

The Federation of Longhorsley St Helen's and Whalton C of E First Schools Safeguarding Policy

Safeguarding Statement

Longhorsley C of E Aided First School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Our school is committed to keeping children safe, and to work with parents, carers and others to do so.

We have clear policies and procedures in place to help us to protect children, and our staff and volunteers are trained to understand how to use them. This statement helps parents, carers and other service users to understand how they can share the responsibility to safeguard children.

Constituent Policies

Related policies that together comprise the School's Safeguarding Policy are:

- Child Protection Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Race Equality Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Confidentiality Policy
- E-Safety Policy
- PREVENT Strategy HM Gov
- Keeping Children Safe in Education DfE 2015
- Working Together to Safeguard Children HM Gov 2015

Monitoring

Annual monitoring of all safeguarding procedures is undertaken in the Spring term through the annual S11 Audit.

This aims to ensure that we:

- follow procedures set out by the Local Safeguarding Children Board and take account of further guidance issued by the DCSF, and the Local Authority (LA).

- Ensure our policy applies to all staff, governors and volunteers working within the school.
- recognise that staff, because of their contact with and knowledge of children or young people in their care, are well placed to identify abuse and offer support to children in need
- ensure the school practises safer recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children and that the appropriate staff training is kept up to date
- maintain a safe environment, where all children feel secure, can learn and develop, are encouraged to talk and are listened to; including opportunities in the curriculum for children to develop the skills they need to recognise, and stay safe from, abuse;
- teaching personal, social and health education and citizenship, as part of the National Curriculum, and that this helps to develop appropriate attitudes in our children and makes them aware of the impact of their decisions on others. We also teach them how to recognise different risks in different situations, and how to behave in response to them.
- ensure all teaching and support staff have regular training and are aware of signs and symptoms of abuse, know the correct procedure for referring concerns, or reporting allegations against staff, and receive appropriate training to enable them to carry out these requirements;
- ensure all volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and their responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated person responsible for child protection;
- we exercise our duty to work in partnership with other agencies and to share information with them, including attendance at child protection conferences, core groups and preparation of reports for conferences;
- encouraging and supporting parents/carers, working in partnership with us;
- support pupils who have been abused, and carry out specific actions in accordance with the agreed child protection support plan.
- recognise the school is an agent of referral and not of investigation.

Our responsibilities with regard to the PREVENT Strategy

Aims

- To ensure staff are aware of the Prevent Strategy and able to protect children and young people who are vulnerable or at risk of being radicalised

Practice

- In addition to DBS checks we 'open source' check organisations, particularly those in the voluntary sector.
- We will ensure staff are aware of the risks to children and young people of being radicalised and provide WRAP (Workshop to raise awareness of Prevent) training

Managing Referrals

- To refer any child/ren at risk of being radicalised or extremism through the Local Authority Channel Referral and Intervention processes.

Raise Awareness

- Ensure staff and governors are aware of how to identify and respond to risks to children from extreme or radical views.

Vulnerability to radicalisation or extreme view points

Our core values are underpinned by respect of diversity and permeates all we do. As a Church of England school we uphold the values of the Christian faith and place a strong emphasis on the common values that all communities share such as self-respect, tolerance and the sanctity of life. We work hard to broaden our children's' experience, to prepare them for life and work in contemporary Britain. We teach them to respect and value the diversity around them as well as understanding how to make safe, well-considered decisions.

The school recognises its duty to protect our pupils from indoctrination into any form of extreme ideology which may lead to the harm of self or others. This is particularly important because of the open access to electronic information through the internet. The schools aims to safeguard young people through educating them on the appropriate use of social media and the dangers of downloading and sharing inappropriate material. The school vets all visitors carefully and will take firm action if any individual or group is perceived to be attempting to influence members of our school community, either physically or electronically. Our definition of radical or extreme ideology is 'a set of ideas which could justify vilification or violence against individuals, groups or self.' Staff are trained to be vigilant for spotting signs of extremist view and behaviours and to always report anything which may suggest a student is expressing opinions which may cause concern.

Procedures for Referral

- Any member of staff or visitor to the school who receives a disclosure of abuse or suspects that abuse may have occurred or that any child/ren may be at risk

of being radicalised must report it immediately to the Head teacher or Assistant Head Teacher, the designated person for child protection in her absence.

- In the absence of either of the above, the matter should be brought to the attention of the most senior member of staff.
- The designated person will immediately inform Children Services Referral Team by telephone.
- The telephone referral to the Children Services Referral Team will be confirmed in writing, within a maximum of 48 hours, ideally 24 hours, Essential information will include pupil's name, address, date of birth, family composition, reason for referral, previous concerns, name of person receiving the referral and any advice given. The referral will be shared with the parent/carer, and where appropriate with the child/young person, unless advised by the referral team that to do so would place the pupil at increased risk of significant harm.
- The referral must be signed and dated by the referrer.
- Confidentiality must be maintained and information relating to individual pupils/families shared with staff on a strictly need to know basis.

Alleged Abuse by Staff

The school will follow the NCC guidelines for managing allegations against staff, contacting one of the LA designated officers for consultation as soon as an allegation has been made:

Record Keeping

- Any member of staff receiving a disclosure of abuse, or noticing possible abuse, must make an accurate record as soon as possible, noting what was said or seen, putting the event into context, and giving the date, time and location. All records must be dated and signed and discussed with the designated person for child protection.
All hand-written records will be retained, even if they are subsequently typed up in a more formal report.
- Written records of concerns about children must be kept, even where there is no need to make a referral immediately.
- All records relating to child protection concerns will be kept in a secure place and will remain confidential. They do not form part of the pupil's educational records and must be kept separate from other records.

- A chronology will be kept at the front of individual pupils' files, which is reviewed and updated whenever a new concern is raised, noting any action taken.
- The quality of child protection records will be monitored by the Headteacher. Where a child moves school, copies of child protection documentation must be passed immediately and confidentially to the receiving school, separate from general records, with the original records retained by the school.
- The Headteacher or designated person for child protection will also telephone the Headteacher or designated person for child protection at the new school/college to raise awareness of child protection concerns, and that records are being transferred.
- Child protection records must be kept for a minimum of 6 years after the pupil has reached the end of compulsory education.

Parental Involvement

- Longhorsley First School is committed to helping parents/carers understand its responsibility for the welfare of all pupils.
- Parents/carers will be made aware of the school's child protection policy via the school prospectus and initial meetings with parents of new pupils. Parents will also be made aware of how they can access the full child protection policy.
- Concerns will be discussed with parents/carers. Where a referral is needed, the designated person should seek the agreement of parents/carers before making the referral, unless to do so would place the pupil at increased risk of significant harm.
- However, a lack of agreement should not stop a referral going ahead.

Training

- The designated person and her deputy must receive multi-agency child protection training every 2 years.
- All staff, both teaching and support, must be provided with child protection training on a regular basis, at least every 3 years.
- Temporary and supply staff must be made aware of basic information in respect of the school's child protection procedures, including the name of the designated person.
- All new staff must receive child protection training as part of their induction. Volunteers will also receive some basic training.

- Where appropriate, staff will receive additional training in order to effectively carry out their role e.g. safer recruitment training.
- The designated person should keep up to date with local and national advice and guidance on child protection, and attend such additional training as is necessary to effectively fulfil their roles.
- Training records must be kept up to date, recording the date, focus and level of training received by individuals.

The Role of the Governing Body

- The governing body will ensure that all statutory duties with regard to child protection are fulfilled, as detailed in Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education 2007 .
The HT will provide information on safeguarding in her termly HT report. Two identified Governors will take part in the annual S11 audit.
- The governing body will ensure that any weaknesses identified within the audit are addressed explicitly within the School Improvement Plan. The governing body will regularly monitor the implementation and impact of the identified actions.
- The Chair of Governors (and policy committee), in liaison with the designated person, will ensure that the school has all relevant safe guarding policies and procedures in place, which are known to all members of staff, and up-dated at least annually.

Approved by Governing Body: Spring 2016

Date of next review: Summer 2018

The FEDERATION of LONGHORSLEY St HELEN'S and WHALTON C of E FIRST SCHOOLS

Written and agreed by staff, this Policy was formulated after considering the following:

1. aims and content;
2. dissemination and consultation process.

Reviewed by staff, considered by Governing Body and approved at the Spring term Governors Meeting 2016 and implemented from that date.