as part of our parent and family induction process.
- make parents aware of the school/college's statutory role in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils, including the duty to refer pupils on where necessary, by making all school/college policies available on the school/college web-site or on request;
- provide opportunities for parents and carers to discuss any problems with class teachers and other relevant staff;
- consult with and involve parents and carers in the development of school/college policies to ensure their views are considered;
- ensure a robust complaints system is in place to deal with issues raised by parents and carers. The governing body is updated regularly about any complaints raised and how they are resolved .
- provide advice and signpost parents and carers to other services and resources where pupils need extra support.

Additional procedures

Parents are given provided with an induction when their child starts at Swiss Cottage School to understand our approach to joint working and shared responsibilities to keep children and young people safe. This includes meetings with members of the Senior Team , class team and MAST.

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

Multi-agency working

Swiss Cottage School, Development and Research Centre will work in partnership with relevant agencies in order to meet its obligations under section 11 of the Children Act 2004 and *Working together to safeguard children* 2018.

As a relevant agency under the new Camden Safeguarding Children Partnership (CSCP) safeguarding arrangements, Swiss Cottage School recognises its vital role in safeguarding school-age children and its statutory duty to co-operate with the CSCP to ensure joint working with partner agencies in order to improve outcomes for children in Camden.

Governors, school managers and the senior leadership team will ensure these safeguarding arrangements are followed and that the school is able to raise any safeguarding issues and emerging trends with the CSCP via the CSCP Head teacher members and/or the Camden Learning representative.

We work with a range of specialist agencies to provide additional support children and young people with complex needs.

Contacting the police

In the event that a criminal offence takes place in the school premises or police assistance is needed to deal with the incidents the school will follow the guidance set out in the NSPCC guidance . When to call the police .

<https://www.npcc.police.uk/documents/Children%20and%20Young%20people/When%20to%20call%20the%20police%20guidance%20for%20schools%20and%20colleges.pdf>

Appropriate adults .

If any young person is required to be questioned by the police in relation to a referral that young person people will be supported by an appropriate adult. This would usually be a parent, social worker or member of the school team who knows that pupil well. It is expected that the appropriate adult will support, advise and assist the young person and provide advice as appropriate to the police about how best to support a young person's SEND, including communication support. We would ensure that this plan was agreed where possible at a strategy meeting prior to interview.

Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse has a serious impact on children. It can be psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional. Children can be victims of domestic abuse. They may see, hear or experience the effects of abuse at home and/or suffer domestic abuse in their own intimate relationships (teenage relationship abuse). All of which can have a detrimental and long-term on their on long term outcomes for health, well-being, development, and ability to learn.

Harm can include ill treatment and the psychological impact of witnessing ill treatment of others. Children with SEND are more vulnerable to long term harm as they are less able to disclose and seek help. Children may experience abuse in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others."

The DSL/Deputy will ensure provide targeted training to support staff to recognise all types of domestic abuse. We work with multi agency partners to provide advice and guidance to families. We recognise that any family can experience abuse regardless of gender, sexual orientation or family make up.

Additional Procedures.

Operation Compass is a national initiative that helps to safeguard children and young people who may have been exposed to domestic abuse. In practice, this means that if the police are called to a domestic abuse incident and a child has been present when this happened, then the police will notify the designated safeguarding lead. This will be done as early as possible in the morning and allow the school to silently support the child. This allows for rapid provision of support within the school environment and means that children are better safeguarded against the effects of domestic abuse. The DSL will inform the relevant staff of any notification and agree what support (if any) the pupil should receive from the school or specialist staff

*Operation Encompass,
Elisabeth Mavin PC 1351CN
Islington Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub
222 Upper Street London N1 1XR
External: 0207 527 6166
Elisabeth.C.Y.Mavin@met.police.uk
MASH mailbox: NI-PublicProtectionDesk@met.pnn.police.uk*

4 Safeguarding children

Swiss Cottage School will carry out its duty to safeguard pupils which is:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's health or development
- ensuring children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Ensuring that they are protected from all types of domestic abuse including familial abuse.
- Undertaking that role, so as to enable children to have optimum life chances in order to enter into adulthood successfully.

Swiss Cottage School, Research and Development will refer Camden's 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 designated safeguarding lead for advice and to discuss the case prior to making any referral for services.

[Safeguarding children - Camden Council](#)

All referrals for a children's social care service will be made by way of an e-CAF referral to Camden's Multi Agency Support Team (MAST) The team is Camden's "front door" for children's social care referrals and accepts referrals for all cases. For children with an

allocated social worker, referrals will be made directly to them or through their duty desk / team manager.

Parental consent for referral will be sought but a referral will be made regardless of consent being given in cases where there are safeguarding concerns about the child and making a referral is a proportionate response to those concerns. 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.

Referrals for children who are not resident in Camden should be made through local Front Door / MASH teams or directly to the specialist disability teams for those children who have an allocated social worker or who have existing short breaks support and are held on duty for review.

Early Intervention.

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 assessments:

- children and young people with disabilities and additional needs, including those with special educational needs
- children and young people with mental health needs
- young carers
- children and young people showing early signs of being drawn into anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gangs and organised crime and county lines;
- children and young people who frequently go missing from home, school or care;
- children and young people who are misusing drugs or alcohol;
- children and young people at risk of exploitation through modern slavery and trafficking;
- children and young people whose home circumstances are negatively affected by adult substance misuse or mental ill health or domestic abuse;
- children and young people at risk of honour-based abuse i.e.: FGM forced marriage
- children and young people who have a parent in prison or who are affected by parental offending
- children who have returned home from care;
- children who show early signs of abuse or neglect;
- children at risk of radicalisation;
- Privately fostered children.
- children who are persistently absent from school including for part of the school day.

Where the child's extra needs require services, consideration will be given to what early help support can be offered a child through the school MAST, FIT and PBS team.

- If the child requires an early help service from another agency, the school/college will make a referral to the Early Help service for an assessment 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.
- Many families will also access support through the short breaks assessment service to provide additional help and support to reduce wider pressure on the wider family
- Where the child is receiving an Early Help service, the school/college 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/college believes that this is not the case, consideration should be given making a referral for a statutory social work service.

Referral for a statutory social work service

We recognise that all of the children and young people at Swiss Cottage are more vulnerable to a wide range of risk factors due to their SEND. All staff have a shared responsibility to raise any concern that they may have, no matter how small. All staff are expected to act immediately by seeking the advice of the designated safeguarding lead or their deputy.

Following consultation, the designated safeguarding lead should decide on whether to make a referral to CSSW or CYPDS via the Contact Service or duty line. Where necessary the DSL will seek consultation and advise through MASH or the duty social worker at CYPDS.

Where the referral raises concerns that the child is at risk of significant harm, the case will be passed on to Camden's MASH team or CYPDS to gather relevant information from other agencies.

The Contact Service will inform the school within 1 working day of the outcome of any referral and what action CSSW will be taking. This may include any of the following:

- Carrying out a child and family assessment to identify the child's needs and establish if the child is a **child in need** under section 17 of the Children Act 1989. These are children (including disabled children) who are unlikely to meet a reasonable standard of health and development unless provided with services.

- Convening a **strategy meeting under child protection** procedures as set out in section 4 for any child where there are concerns about significant harm and/or taking any immediate action in order to protect the child.
- Providing services for the child and their family in the meantime whilst work is on-going (including details of services).

4 Child protection procedures

Role of school/college

Swiss Cottage School, Development and Research Centre 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/779401/Working_Together_to_Safeguard-Children.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 London Safeguarding Children Board child protection procedures
[London Safeguarding Children Board: Child Protection Procedures](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1080047/KCSIE_2022_revised.pdf)
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1080047/KCSIE_2022_revised.pdf

In line with these policies and procedures, Swiss Cottage School, Development and Research Centre will:

- identify those pupils where there are child protection concerns and make a referral to CSSW
- 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
- 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.

5. 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 designated safeguarding lead.

- 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 designated safeguarding lead or their deputy and advice sought on what action should be taken. The decisions made should be recorded on the pupils MYCONCERN file. Where required, advice on thresholds and indicators of harm can be obtained from the MASH social worker on a no-names basis.
- Concerns may be monitored over time and recorded on the monitoring/incident form shown at appendix 2. Details of any concerning incidents should also be recorded on this form.

Dealing with disclosures

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

- Understand that that children may not feel ready or able to make a disclosure. Staff are supported to develop secure attachments in with pupils to know baseline behaviour and presentation.
- listen to what is said without displaying shock or disbelief and accept what the child is saying;
- 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 CSSW;
- 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 designated safeguarding lead.

Many children at Swiss Cottage are not able to make disclosure but may have visible injuries or may present with very different behaviour. In these circumstances an initial discussion should had with the DSL or a member of the safeguarding team.

Referral

Where possible, a decision on whether or not to refer a pupil to CSSW should be made by the designated safeguarding lead or their deputy 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 Child and Family Contact team social worker. The designated safeguarding lead should be informed as soon as possible.

- Referrals should be in writing using an e-CAF referral completed either by the teacher raising concerns or by the designated safeguarding lead. Urgent child

protection referrals will be accepted by telephone but must be confirmed in writing via the e-CAF referral within 48 hours.

- Where there is any doubt about whether the concerns raised meet the thresholds for a child protection referral, the designated safeguarding lead may discuss the case on a “no names” basis with the Multi Agency Spotty team social worker to obtain advice on how to proceed.
- Parental consent should be sought prior to the referral being made but a referral can be made if parents refuse consent where there are safeguarding concerns about the child and referral is a proportionate response to these concerns. Consent should not be sought if this would place the child at risk of further harm, interfere with a criminal investigation or cause undue delay.
- If the child already has an allocated CSSW / CYPD’s social worker, the referral should be made directly to them. If the child is not already known to CSSW, referrals should be made to the Child and Family Contact team or the CYPDs team to check if they are known to their service through MOSIAC. (Integrated service for Disabled Children) If the child lives outside Camden, a referral should be made to their home local authority.
- All referrals will be acknowledged by the Child and Family Contact team manager within 24 hours and the referrer informed of what action will be taken.
- If we remain concerned that the child’s situation is improving within a reasonable timescale following referral, this should be taken up with CSSW/Early help services via the designated safeguarding lead.

Attendance at case conferences and core groups

The designated safeguarding lead will liaise with CSSW/CYPDs to ensure that all relevant information held by the school is provided to CSSW during the course of any child protection investigation. The designated safeguarding lead will ensure that Swiss Cottage School is represented at child protection case conferences and core group meetings. Where possible, a member of staff who knows the child best, such as a class teacher or head of year will be nominated to attend, this may often be a member of the Family and Inclusion Team or a named adult. If no-one from school can attend, the designated safeguarding lead will ensure that a report is made available to the conference or meeting.

Monitoring

Where a pupil is the subject of a child protection plan 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 designated safeguarding lead;

- all information will be recorded on the child's my concern profile, any member of staff who is not able to access this system may use the protection monitoring/incident form shown at appendix 2 prior to each conference and core group meeting;
- the completed monitoring form will be kept on the pupil's separate child protection file and uploaded to their online profile and copies made available to all conferences and core group meetings;
- the designated safeguarding lead will notify the allocated social worker if the child is removed from the school roll, excluded for any period of time or goes missing.

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 the office of the DSL (any specific hard copy files) All pupils have secure online safeguarding files through MYCONCERN. The designated safeguarding lead 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 the child in young person's MYCONCERN file.

MYCONCERN Records should show:

- what the concerns were;
- whether any follow-up action was taken;
- how and why decisions were made
- 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.
- 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.
- Child protection files are shared on a need to know basis.
- Where a child who is subject to a child protection plan transfers to another school, the designated safeguarding lead is responsible for ensuring that copies of all relevant records are passed to the designated safeguarding lead at the new school within 5 days
- The designated safeguarding lead may also consider contacting the new school to share relevant information in order to ensure the child receives the support they need as soon as they transfer.
- Child protection records will only be kept until the pupil leaves the school/college and should be disposed of as confidential waste.

Confidentiality and information sharing

- All information obtained by Swiss Cottage staff about a pupil will be kept confidential and will only be shared with other professionals and agencies with the family's consent unless there are safeguarding concerns that need to be

shared with CSSW and parents refuse consent or seeking consent would place the child at further risk.

- 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; otherwise consent should be sought from parents.
- Where a child is at risk of suffering significant harm, schools and colleges have a legal duty to share this information with CSSW and make appropriate referrals. Equally, where a child is subject to a child protection investigation, schools and colleges must share any information about the child requested by CSSW.
- 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; is the duty of confidentiality overridden by the need to safeguard the child?
- 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 acting to protect the child. However, schools should discuss this with the Child and Family Contact team social worker 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 the school/college's duty to share information.
- Staff should discuss any concerns or difficulties around confidentiality or information sharing with the designated safeguarding lead or seek advice from the Child and Family Contact team social worker.

Early Years Safeguarding arrangements

As an early year's provider delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), Swiss Cottage School aims to 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/attachmentdata/file/596629/EYFS_STATUTORY_FRAMEWORK_2017.pdf

Swiss Cottage School, Development and Research Centre 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.

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 the early years settings, so far as they are relevant to that age group.

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

- a policy on the use of mobile phones and cameras within the early years setting; recommended policies are:
- parents and carers are asked to switch off mobile phones if they are coming into the all areas of the school including the early years and leave the setting if they need to use their mobile;
- parents are prohibited from taking any photographs of children in the all areas of the school including the early years setting, for special events such as school performances, we will provide photos or video with agreed prior consent.
- the school will seek parental permission to take photographs of the children though our whole school consent process. The use of photographs which must be linked to teaching the curriculum and that they use school equipment only for this purpose;
- staff do not bring personal mobile phones into the early years setting and use them only during breaks in the staff room on the 4th floor.
- Swiss Cottage school will follow the statutory guidance in consultation with the LADO and OFSTED in relation to any allegation against a member of staff working in and early years setting.

Suitable people

Swiss Cottage School, Development and Resource Centre 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.

Safeguarding 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.

A routine digital screening check may be undertaken as part of our due diligence in our recruitment processes. The purpose of the check is to ensure that candidates are suitable to work with children.

Whenever an allegation is made against a member of staff in the early years setting, the school will follow the Camden 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 head teacher.

Staff training, skills and supervision and ratio's

Swiss Cottage School, Development and Resource Centre 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 the Safer recruitment and staff conduct policy for schools and colleges apply equally to early years staff;
- all early years staff receive supervision that helps them to effectively safeguard children by providing opportunities to discuss issues and concerns and decide on what action to take;
- 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;
- each child in the early years setting has a designated keyworker who liaises with parents to provide individual support for the child.
- 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 and children are kept within staff sight and hearing at all times.
- parents are kept informed of staff members and numbers;

Health

Many of the children and young people at Swiss Cottage have a range complex needs, including a small group who have a life limiting or terminal prognosis. The school is

committed to working closely with community health teams and clinical specialists to support the best outcomes for children and to keep the children healthy and well. We work with specialist teams to ensure that those children who may lose skills and capacity have a focus on best quality of life. We recognise that poor health may impact on attendance and will where appropriate support families with blended learning, home and hospital visits. In school we 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.

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 parent's 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.

Smoking and vaping will not be permitted on the school premises at any time . Staff should not smoke in front of the building or in direct sight of families as they arrive or leave the school .

Managing behaviour

Swiss Cottage School, Development and Resource Centre is a PBS (Positive Behaviour Support) school and all staff are provided with training to support pupils who present with behaviours that challenge. Positive Behaviour Support approaches in place to meet the holistic needs of the individual and to ensure that children and young people are taught to express their needs, wants and feelings appropriate and safely.

We recognise that each pupil has unique needs that may be affected by their special educational need or disability. Swiss Cottage does not use punishment or threats in the management of complex behaviour; children and young people are taught strategies to self-regulate and manage difficult feelings or emotions appropriately.

We are committed to restraint reduction and will always use a graded approach to any type of physical intervention. We use restrictive physical intervention as last resort or in critical incident to keep children / young people and staff safe.

The use physical interventions are recorded using the school MYCONCERN systems on the day of the incident or on the next working day if this is not possible. The use of restrictive physical interventions are discussed with parents and carers and the child/ young person's professional network. Children and young people who need to be held to keep them safe must have a behaviour and positive handling plan that has been shared with parents.

6 Records and information sharing

The school will ensure it keeps accurate records about the child which will be lawfully shared with others for the purposes of safeguarding children as set out in section 5 of this policy. The designated safeguarding lead will ensure that that the child protection files for pupils in transition will be transferred within the first five days of the new school year, or within five days for an in-year transfer. If there is no confirmed destination for Year 12 or above the school will hold the records and notify the multi-agency team until placement is confirmed.

Additional procedures

The Senior DSL and HR Lead meets with the Safeguarding Governor every half term to update on training, themes or issues in school and to report on key safeguarding concerns or incidents and also to ensure the Single Central Record is up to date and correct. The Senior DSL is an advisor to the PWC Subcommittee of the GB.

7 Health and Safety and risk assessments

Responsibility for health and safety

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

The health and safety policy adapted is drawn from 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/college will be delegated to a member of staff who is competent to carry out these duties and who has received the appropriate training. This is:

Additional procedures

All classes have regular reviews of PEPs, Individual and group risk assessments for a range of activities on and off site.

All staff regularly check the classroom environment, outside spaces and communal areas for health and safety risks. Any identified risks are reported to the BAM helpdesk: bamreferral@swisscottage.camden.sch.uk

Significant risks of immediate harm are treated as a safeguarding referral and notifiable to a member of the senior leadership team and the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

7 Risk assessments

The leadership team 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, and adapted if new or changing risks emerge.
- for all school trips and visit;
- 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;
- For children and young people with complex health needs;
- whenever there are any changes to the school environment or school practices;
- For children and young people needing additional specialist support to manage complex sexualized behaviour
- following any serious incident.

Working with aggressive and violent parents

We are committed to building and maintaining positive relationships with all our families. We recognise that occasionally relationships can become stressed or difficult, we will always seek to resolved difficulties quickly and in the best interests of our pupils. If there are families who are known to CSSW and there are concerns about the behaviour of parents towards members of school staff, this must be discussed with the Principal / Vice Principal and the designated safeguarding lead and the information shared with CSSW/ CYPDS

If there are high levels of risk involved in contact with parents, CSSW/CYPDS may convene a risk assessment meeting with the multi-agency network in order to discuss strategies to reduce risk and ensure that this information is available to the wider network of other professionals who made need to see the child in other settings or at home.

Home visits and community support.

We work in partnership with our families. At times we may be supporting children and young people at home or in the community. All staff must agree the purpose of home based or community support. Home visits should be documented and parents must be consulted about how the information from home visits will be shared. Prior to the visit all pupil risk assessments should be reviewed and the DSL should be consulted to consider any other risks to staff undertaking the visit, this will determine if one or two members of staff should attend. All initial home visits must be undertaken by two members of staff. Visiting staff should ensure a member of SLT knows the start and end time of the visit and this should be confirmed when the visit has ended.

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.
- In general, occasional visitors to the school such as parents will not be subject to DBS checks but their movement around the premises will be supervised.
- The Principal and the board of governors will ensure that any contract entered with contractors' sets out clearly the expectations for worker's behaviour and the responsibility of contractors to monitor and ensure compliance with school/college policies.
- The principal 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.
- 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.
- Where the visitor is employed by an organisation where DBS checks are normally required, for example NHS staff, the head teacher/principal will request written confirmation that relevant checks have been carried out for that individual.
- 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.

Alternative education provision

If there is a need to place a pupil with an alternative education provider, Swiss Cottage School, Development and Research Centre 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.

Swiss Cottage School recognises that alternative provision may increase risk for vulnerable pupils and will follow the government guidance .

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

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school>

Use of the school premises by other organisations

Swiss Cottage School will only allow use of the school premises by other organisations outside of school hours providing:

- the organisation can provide copies of child protection policies and procedures and the school accept these as adequate;
- the organisation can provide evidence that they have followed safer recruitment practices and that their staff have the requisite DBS checks;
- details of the agreement are recorded on the partnership agreement record with clear provision for the circumstances under which the agreement can be terminated by the school for breaches of the agreement.

Part B: Additional safeguarding policies and procedures

B.1 Non-collection of children from school

Parents are asked to provide the details of the person who will normally collect the child if it is not them and will be informed of the need to notify the school in advance if any of these details' changes, giving details of the alternative person authorised to collect the child. This may include providing photographic evidence or a pass.

Parents and carers should also give details of at least two people who can be contacted in an emergency in the event that the child is uncollected. It is the responsibility of the parents / carers to update these as necessary, and school will confirm details at the start of the academic year.

Parents will also be asked to inform schools where children are subject to court orders that limit contact with a named individual or when information about the child should not be divulged because it may pose a risk to the child.

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 and if appropriate the social worker immediately.

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

- The schools will check with the child to see if there are any changes to arrangements for collection and try to contact the parent or other family members and wait with the child until someone comes to collect them.
- The school will contact the Children and Families Contact Service to put CSSW on notice at 4.00 pm if there are difficulties in contacting parents or other family members.
- Where children are regularly uncollected or collected late, this should be discussed with the designated safeguarding lead and reported to the Pupil Attendance Service. If there are also child protection concerns, a referral should be made to CSSW.

B2 Children who are missing from education or home educated

Swiss Cottage school attendance policy set out our procedures for school attendance and how we support children to attend school or access education if they are unable to attend. Parents should be asked to provide contact details for at least 2 or more people who can be contacted in the event that a child does not attend school. Schools should refer to Camden's "Children missing from education" policy and the CSCP missing children protocol for further details available at: [Schools and Nurseries Safeguarding Policies | Camden Safeguarding Children Board](#)

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 case should be referred to the EHCP case coordinator who will liaise with EHE Lead (Ed McGee)*
- *Pupil Attendance Service must be notified of all decisions.*
- *If the child is already known to CSSW, their allocated social worker should be notified immediately.*
- *If the child is not known to CSSW, but the school has concerns about their welfare, the designated safeguarding lead should make a referral to CSSW.*

B3 Child on Child abuse

Swiss Cottage School will ensure that all staff are aware of child on child abuse and know what action to take when a pupil's behaviour is likely to cause harm to other pupils. This may be through:

- bullying and cyberbullying
- physical aggression
- sexual violence and sexual harassment
- up skirting or inappropriate touch
- sexting or inappropriate sharing of images
- initiation rites / criminal exploitation and contextual safeguarding risks.

We recognise that in the context of a special school there are many variables in how behaviour is experienced by pupils and staff. Some pupils may not fully understand the drivers for their own behaviours or how they might impact on others. We work with curriculum pathway leads, the CAMHS and MAST team to ensure that all pupils are supported to be safe in school and how to access help in and out of school. We always work with statutory safeguarding partners to agree an appropriate safeguarding response.

Additional policies

Link to RSE policy

B4 Harmful sexual behaviour, sexual violence and harassment

Swiss Cottage School recognises that sexual violence and sexual harassment between pupils is a serious safeguarding issue and such behaviour will not be tolerated. However, we also acknowledge that young people with complex needs may have very disinhibited sexualised behaviour that they need additional specialist support to manage this in a safe and socially appropriate way. This is addressed through early intervention, curriculum delivery and MAST planning.

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

As a school we recognise the importance of teaching children that laws are in place to protect them, not criminalise them and we work with a multi-agency team to ensure that children and young people can access specialist services and support. Any child or young person with complex sexual behaviour may require additional expert forensic services to provide advice, guidance and treatment and risk management. These services can be accessed through the FCAMHS service at The Portman and Respond.

<https://tavistockandportman.nhs.uk/care-and-treatment/our-clinical-services/FCAMHS/>
<https://respond.org.uk/circles-of-support-and-accountability-cosa/>

B5 Prevention of radicalisation

The school's safeguarding duty includes the duty to promote British values to counter the extremist narrative and prevent young people from being radicalised and drawn into terrorism. Young people with Autism and those with learning difficulties may be at higher

risk of grooming by radical groups or by developing specialist interests which expose them to ideas that they may not have the capacity to form balances and informed judgements about. We teach children and young people british values, rule of law and tolerance through our PHSE curriculum. If we become concerned about a young person or a member of their family we consult with the Prevent Lead or MASH team and then make a referral .

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

Under Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, we also have a duty to refer young people on to Camden's Channel Panel under the Prevent strategy where there are concerns that they are being radicalised.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance/revised-prevent-duty-guidance-for-england-and-wales>

Swiss Cottage School will follow the guidance set out in the CSCP guidance "Safeguarding children and young people from radicalisation and extremism" where:

- there is a 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.

The guidance is available at: <https://cscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/CSCB-guidance-on-radicalisation-and-extremism.pdf>

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 under the Prevent duty to Channel Panel is being considered the school/college should discuss these concerns internally and also consider external advice and guidance where necessary and appropriate.

The designated safeguarding lead 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 Camden's Prevent co-ordinator (Albert Simango, albert.simango@camden.gov.uk or call 020 7974 2010) or the Prevent Education Officer (Jane Murphy, jane.murphy@camden.gov.uk or call 020 7974 1008).

B6 Mandatory reporting of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Swiss Cottage school 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](#)

We work with affected communities to offer advice, guidance and support through our specialist family support workers and links with local groups. This includes direct work with parents and advice and sign posting to raise awareness of the highly specialised local services that Camden has in the borough.

Where a pupil makes a disclosure of FGM, the school/college will follow the mandatory reporting rules and make appropriate referrals to the police as set out in the CSCP guidance available at: <https://cscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/FGM-mandatory-reporting-guide.pdf>

There are many girls who are supported in their personal and intimate care in school. The staff supporting them are well placed to know if there are any changes to physical appearance of genitals or of unusual patterns of attendance or request of time out of school or trips abroad. Staff have training on all types of FGM and a raised awareness of the ways in which girls and women may be abused and in which settings including clinical ones outside of the UK.

All concerns around FGM, including any disclosure made by a pupil, will be discussed with the designated safeguarding lead before any action is taken.

B7 Online safety

As part of our duty to provide a safe learning environment and ensure pupils are taught how to remain safe online, we work closely with families to support parents to understand and manage risk. We recognise that pupils with SEND have an increased need to be digitally literate to support a wide range of learning, communication, and social support and contact with friends.

As a school we follow the recommendations of Camden's model schools online policy available at: <https://cscp.org.uk/professionals/schools-and-nurseries-safeguarding-policies/>

We work with our families to provide parental education to support digital literacy and how to manage digital safety and risk. This includes through appropriate social media use, gaming platforms including gambling sites and ecommerce. As a school we also recognise the additional risks that young people with SEND may be exposed to by financial scamming and exploitation.

B8 Looked after and previously looked after children and care leavers

The school/college 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/college's designated teacher for LAC and care leavers has specialist knowledge of the issues faced by this cohort and for this reason, the designated safeguarding lead 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.

B9 Children with special education needs or disabilities (SEND)

Swiss Cottage 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 also recognise that some pupils may develop behaviours that could include targeted aggression, fixations and preoccupations with other children, young people or adults. They may not understand the impact of their behaviour or that it could be experienced as bullying by the victim.

The school/college will follow the CSCP guidance *Safeguarding children with disabilities* available at:

<https://cscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Safeguarding-children-and-young-people-with-disabilities-guidance.pdf>

Additional procedures

Pupils will be supported through behaviour plans, social skill groups and adults to provide safe scaffolding and support.

Risk assessments are shared between class teams and across the network as appropriate.

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B10 Safeguarding vulnerable groups

Many of our families have very complex life experiences and living conditions. We know 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, CSSW or other agencies in order to overcome problems or keep them safe.

The school/college will adhere to the following policies in order to respond to the needs of these vulnerable groups.

Children who have a social worker

Many of the children and young people at Swiss Cottage need additional support due to their complex needs. Many of these families can be supported through the short breaks service.

For others, the underlying issues are more complex, this may mean that they are subject to child in need or child protection plans are likely to have experienced abuse, neglect, and trauma and that this could have a negative effect on their behaviour and learning. These children will have a named allocated social worker.

The allocated social worker will inform the school whenever a child is receiving a service and the designated safeguarding lead will keep a record of all pupils who have an allocated social worker.

We and will work in partnership with social workers and their teams to implement the child's plan in order to support their education and safeguard and promote their welfare. A member staff who knows the pupil well will become part of the professional network and will share information about safeguarding risks and attend planning meetings. In their absence, a suitable colleague will deputise for the member of staff or a written report will be provided for meetings.

Children at risk of forced marriage

Forced marriage - Detailed guidance - GOV.UK

Domestic abuse and/or sexual violence

<https://cscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/CSCB-domestic-abuse-guidance.pdf>

*Schools can refer young people affected by domestic or sexual violence to the specialist worker based in the Camden Safety Net on **020 7974 1864** for advice and support. Schools and colleges should also be aware that the definition of domestic abuse now includes victims aged 16 and 17 years old and that these victims should be referred to Camden Safety Net for a service in their own right.*

Privately fostered children

<https://cscp.org.uk/resources/private-fostering-resources/>

*Schools have a legal duty to notify Camden of any pupil they know to be privately fostered. Schools should contact the Fostering team on **020 7974 6783** to notify Camden of any private fostering arrangements that come to their notice.*

Young carers

<https://cscp.org.uk/resources/young-carers/>

*If schools have concerns about a pupil they believe to be a young carer, they can contact Family Action on **020 7272 6933** for advice and can refer the pupil on for services and support. Further details can be found on the website.
www.family-action.org.uk*

B11 Extra-familial harm and exploitation

Young people with SEND can be at higher risk of extra-familial harm. All staff will be always vigilant to the indicators of extra-familial harm in relation to pupils.

Whenever staff are made aware of any safeguarding incident or concerning behaviour that has taken place out of the home and that has put a pupil at risk,

staff will discuss the matter with the designated safeguarding lead and consider the level and nature of the risk before making decisions on referrals.

Young people experience physical, cognitive and emotional changes during adolescence and will grow more independent, spending more time away from home. They may pursue risky behaviours and as a result, they may face heightened risk from safeguarding threats outside of the home.

These threats may be from within the community, from other pupils at school/college or from their own peer group rather than from within the family and there may be no concerns about parenting other than concerns about supervision. Sources of harm and exploitation can include:

- *child sexual exploitation*
- *child criminal exploitation including county lines*
- *modern slavery and trafficking*
- *gang activity and youth violence*
- *radicalisation.*

Exploitation is a form of abuse involving an imbalance of power within a relationship that allows one party to use this power to manipulate another to carry out an act. The victim may believe that they are acting on their own accord but in fact their consent has been obtained through deception, duress or force and threats of violence.

Factors such as substance misuse and periods of going missing from home or school can also add to young people's vulnerability to extra-familial harm and are often indications that exploitation may be taking place.

The school/college will adhere to the following policies whenever there are concerns that young people are at risk from extra-familial harm:

Children at risk of sexual exploitation

<https://cscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/CSCB-multi-agency-guidance-on-child-sexual-exploitation.pdf>

County lines and criminal exploitation

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

Criminal exploitation occurs where a person or a group of people takes advantage of their contact with and influence over a young person to coerce or manipulate them into carrying out a criminal act. Examples of criminal exploitation are:

- *county lines*
- *benefit fraud*
- *forced theft*
- *forced begging*
- *cannabis cultivation*
- *money mule (where the young person's bank account is used by others for money laundering).*

County lines is the most common form of criminal exploitation in Camden and describes when gangs and organised crime groups exploit young people to transport and sell drugs, sometimes across county boundaries but also locally and within the borough. The young people have dedicated mobile phone 'lines' for taking orders for drugs and are used as they are less likely to be stopped by police, allowing adult dealers to avoid the risk of arrest.

Indicators include unexplained money, having several mobile phones, frequent calls, being in trouble with the police for possession of drugs, being found in an area to which they have no connection.

Modern slavery and trafficked children

<https://cscp.org.uk/resources/child-trafficking-and-modern-slavery/>

The CSCP 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. This includes young people who are criminally exploited under the county lines model.

Young people at risk from gang activity or serious violence

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

Some young people with SEND are at particularly elevated risk of criminal exploitation, particularly those with moderate learning/ hidden disabilities who have independence in the community. All staff are trained to be aware of the indicators that a young person may be involved in violent crime or may be being criminally exploited and as such at risk from becoming a victim of violence. Or at risk of begin exposed to contextual safeguarding risks through siblings, other family members and through their lived experience. Indicators include absenteeism, changes in friendship groups, declining academic performance, changes in emotional welfare and signs of physical assault.

*Camden has a comprehensive strategy for reducing the risks posed by gang activity, and schools can refer young people to the Young Person's Advocate based in the Youth Offending Service on **020 7974 6174** for advice.*

Children who run away/go missing

<https://cscp.org.uk/resources/missing-children-from-home-and-care/>

Young people with SEND are at risk of exploitation; many of these forms of risk and 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, gang activity, modern slavery, criminal exploitation and trafficking. Staff are provided with training to understand localised trafficking. Some children and young people are also at risk in the community as they are unable to understand risk and may develop patterns of behaviour linked to climbing, running and leaving home or school. Any child who present with behaviours that may result in them getting out school community settings or home are planned for accordingly through MAST, CYPDs and respite services.

B12 Children and young people experiencing mental health issues

Swiss Cottage School recognises that some pupils may experience mental health issues that can negatively affect their behaviour and their ability to participate fully in education. Many of our children and young people are at significant risk of developing mental health needs related to disability, social isolated and complex psychosocial issues.

We work with the guidance of the multi-agency protocol on children and young people's mental health and will carry out its responsibilities under that protocol where there are concerns about a pupil's mental and emotional wellbeing.

<https://cscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Interim-multi-agency-protocol-on-children-and-young-people%E2%80%99s-mental-health-2021.pdf>

Where there are safeguarding concerns arising from a pupil's mental health issues, staff will discuss concerns with the designated safeguarding lead to agree any actions to be taken.

Swiss Cottage is a Trauma Informed School and as such we will ensure that staff understand trauma informed practice and its link with mental health and are able to recognise pupils who are experiencing mental health issues and help them to access the most appropriate help. Many of our families have experienced trauma multiple times. The school is also mindful of the long-term impact of the pandemic.

The school curriculum is designed to ensure that staff are teaching about mental wellbeing (as part of the statutory Health Education) to help reduce the stigma attached to mental and emotional problems and ensure pupils know how to keep themselves mentally healthy and know how to seek support.

The comprehensive approach to personalised provision also ensures early identification of children or young people who have mental health needs and class teams

work with the MAST (Multi Agency Support Team) put in place appropriate support and interventions, including specialist services, where needed.

Swiss Cottage School , Reseach and Development Centre will take account of the government guidance *Mental health and behaviour in schools*.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/755135/Mental_health_and_behaviour_in_schools_.pdf

Swiss Cottage Mental Health Support at Swiss Cottage School.

Swiss Cottage has an integrated team for mental health support. The team is made up by our linked Educational Psychologists (Dr Amy Stanton-LA lead for domestic violence) and Dr Emma Goldstone, and the Mosaic CAHMs team leads Dr Susan Cotton (Clinical Psychologist) Dr Eleni Paliokosta Consultant Child Psychiatrist. This team coordinate a managed caseload of children and their families to:

- Provide diagnostic assessments
- Behavioural intervention and support
- Direct support to teachers and teams
- Thematic group work with families
- Psychotherapy
- Work Discussion groups for staff.

B13 Other relevant safeguarding policies

Schools can access guidance on the following policies at www.nspcc.org.uk and www.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>

Bullying (including *cyberbullying*)

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/288444/preventing_and_tackling_bullying_march14.pdf

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](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/drugs-advice-for-schools)

Educational visits

Equality and diversity

Exclusion of pupils

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

Fabricated or induced illness

https://www.londoncp.co.uk/fab_ind_ill.html

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)

Mental health

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508847/Mental Health and Behaviour - advice for Schools 160316.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/508847/Mental_Health_and_Behaviour_-_advice_for_Schools_160316.pdf)

Physical

intervention

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/268771/use of reasonable force -](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)

[advice for headteachers staff and governing bodies -
final july 2013 001.pdf](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

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/relationships-education-relationships-and-sex-education-rse-and-health-education>

Sexting

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sharing-nudes-and-semi-nudes-advice-for-education-settings-working-with-children-and-young-people>

Gender-based violence/teenage relationship abuse

Trafficking

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

Health and safety

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/health-and-safety-in-schools>

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

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic violence • Avoiding contact with school and other professionals
Domestic Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Appendix 2:

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.
- For new volunteers not in regulated activity, schools should obtain an enhanced DBS certificate.
- Existing volunteers who provide personal care, the school should consider obtaining an enhanced DB.
- 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.

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, DBS certificates should not be retained any longer than six months. 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

[illegible]

Appendix 3: **Schools safeguarding checklist**

Schools safeguarding checklist

To be used by the head teacher and governors to carry out an assessment of the school's safeguarding framework

Name of school:

Address:

Head teacher:

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			
There are agreed local procedures in place for making referrals to CSSW where there are concerns about the safety and welfare of a child			
There is a designated governor with responsibility for safeguarding and child protection			
A senior member of the leadership team has been appointed as the designated safeguarding lead 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 safeguarding lead and their deputy have received safeguarding and child protection training at the appropriate level on appointment and this training is updated every 2 years.			
Arrangements are in place to ensure staff can liaise with the safeguarding lead or their deputy at all times during school hours			

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 keep themselves safe, 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			
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 e 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 designated safeguarding lead 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 Camden's 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 CSSW 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 Camden where a child is removed from the school roll in line with the local <i>Children missing from school</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:			

<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 head teacher 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			

