

## **SAFEGUARDING PUPILS WHO ARE VULNERABLE TO EXPLOITATION, FORCED MARRIAGE, FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION, OR TRAFFICKING POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

Our safeguarding policy through the school's values, ethos and behaviour policies provides the basic platform to ensure children and young people are given the support to respect themselves and others, stand up for themselves and protect each other.

Our school keeps itself up to date on the latest advice and guidance provided to assist in addressing specific vulnerabilities and forms of exploitation.

Our staff are supported to recognise warning signs and symptoms in relation to specific issues, include such issues in an age appropriate way in their curriculum.

Our school works with and engages our families and communities to talk about such issues.

Our staff are supported to talk to families about sensitive concerns in relation to their children and to find ways to address them together wherever possible. Our Designated Safeguarding Leads know where to seek and get advice as necessary. Our school brings in experts and uses specialist material to support the work we do.

### **WHAT WE DO WHEN WE ARE CONCERNED**

The procedures of Sandwell Safeguarding Children Board, available on:  
[www.sandwellscb.org.uk/](http://www.sandwellscb.org.uk/)

Where risk factors are present, but there is no evidence of a particular risk, then our DSL advises us on preventative work that can be done within school to engage the pupil into mainstream activities and social groups. The DSL may well be the person who talks to and has conversations with the pupil's family, sharing the school's concern about the young person's vulnerability and how the family and school can work together to reduce the risk.

In this situation, depending on how worried we are and what we agree with the parent and the young person (as far as possible):

- The DSL can decide to notify the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) of the decision so that a strategic overview can be maintained and any themes or common factors can be recognised; and the school will review the situation after taking appropriate action to address the concerns

The DSL will also offer and seek advice about undertaking an early help assessment such as the family Common Assessment Framework (fCAF) and/or making a referral to children's social care. The local family support and safeguarding hub can assist us.

If the concerns about the pupil are significant and meet the additional needs/complex need criteria, they will be referred to the MASH. This includes concerns about a child or young person who is affected by the behaviour of a parent or other adult in their household.