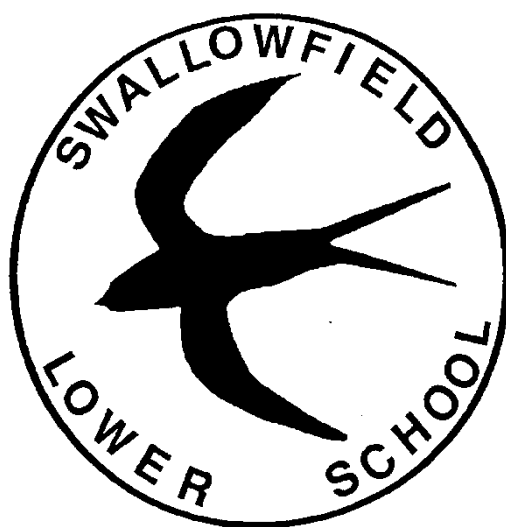


Swallowfield Lower School

Safeguarding Policy



September 2017

PART ONE: SAFEGUARDING POLICY

Ratified by the Governing Body Ben Coles September 2017

To be reviewed (annually) September 2018

Headteacher Kim Brewer

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Safeguarding is defined as –

- Protecting children from maltreatment;
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development;
- Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best life chances.

(Working Together, DfE 2015)

This includes, but is not limited to safeguarding children in specific circumstances

Neglect	Physical abuse
Emotional abuse	Sexual abuse
Bullying, including online and prejudice-based bullying	Racist, disability and homophobic or transphobic abuse
Gender based violence / violence against women and girls	Radicalisation and /or extremist behaviour
Child Sexual Exploitation and trafficking	The impact of new technologies on sexual behaviour e.g. sexting
Teenage relationship abuse	Substance abuse
Gang / youth violence	Domestic abuse / violence
Female Genital Mutilation	Forced Marriage
Fabricated / induced illness	Poor parenting

1.2 Swallowfield Lower School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its children. We believe that:

- All children/young people have equal right to be protected from harm;
- Children/young people need to be safe and to feel safe in school;
- Children/young people need support which matches their individual needs, including those who may have experienced abuse;
- All children/young people have the right to speak freely and voice their values and beliefs;
- All children/young people must be encouraged to respect each other's values and support each other;

- All children/young people have the right to be supported to meet their emotional, and social needs as well as their educational needs – a happy healthy sociable child/young person will achieve better educationally;
- Schools can and do contribute to the prevention of abuse, victimisation, bullying, exploitation, extreme behaviours, discriminatory views and risk taking behaviours; and
- All staff and visitors have an important role to play in safeguarding children and protecting them from abuse.

1.3 Swallowfield Lower School will fulfil their local and national responsibilities as laid out in the following documents:-

- Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2015)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education: Statutory guidance for schools and colleges (DfE September 2016)
- The Procedures of Central Bedfordshire Safeguarding Children Board
- The Children Act 1989
- The Education Act 2002 s175 / s157
- What to do if you are worried a child is being abused (DfE, 2015)
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools: Departmental Advice (DfE 2014)
- Prevent Duty, Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Serious Crime Act 2015

2. OVERALL AIMS

2.1 This policy will contribute to safeguarding our children and promoting their welfare by:

- Clarifying standards of behaviour for staff and children;
- Contributing to the establishment of a safe, resilient and robust ethos in the school, built on mutual respect, and shared values
- Creating an organisational culture that is safe for children
- Introducing appropriate work within the curriculum;
- Encouraging children and parents to participate;
- Alerting staff to the signs and indicators that all might not be well;
- Developing staff's awareness of the risks and vulnerabilities children face;
- Addressing concerns at the earliest possible stage in the least intrusive way; and
- Reducing the potential risks children face of being exposed to violence, extremism, exploitation, or victimisation

2.2 This policy will contribute to supporting children by:

- Identifying and protecting the most vulnerable
- Identifying individual needs where possible; and
- Designing plans to meet those needs.

2.3 This policy will contribute to the protection of children by:

- Including appropriate work within the curriculum;
- Implementing child protection policies and procedures; and
- Working in partnership with children, parents and agencies.

3. KEY PRINCIPLES

3.1 The key principle of safeguarding is that Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. This is reinforced within the Statutory Guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education (2016)

3.2 In addition Swallowfield Lower School has identified the following key safeguarding messages for schools.

- Always see the child first and consider what life is like for the child, maintaining a culture of vigilance
- Provide support and intervention at the earliest possible opportunity in the least intrusive way in accordance with Central Bedfordshire LSCB Thresholds Framework
- Have conversations, build relationships and maintain professional curiosity
- Focus on securing improved outcomes for children and consider what difference support or interventions have made on children's lived experiences
- Schools need to build a culture of openness and transparency where all staff are able to demonstrate understanding of their role and responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- Every child is entitled to a rich and rounded curriculum.
- Governance is corporate and decisions are collective, but individual governors can and should take the lead on specific aspects of school life such as safeguarding.
- When issues arise, Head Teachers should speak out, addressing them internally where possible and engaging in a multi-agency response when required in accordance with interagency procedures

4. KEY PROCESSES

4.1 All staff should be aware of the guidance issued by Central Bedfordshire Safeguarding Children Board Threshold Framework to secure the support and intervention at the earliest possible opportunity. This document is integral to safeguarding children in Central Bedfordshire educational establishments and will always be used to underpin decision making. The document can be found centralbedfordshirelscb.org.uk.

5. EXPECTATIONS

5.1 All staff and visitors will:

- Be familiar with this safeguarding policy and implement this consistently in the course of their work with children and young people;
- Be subject to Safer Recruitment processes and checks, whether they are new staff, supply staff, contractors, volunteers etc.
- Be involved in the implementation of individual education programmes, Early Help assessments and plans, child in need plans and interagency child protection plans;
- Be alert to signs and indicators of possible abuse (See Appendix One for current definitions and indicators);
- Record concerns and give the record to the Designated Safeguarding Lead **Headteacher Kim Brewer**.
- Recognise and respond to concerns about the behaviour of staff, students and volunteers which indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children
- Deal with a disclosure of abuse from a child in line with the guidance in Appendix Two - you must inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead immediately, and provide a written account as soon as possible.

5.2 All staff will receive single agency level one training at least once every three years. Key staff with designated responsibility for safeguarding will undertake higher level training and will utilise these training opportunities available from the LSCB and other organisations as agreed by the Governing Body.

Plans will be put into place to ensure staff have the appropriate training, skills and knowledge in order to undertake their safeguarding responsibilities safely and effectively.

6. THE DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD

6.1 **Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Headteacher Kim Brewer and the Deputy is Greg McGill.** They will provide support to staff members to carry out their safeguarding duties and will liaise closely with other services such as the early help hub, children's social care, health, Police etc. This person has lead responsibility and management oversight for safeguarding and child protection. The Head Teacher will be ultimately responsible for coordinating all child protection activity within the school.

6.2 The Designated Safeguarding Lead will lead regular case monitoring reviews of vulnerable children. These reviews, together with any actions arising from the review and the rationale for decision making will be recorded in case files.

6.3 When the school has concerns about a child, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will decide what steps should be taken in accordance with the LSCB Thresholds Framework and initiate a response accordingly.

- 6.4 Safeguarding and child protection information will be dealt with in a confidential manner and in accordance with the LSCB information sharing guidance. Staff will be informed of relevant details only when the Designated Safeguarding Lead feels their having knowledge of a situation will improve their ability to deal with an individual child and / or family. A written record will be made of what information has been shared with whom, and when.
- 6.5 Safeguarding and child protection records will be stored securely in a central place separate from academic records. Individual files will be kept for each child: the school will not keep family files.
- 6.6 Access to safeguarding and child protection records by staff other than by the Designated Safeguarding Lead and the Deputy Safeguarding Lead will be limited.
- 6.7 Parents will usually (subject to point 6.8 below) be aware of information held on their children and kept up to date regarding any concerns or developments by the appropriate members of staff.
- 6.8 **Do not disclose to a parent any information held on a child if this would put the child at risk of significant harm.** In such circumstances advice will be sought from Children's Social Care.
- 6.9 If a child moves from our school, child protection records will be forwarded on to the Designated Safeguarding Lead at the new school, with due regard to their confidential nature and in line with current government guidance on the transfer of such records. Direct contact between the two schools may be necessary, especially on transfer from primary to secondary schools. We will record where and to whom the records have been passed and the date. Records will also be archived by the school.
- 6.10 If sending by post, children's records will be sent by "Special/Recorded Delivery". For audit purposes a note of all children's records transferred or received should be kept in either paper or electronic format. This will include the child's name, date of birth, where and to whom the records have been sent and the date sent and/or received.
- 6.11 If a child is permanently excluded and moves to a Pupil Referral Unit, child protection records will be forwarded on to the relevant organisation.
- 6.12 When a Designated Safeguarding Lead resigns their post or no longer has child protection responsibility, there should be a full face to face handover/exchange of information with the new post holder.
- 6.13 In exceptional circumstances when a face to face handover is unfeasible, the Head Teacher will ensure that the new post holder is fully conversant with all procedures and case files.

7. THE GOVERNING BODY

7.1 **The Governing Body will** ensure that they comply with their duties under legislation. They must also have regard to this guidance to ensure that the policies, procedures and training in their schools or colleges are effective and comply with the law at all times

7.2 The governing body will ensure that:

- The school contributes to inter-agency working in line with statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2016. This includes providing a co-ordinated offer of early help when additional needs of children are identified and contributing to inter-agency plans to provide additional support to children subject to child protection plans
- The school will allow access for children's social care from the host local authority and, where appropriate, from a placing local authority, for that authority to conduct, or to consider whether to conduct, a section 17 or a section 47 assessment
- The schools safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practice of the local authority as part of the inter-agency safeguarding procedures set up by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)
- The school has an effective safeguarding policy. These describe the procedures which are in accordance with government guidance and refer to locally agreed inter-agency procedures put in place by the LSCB. The Governing Body will ensure that the Policy is updated annually, and is available publicly either via the school website or by other means.
- The school initiates appropriate safeguarding responses to children who go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions, to help identify the risk of abuse and neglect including sexual abuse or exploitation and to help prevent the risks of their going missing in future.
- The Head Teacher ensures that safeguarding policies and procedures which have been adopted by the Governing Body are consistently implemented
- The school has procedures for managing allegations and concerns about adults that work or volunteer with children and that these include the procedures for making referrals to the DBS in accordance with legal duties
- The school operates, "safer recruitment" procedures and ensures that appropriate checks are carried out on all new staff and relevant volunteers;
- The Head Teacher is the Designated Safeguarding Lead which is clearly signposted and that this person has the appropriate authority, time, training, funding and resources to undertake this role as per Appendix B Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2016.
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead attends appropriate refresher training every two years;
- The school has designated a teacher with appropriate training, skills and knowledge to promote the educational achievement of Looked After Children
- The Head Teacher and all other staff who work with children undertake training at three yearly intervals

- Temporary staff and volunteers are made aware of the school's arrangements for child protection and their responsibilities;
- The school remedies any deficiencies or weaknesses brought to its attention without delay; and
- The school has procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse against staff

7.3 The governing body reviews its policies/procedures annually

7.4 The Nominated Governor for child protection at the school is **Ben Coles**. The Nominated Governor is responsible for liaising with the Head Teacher/Designated Safeguarding Lead over all matters regarding child protection issues. The role is strategic rather than operational – they will not be involved in concerns about individual children.

7.5 The Nominated Governor will liaise with the Head Teacher/ Designated Safeguarding Lead to contribute to the production of an Head Teacher's Report to Governors.

7.6 Ensures a member of the governing body, usually the chair, is nominated to liaise with the designated officer(s) from the relevant local authority and partner agencies in the event of allegations of abuse made against the Head Teacher.

7.8 Ensures that there are processes in place to support and enable children and young people to express their wishes and feelings and provide feedback.

8. A SAFER SCHOOL CULTURE

The culture of this school is one that is safe for children and unsafe for adults that may pose a risk to children. There is a belief that safeguarding is the responsibility of all adults working or volunteering within the organisation and that all concerns will be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead/Head Teacher in accordance with the procedures of the organisations.

Safer Recruitment and Selection

8.1 The school pays full regard to 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (DfE 2016). Safer recruitment practice includes scrutinising applicants, verifying identity and academic or vocational qualifications, obtaining professional and character references, checking previous employment history and ensuring that a candidate has the health and physical capacity for the job. It also includes undertaking interviews and undertaking appropriate checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and prohibition order checks in relation to qualified teachers.

- 8.2 All recruitment materials will include reference to the school's commitment to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children.
- 8.3 **Kim Brewer and Lynn Holmes** have undertaken Safer Recruitment training. One of the above will be involved in **all** staff / volunteer recruitment processes and sit on the recruitment panel.

Staff support

- 8.4 We recognise the stressful and traumatic nature of safeguarding and child protection work. We will support staff by providing an opportunity to talk through their anxieties with the Designated Safeguarding Lead and to seek further support as appropriate.

9. OUR ROLE IN THE PREVENTION OF ABUSE

- 9.1 We will provide opportunities for children to develop skills, concepts, attitudes and knowledge that promote their safety and well-being together with preparing children for life in modern Britain and embedding Fundamental British Values.

The curriculum

- 9.2 Relevant issues will be addressed through the PSHE curriculum, for example self-esteem, emotional literacy, assertiveness, power, sex and relationship education, e-safety and bullying. This will be undertaken with reference to guidance around how to promote children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- 9.3 Relevant issues will be addressed through other areas of the curriculum, for example, circle time, English, History, Drama, Art.
- 9.5 Our safeguarding policy cannot be separated from the general ethos of the school, which should ensure that children are treated with respect and dignity, taught to treat each other with respect, feel safe, have a voice, and are listened to.

10. SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN WHO ARE VULNERABLE TO EXTREMISM,

- 10.1 Since 2010, when the Government published the Prevent Strategy, there has been an awareness of the specific need to safeguard children, young people and families from violent extremism. There have been several occasions both locally and nationally in which extremist groups have attempted to radicalise vulnerable children and young people to hold extreme views including views justifying political, religious, sexist or racist violence, or to steer them into a rigid and narrow ideology that is intolerant of diversity and leaves them vulnerable to future radicalisation.
- 10.2 Swallowfield Lower School values freedom of speech and the expression of beliefs / ideology as fundamental rights underpinning our society's values. Both children and teachers have the right to speak freely and voice their opinions. However, freedom comes with responsibility and free speech that is designed to manipulate the vulnerable or that leads to violence and harm of others goes against the moral principles in which freedom of speech is

valued. Free speech is not an unqualified privilege; it is subject to laws and policies governing equality, human rights, community safety and community cohesion. Essential to this school are fundamental British values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Equality of Opportunity, Freedom of Speech and the rights of all Women and Men to live free from persecution of any kind and it would be expected that views and opinions expressed would be commensurate with these.

- 10.3 The current threat from terrorism in the United Kingdom may include the exploitation of vulnerable people, to involve them in terrorism or in activity in support of terrorism. The normalisation of extreme views may also make children and young people vulnerable to future manipulation and exploitation. Woburn Lower School is clear that this exploitation and radicalisation should be viewed as a safeguarding concern.
- 10.4 Definitions of radicalisation and extremism, and indicators of vulnerability to radicalisation are in Appendix Four.

Response

- 10.8 Our school, like all others, is required to identify a Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC) who will be the lead within the organisation for safeguarding in relation to protecting individuals from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism: this will normally be the Designated Safeguarding Lead. The SPOC for Swallowfield Lower School is **Kim Brewer**. The responsibilities of the SPOC are described in Appendix Five.
- 10.9 When any member of staff has concerns that a child may be at risk of radicalisation or involvement in terrorism, they should speak with the SPOC. If a child or young person is thought to be at risk of radicalisation, a referral to Channel Panel will be made using the Early Help Assessment form.
- 10.10 Numerous factors can contribute to and influence the range of behaviours that are defined as violent extremism, but most young people do not become involved in extremist action. For this reason the appropriate interventions in any particular case may not have any specific connection to the threat of radicalisation, for example they may address mental health, relationship or drug/alcohol issues.
- 10.11 Staff have received WRAP training in order to raise awareness of Prevent and to understand their role in ensuring vulnerabilities are recognised and appropriate support or intervention is secured.

11 SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN WHO ARE VULNERABLE TO EXPLOITATION, FORCED MARRIAGE, FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION, OR TRAFFICKING

- 11.1 Our safeguarding policy above 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.

- 11.2 Our school keeps itself up to date on the latest advice and guidance provided to assist in addressing specific vulnerabilities and forms of exploitation.
- 11.3 Our staff are supported through training to recognise warning signs and symptoms in relation to specific issues, include such issues in an age appropriate way in their curriculum,
- 11.4 Our school works with and engages our families and communities to talk about such issues,
- 11.5 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. However, if a child is thought to be at risk of significant harm and discussing this with the parent may increase the risk of harm, advice will be sought from Children's Social Care and a referral will be made

11.6 If the DSL needs to report a concern of abuse and neglect

11.7 If the DSL requests early help services

11.8 If a child has made a disclosure about exploitation

11.9 If a child is at risk of sexual exploitation

**11.10 Contact ACCESS AND REFERRAL HUB FOR SAFEGUARDING ADVICE
0300 300 8585**

EMERGENCY DUTY TEAM (OUT OF HOURS) 0300 330 8123

CHILD WITH A DISABILITY 0300 300 8314

- 11.11 Our Designated Safeguarding Lead knows where to seek and get advice as necessary. See above.

12. WHAT WE DO WHEN WE ARE CONCERNED

- 12.1 All concerns will be viewed alongside the LSCB Thresholds Framework in order to ensure the appropriate support or intervention is provided at the earliest opportunity in the least intrusive way.
- 12.2 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 child into mainstream activities and social groups. The DSL may well be the person who talks to and has conversations with the child'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.

- 12.3 If, in consultation with the LSCB Thresholds Framework the level of concern sits at Level 2 or 3 an Early Help Assessment should be completed with the consent of the parent / carer. Additional support or advice for this work may be sought. In cases where it is not possible to obtain consent from the parent / carer the school, the DSL will seek advice to complete the assessment.
- 12.4 The school will review each case to ensure that any support or intervention provided has impacted positively on the welfare / safety of the child or young person and that improvement is sustained.
- 12.5 In the event that provision of Early Help has not led to improvements for the child / young person, or concerns escalate, the school will follow the step-up procedures published by the LSCB
- 12.6 In consultation with the LSCB Thresholds Framework, if the concerns about the child or young person indicate that they may be at risk of, or suffering significant harm a referral will be made to the Access and Referral Hub/Children with Disabilities Duty Desk. The parent will be informed of the referral unless informing the parent may place the child at increased risk of harm.

13. INVOLVING PARENTS / CARERS

- 13.1 In general, we will discuss any safeguarding and child protection concerns with parents / carers before approaching other agencies, and will seek their consent to making a referral to another agency. Appropriate staff will approach parents / carers after consultation with the Designated Safeguarding Lead. However there may be occasions when the school will contact another agency **before** informing parents/carers because it considers that contacting them may increase the risk of significant harm to the child.
- 13.2 Parents / carers will be informed about our safeguarding policy through the school website.

14. MULTI-AGENCY WORK

- 14.1 We work in partnership with other agencies in the best interests of the children. The school will, where necessary, liaise with the school nurse, initiate an Early Help Assessment, and make referrals to children's social care. Referrals and contacts should be made by the Designated Safeguarding Lead to the Access and Referral Hub.
- 14.2 We will co-operate with any child protection enquiries conducted by children's social care: the school will ensure representation at appropriate inter-agency meetings such as team around the family meetings, initial and review child protection conferences, together with core group meetings.
- 14.3 We will provide reports as required for these meetings in accordance with the requirements. If the school is unable to attend, a written report will be sent.

The report will, wherever possible, be shared with parents / carers at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

- 14.6 Where a child is subject to an inter-agency child protection plan, child in need plan or Early Help Assessment, the school will contribute to the preparation, implementation and review of the plan as appropriate.

15. OUR ROLE IN SUPPORTING CHILDREN

- 15.1 We will offer appropriate support to individual children who have experienced abuse or who have abused others.
- 15.2 An individual support plan will be devised, implemented and reviewed regularly for these children. This plan will detail areas of support, who will be involved, and the child's wishes and feelings. A written outline of the individual support plan will be kept in the child's child protection record.
- 15.3 Children and young people who abuse others will be responded to in a way that meets their needs as well as protecting others within the school community. The school will seek support from other agencies. We will ensure that the needs of children and young people who abuse others will be considered separately from the needs of their victims.
- 15.4 We will ensure the school works in partnership with parents / carers and other agencies as appropriate.

16. RESPONDING TO AN ALLEGATION OR CONCERN ABOUT A MEMBER OF STAFF

Swallowfield Lower School has adopted Central Bedfordshire Disciplinary Policy and Procedures.

- 16.1 This procedure should be used in any case in which it is alleged that a member of staff, governor, visiting professional or volunteer has:
- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child or may have harmed a child;
 - Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child; or
 - Behaved in a way that indicates s/he may pose a risk of harm to children
- 16.2 Although it is an uncomfortable thought, it needs to be acknowledged that there is the potential for staff in school to abuse children.
- 16.3 All staff working within our organisation must report any potential safeguarding concerns about an individual's behaviour towards children and young people immediately. Allegations or concerns about colleagues and visitors must be reported direct to the Head Teacher. If the concern relates to the Head Teacher, it must be reported immediately to the Chair of Governors. Alternatively concerns can be reported directly to the Local Authority

Designated Officer (LADO) **0300 300 4833** in children's social care, who will liaise with the Chair of Governors and they will decide on any action required.

- 16.4 If the Head Teacher is not available the member of staff should report their concerns to the most senior member of staff available who will make contact with the LADO and discuss the concerns. Contact into the LADO should happen at the earliest possible opportunity within 1 working day.
- 16.5 The LADO may request a referral, if this is requested the referral will be completed and submitted within 1 working day..
- 16.6 The school will engage with the LADO at all stages of the management of the allegation / concern and comply with the Statutory Guidance contained within Keeping Children Safe in Education and the local procedures published by the LSCB. In this regard, the school will consider whether it is necessary to suspend the member of staff while the case is being managed, however all reasonable alternatives to manage the risk will be considered.
- 16.7 Should the school dismiss a member of staff/volunteer as a result of a substantiated allegation, or should a member of staff/volunteer resign before an investigation has been completed, in accordance with Statutory Duty a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service will be made. If the member of staff is a qualified teacher, the school will in accordance with published guidance from the Department for Education consider whether a referral to the National College of Teaching and Leadership (NCTL) should be made.
- 16.8 The school will adhere to the Statutory Guidance contained within Keeping Children Safe in Education (2016) with regard to record keeping, references and compromise agreements.

17. CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

- 17.1 Swallowfield Lower School recognises that while all children have a right to be safe, some children may be more vulnerable to abuse, for example those with a disability or special educational need, those living with domestic violence or drug / alcohol abusing parents, etc.

Appendices

APPENDIX ONE

DEFINITIONS AND INDICATORS OF ABUSE

1. NEGLECT

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- Provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment);
- Protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger;
- Ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or
- Ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

The following may be indicators of neglect (this is not designed to be used as a checklist):

- Constant hunger;
- Stealing, scavenging and/or hoarding food;
- Frequent tiredness or listlessness;
- Frequently dirty or unkempt;
- Often poorly or inappropriately clad for the weather;
- Poor school attendance or often late for school;
- Poor concentration;
- Affection or attention seeking behaviour;
- Illnesses or injuries that are left untreated;
- Failure to achieve developmental milestones, for example growth, weight;
- Failure to develop intellectually or socially;
- Responsibility for activity that is not age appropriate such as cooking, ironing, caring for siblings;
- The child is regularly not collected or received from school; or
- The child is left at home alone or with inappropriate carers

2. PHYSICAL ABUSE

Physical abuse may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

The following may be indicators of physical abuse (this is not designed to be used as a checklist):

- Multiple bruises in clusters, or of uniform shape;
- Bruises that carry an imprint, such as a hand or a belt;
- Bite marks;
- Round burn marks;
- Multiple burn marks and burns on unusual areas of the body such as the back, shoulders or buttocks;
- An injury that is not consistent with the account given;
- Changing or different accounts of how an injury occurred;
- Bald patches;
- Symptoms of drug or alcohol intoxication or poisoning;
- Unaccountable covering of limbs, even in hot weather;
- Fear of going home or parents being contacted;
- Fear of medical help;
- Fear of changing for PE;
- Inexplicable fear of adults or over-compliance;
- Violence or aggression towards others including bullying; or
- Isolation from peers.

3. SEXUAL ABUSE

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit act of sexual abuse, as can other children.

The following may be indicators of sexual abuse (this is not designed to be used as a checklist):

- Sexually explicit play or behaviour or age-inappropriate knowledge;
- Anal or vaginal discharge, soreness or scratching;
- Reluctance to go home;
- Inability to concentrate, tiredness;
- Refusal to communicate;
- Thrush, persistent complaints of stomach disorders or pains;
- Eating disorders, for example anorexia nervosa and bulimia;
- Attention seeking behaviour, self-mutilation, substance abuse;
- Aggressive behaviour including sexual harassment or molestation;
- Unusual compliance;
- Regressive behaviour, enuresis, soiling;
- Frequent or open masturbation, touching others inappropriately;
- Depression, withdrawal, isolation from peer group;

- Reluctance to undress for PE or swimming; or
- Bruises or scratches in the genital area.

4. SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Child sexual exploitation occurs when a child or young person, or another person, receives “something” (for example food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of the child/young person performing sexual activities, or another person performing sexual activities on the child/young person.

The presence of any significant indicator for sexual exploitation should trigger a referral to children’s social care. The significant indicators are:

- Having a relationship of concern with a controlling adult or young person (this may involve physical and/or emotional abuse and/or gang activity);
- Entering and/or leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults;
- Possessing unexplained amounts of money, expensive clothes or other items;
- Frequenting areas known for risky activities;
- Being groomed or abused via the Internet and mobile technology; and
- Having unexplained contact with hotels, taxi companies or fast food outlets.

The intelligence reporting form on the LSCB website will be used to share information with Police and children’s social care that raises a concern around CSE.

In addition to making referrals to children’s social care, referrals of children thought to be at risk of, or experiencing CSE will be referred to the Child Sexual Exploitation panel.

The intelligence reporting form on the LSCB website will be used to share information with Police and children’s social care that raises a concern around CSE.

5. EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond the child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child

participating in normal social interaction. It may also involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another person. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment

The following may be indicators of emotional abuse (this is not designed to be used as a checklist):

- The child consistently describes him/herself in very negative ways – as stupid, naughty, hopeless, ugly;
- Over-reaction to mistakes;
- Delayed physical, mental or emotional development;
- Sudden speech or sensory disorders;
- Inappropriate emotional responses, fantasies;
- Behaviours such as rocking, banging head, regression, tics and twitches;
- Self harming, drug or solvent abuse;
- Fear of parents being contacted;
- Running away;
- Compulsive stealing;
- Appetite disorders - anorexia nervosa, bulimia; or
- Soiling, smearing faeces, enuresis.

N.B.: Some situations where children stop communication suddenly (known as “traumatic mutism”) can indicate maltreatment.

6. RESPONSES FROM PARENTS

Research and experience indicates that the following responses from parents may suggest a cause for concern across all four categories:

- Delay in seeking treatment that is obviously needed;
- Unawareness or denial of any injury, pain or loss of function (for example, a fractured limb);
- Incompatible explanations offered, several different explanations or the child is said to have acted in a way that is inappropriate to her/his age and development;
- Reluctance to give information or failure to mention other known relevant injuries;
- Frequent presentation of minor injuries;
- A persistently negative attitude towards the child;
- Unrealistic expectations or constant complaints about the child;
- Alcohol misuse or other drug/substance misuse;
- Parents request removal of the child from home; or
- Violence between adults in the household.

7. DISABLED CHILDREN

When working with children with disabilities, practitioners need to be aware that additional possible indicators of abuse and/or neglect may also include:

- A bruise in a site that might not be of concern on an ambulant child such as the shin, might be of concern on a non-mobile child;
- Not getting enough help with feeding leading to malnourishment;
- Poor toileting arrangements;
- Lack of stimulation;
- Unjustified and/or excessive use of restraint;
- Rough handling, extreme behaviour modification such as deprivation of medication, food or clothing, disabling wheelchair batteries;
- Unwillingness to try to learn a child's means of communication;
- Ill-fitting equipment. for example callipers, sleep boards, inappropriate splinting;
- Misappropriation of a child's finances; or
- Inappropriate invasive procedures.

DEALING WITH A DISCLOSURE OF ABUSE

When a child tells me about abuse s/he has suffered, what must I remember?

- Stay calm.
- Do not communicate shock, anger or embarrassment.
- Reassure the child. Tell her/him you are pleased that s/he is speaking to you.
- Never enter into a pact of secrecy with the child. Assure her/him that you will try to help but let the child know that you will have to tell other people in order to do this. State who this will be and why.
- Tell her/him that you believe them. Children very rarely lie about abuse; but s/he may have tried to tell others and not been heard or believed.
- Tell the child that it is not her/his fault.
- Encourage the child to talk but do not ask "leading questions" or press for information.
- Listen and remember.
- Check that you have understood correctly what the child is trying to tell you.
- Praise the child for telling you. Communicate that s/he has a right to be safe and protected.
- Do not tell the child that what s/he experienced is dirty, naughty or bad.
- It is inappropriate to make any comments about the alleged offender.
- Be aware that the child may retract what s/he has told you. It is essential to record all you have heard.
- At the end of the conversation, tell the child again who you are going to tell and why that person or those people need to know.
- As soon as you can afterwards, make a detailed record of the conversation using the child's own language. Include any questions you may have asked. Do not add any opinions or interpretations.

NB It is not education staff's role to seek disclosures. Their role is to observe that something may be wrong, ask about it, listen, be available and try to make time to talk.

Immediately afterwards

You must not deal with this yourself. Clear indications or disclosure of abuse must be reported to children's social care without delay, by the Head Teacher or the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Children making a disclosure may do so with difficulty, having chosen carefully to whom they will speak. Listening to and supporting a child/young person who has been abused can be traumatic for the adults involved.

Support for you will be available from your Designated Safeguarding Lead.

APPENDIX THREE

ALLEGATIONS ABOUT A MEMBER OF STAFF, GOVERNOR OR VOLUNTEER

1. Inappropriate behaviour by staff/volunteers could take the following forms:
 - **Physical**
For example the intentional use of force as a punishment, slapping, use of objects to hit with, throwing objects or inappropriate physical handling.
 - **Emotional**
For example intimidation, belittling, scapegoating, sarcasm, lack of respect for children's rights, and attitudes that discriminate on the grounds of race, gender, disability or sexuality. Excessive or aggressive shouting
 - **Sexual**
For example sexualised behaviour towards peers, sexual harassment, sexual communication including via social networking, email, text, grooming behaviour, sexual assault and rape.
 - **Neglect**
For example failing to act to protect a child or children, failing to seek medical attention or failure to meet a child's basic needs
2. If a child makes an allegation or raises a concern about a member of staff, governor, visitor or volunteer the Head Teacher should be informed immediately. If the allegation or concern may fall within the following criteria the LADO will be contacted at the earliest possible opportunity and within 1 working day.
 - Behaved in a way that has harmed a child or may have harmed a child;
 - Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child; or
 - Behaved in a way that indicates s/he may pose a risk of harm to children

The Head Teacher will not carry out the investigation herself or interview pupils.

3. The Head Teacher must exercise, and be accountable for, their professional judgement on the action to be taken, as follows –
 - If the actions of the member of staff, are felt likely to fall within the scope of the interagency allegation management procedures as stated in point 2, the Head Teacher will notify the LADO (**0300 300 4833**). The LADO will liaise with the Head Teacher and advise about action to be taken which will be in accordance with the interagency procedures for managing allegations.
 - If the Head Teacher is uncertain whether the concern or allegation falls within the scope of the allegation management procedures a consultation with the LADO will take place and the advice provided will be acted upon. This consultation and the advice offered will be recorded and held on file.
4. Where an allegation has been made against the Head teacher, then the Chair of the Governing Body takes on the role of liaising with the LADO team in determining the appropriate way forward.

APPENDIX FOUR

INDICATORS OF VULNERABILITY TO RADICALISATION

1. Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.
2. Extremism is defined by the Government in the Prevent Strategy as:
Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.
3. Extremism is defined by the Crown Prosecution Service as:
The demonstration of unacceptable behaviour by using any means or medium to express views which:
 - Encourage, justify or glorify terrorist violence in furtherance of particular beliefs;
 - Seek to provoke others to terrorist acts;
 - Encourage other serious criminal activity or seek to provoke others to serious criminal acts; or
 - Foster hatred which might lead to inter-community violence in the UK.
4. There is no such thing as a “typical extremist”: those who become involved in extremist actions come from a range of backgrounds and experiences, and most individuals, even those who hold radical views, do not become involved in violent extremist activity.
5. Children may become susceptible to radicalisation through a range of social, personal and environmental factors - it is known that violent extremists exploit vulnerabilities in individuals to drive a wedge between them and their families and communities. It is vital that school staff are able to recognise those vulnerabilities.
6. Indicators of vulnerability include:
 - Identity Crisis – the child is distanced from their cultural / religious heritage and experiences discomfort about their place in society;
 - Personal Crisis – the child may be experiencing family tensions; a sense of isolation; and low self-esteem; they may have dissociated from their existing friendship group and become involved with a new and different group of friends; they may be searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging;
 - Personal Circumstances – migration; local community tensions; and events affecting the child’s country or region of origin may contribute to a sense of grievance that is triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination or aspects of Government policy;
 - Unmet Aspirations – the child may have perceptions of injustice; a feeling of failure; rejection of civic life;

- Experiences of Criminality – which may include involvement with criminal groups, imprisonment, and poor resettlement / reintegration;
 - Special Educational Need – children may experience difficulties with social interaction, empathy with others, understanding the consequences of their actions and awareness of the motivations of others.
7. However, this list is not exhaustive, nor does it mean that all young people experiencing the above are at risk of radicalisation for the purposes of violent extremism.
8. More critical risk factors could include:
- Being in contact with extremist recruiters;
 - Accessing violent extremist websites, especially those with a social networking element;
 - Possessing or accessing violent extremist literature;
 - Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage;
 - Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues;
 - Joining or seeking to join extremist organisations; and
 - Significant changes to appearance and / or behaviour;
 - Experiencing a high level of social isolation resulting in issues of identity crisis and / or personal crisis.

APPENDIX FIVE

PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM - ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT (SPOC/DSL)

The SPOC for Swallowfield Lower School is the DSL **Kim Brewer** who is responsible for:

- Ensuring that staff of the school are aware that you are the SPOC in relation to protecting children from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
- Maintaining and applying a good understanding of the relevant guidance in relation to preventing children from becoming involved in terrorism, and protecting them from radicalisation by those who support terrorism or forms of extremism which lead to terrorism;
- Raising awareness about the role and responsibilities of all staff in relation to protecting children from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
- Monitoring the effect in practice of the school's RE curriculum and assembly policy to ensure that they are used to promote community cohesion and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs;
- Raising awareness within the school about the safeguarding processes relating to protecting children from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
- Acting as the first point of contact within the school for case discussions relating to children who may be at risk of radicalisation or involved in terrorism;
- Collating relevant information in relation to referrals of vulnerable children into the Channel* process;
- attending Channel* meetings as necessary and carrying out any actions as agreed;
- Reporting progress on actions to the Channel* Co-ordinator; and
- Sharing any relevant additional information in a timely manner.

Channel is a multi-agency approach to provide support to individuals who are at risk of being drawn into terrorist related activity. It is led by the West Midlands Police Counter-Terrorism Unit, and it aims to

- Establish an effective multi-agency referral and intervention process to identify vulnerable individuals;
- Safeguard individuals who might be vulnerable to being radicalised, so that they are not at risk of being drawn into terrorist-related activity; and
- Provide early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risks they face and reduce vulnerability.

