

Where Learning is Fun!

Culcheth Community Primary School

Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy 2020

1. INTRODUCTION

Child Protection Team

Designated Senior Person: Amanda Dodd (Headteacher)
Karen Rodgers (Deputy Headteacher)
Nicola Gorman SENCO

Governor responsible for Child Protection: Joanne Michaelas

At Culcheth Primary School, we fully recognise our duties and responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of their pupils under Section 175 of the Education Act 2002, the Children Act 1989 and 2005 and the DfE guidance “Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018” and “Keeping Children Safe in Education September 2018”.

The health, safety and well-being of all our children are of paramount importance to all the adults who work in our school. Our children have the right to protection, regardless of age, gender, race, culture or disability as defined by the Equality Act 2010. **See appendix 10.** They have a right to be safe in our school. Safeguarding children – the action we take to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm – is everyone’s responsibility. Everyone who comes into contact with children and families has a role to play.

Because of day-to-day contact with children, schools are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour, or failure to develop. At Culcheth we therefore:

- create and maintain a safe learning environment where children feel secure, are encouraged to talk, and are listened to.
- include opportunities in the PSHE curriculum for children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse.
- identifying where there are child welfare concerns and taking action to address them, in partnership with other organisations where appropriate, including the Local Authority and Social Care.

Our policy applies to all staff, governors and volunteers working in the school. The policy reflects current legislation, accepted best practice and comply with the DfE guidance: Working Together to

Safeguard Children published March 2015/18, and Keeping Children Safe in Education September 2018. In addition the Staff Code of Conduct and 'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused – Advice for Practitioners are also relevant documents that the policy draws upon.

There are five main elements to our policy:

- **Ensuring we practice safe recruitment** in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children.
- **Developing and then implementing procedures** for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse.
- **Raising awareness** of child protection issues and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe.
- **Supporting children** who have been abused in accordance with his/her agreed child protection plan.
- **Establishing a safe environment** in which the children can learn and develop and where they feel they are listened to.

2. DEFINITION OF SAFEGUARDING

Ofsted adopts the definition of safeguarding used in the Children Act 2005, and in the government guidance document *Working together to safeguard children 2018*.

This can be summarised as:

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

Effective safeguarding should be underpinned by two key principles:

- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility:
- A child-centred approach

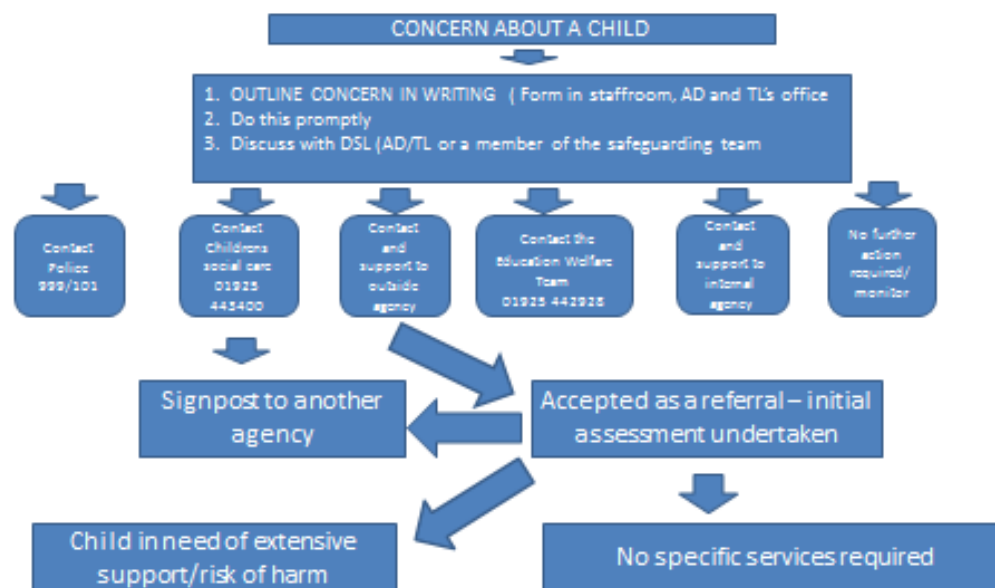
All services should take reasonable steps to ensure that children and young people *are* safe and *feel* safe.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. This policy ensures that all staff in our school are clear about the actions necessary with regard to a child protection issue. Its aims are:

- Confirm that the pupils' development is supported in ways that will foster security, confidence and independence
- Raise the awareness of teachers, non-teaching staff and volunteers of the need to safeguard children and of their responsibilities in identifying and reporting possible cases of abuse
- Confirm the structured procedures to be followed by all members of the school community in cases of suspected harm or abuse

- Emphasise the need for good levels of communication between all members of staff and those with designated responsibility for child protection, health and safety and other safeguarding responsibilities
- Emphasise the appropriate safeguarding and child protection policies, procedures and arrangements of those service providers who use the school's premises through extended schools or provide any other before and after school activities
- Emphasise the links with the school's policy for safe recruitment of staff and volunteers, and for managing allegations
- Have a simple defined system for reporting and responding to concerns about children.



4. THE ROLE OF THE DESIGNATED SENIOR PERSON

4.1. The Designated Senior Person for child protection will:

- Attend child protection training and updates every year.
- Act as contact point for and concerns or issues related to child protection.
- Liaise with all staff who have a responsibility for pastoral care.
- Liaise with the Local Authority and other agencies concerning individual cases of actual or suspected child abuse and share information as appropriate with them.
- Inform the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) within one working day of any allegations against staff and follow the procedures outlined in the policy "Dealing with allegations of abuse against teachers and other staff".
- Provide information for, and attend, meetings and reviews in connection with child protection.

- Support the class teachers in planning early intervention for vulnerable pupils, including Multi Agency Referral Forms (MARF) assessments as appropriate.
- Oversee the planning of curricular provision in connection with child protection/child abuse.
- Ensure appropriate training, development and support for ALL staff at Culcheth Primary School.
- Ensure that all professionals (including supply teachers) working with children in the school and volunteers are informed of the procedures for safeguarding children at Culcheth Primary School.
- Maintain factual records of any incidents or concerns relating to child protection which are securely locked away and shared only with other staff as necessary.
- Complete the annual self-assessment audit produced by WSCB and the Education Safeguarding Team.
- Ensure that, where a pupil on the child protection register leaves, their information is transferred to the new school immediately and that the child's social worker is informed.
- Monitor any instances of extremism (See Appendix 5)
- Raise and maintain awareness of the impact of Female Genital Mutilation and look for signs that this may occur. (See Appendix 2)
- Be vigilant about child sexual exploitation and pass on any concerns to the CSE team. (See Appendix 3 and 4)
- Be vigilant around the use of the internet by our pupils and the potential for on-line bullying, sexting and/or exploitation. (see also Internet Safety Policy).
- Reporting to the LA and reported or suspected incidents of Domestic Violence.
- The role of the Designated Safeguarding Person (DSL) was specified in the Children Act (2005) which stated that every organisation must have a "named person" for safeguarding children and young people.

5. THE ROLE OF GOVERNORS AND THE HEADTEACHER

5.1. The Headteacher and Governing Body will ensure that:

- child protection training at all levels is kept up to date
- a child protection policy and procedures are in place
- safe recruitment procedures are in operation, making appropriate staff and volunteer checks
- procedures are in place for dealing with allegations against staff and volunteers that all comply with procedures set out by the Warrington Safeguarding Children Board and take account of guidance issued by the DfE. The LADO must be informed within 1 working day of any allegations made against staff.
- the adequacy of resources committed to child protection is monitored, and the staff and governor training profile
- the child protection policy is available to parents on request
- this policy and practice complements other policies e.g. anti-bullying, health and safety, drug, to ensure safeguarding.
- all staff and volunteers feel able to raise their concerns about poor and unsafe practice in regard of pupils, and such concerns are addressed in a timely manner in accordance with agreed policies.
- Complete the annual self-assessment audit produced by WSCB and the Education Safeguarding Team.

- 5.2. The Governing Body recognises that neither it, nor individual governors, have a role in dealing with individual cases or a right to know details of cases (except when exercising their disciplinary functions in respect of allegations against staff)
- 5.3. All staff will receive yearly training on Safeguarding, Prevent and CME. Staff will be asked to sign to say that they have read and understood the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and also Keeping Children Safe in Education (Part 1 and Annexe A)

6. PROCEDURES

- 6.1. At Culcheth Primary School, we follow the procedures set out by the Warrington Safeguarding Children Board and take account of guidance issued by the DfE (Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018).
- 6.2. All staff and other adults working within school are made aware that in order to safeguard children they have a duty to share information with the designated Senior Person, and through the Designated Senior Person, with other agencies.
- 6.3. Staff training takes place at least every year, with updates more frequently in order that they:
- are alert to signs and symptoms of harm and abuse
 - know how to respond to their duty when they have concerns or when a pupil discloses to them and to act
 - know what and how to record concerns.
- 6.4. Staff and Student handbooks give guidance on how to deal with a child protection issue.
- 6.5. To ensure the safety and welfare of all our children in our care, **personal mobile phones** must not be accessed throughout contact time with the children.
- 6.6. When on outings, mobile phones may only be used to make or receive phone calls relating directly to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of the children.
- 6.7. Photographs, images or videos of any children within our care may only be taken following parental consent and only using the school equipment. These images should be downloaded onto the school server, after which the images on the camera should be deleted.
- 6.8. If any member of staff suspects that a child may be a victim of abuse, they must immediately inform the Designated Senior Person (or Deputy in their absence) about their concerns. Abuse can be of a sexual, emotional or physical nature. It can also be the result of neglect.
- 6.9. The DSL or Deputy may ring the Education Safeguarding Team at Warrington Borough Council for advice (01925442928) or refer straight to Children's Social Care on 01925 443400. All members of staff are able to make this referral if they feel that a child may be in immediate danger.
- 6.10. Where an allegation is made against a member of staff, it must be reported to the Designated Senior Person (or Deputy in their absence) who will report it to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) within one working day. Procedures for dealing

with such allegations are outline in the policy 'Managing Allegations Against Staff'. The Local Authority Designated Officers are Fiona Cowan 443101 and Beki Byron 443102.

- 6.11. Where an allegation is made against the Headteacher (also the Designated Senior Person) it must be reported to the Deputy Designated Senior Person. The Chair of the Governing Body and the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) must be informed. The role of the Named Governor for Child Protection shall include monitoring of procedures relating to liaison with the LADO.
- 6.12. If a child makes a disclosure of abuse:
- Listen to the pupil but try not to show your reaction as this may influence the information that they disclose
 - It is acceptable to observe bruises but do not to ask a pupil to remove their clothing in order to do this
 - Accept what the pupil says
 - Remain calm so that the pace of disclosure is dictated by the pupil without them being pressed for detail
 - Do not ask leading questions – it is not your role to investigate but to listen
 - Use open questions such as “is there anything else you want to tell me?”
 - Be careful not to burden the pupil with guilt by asking questions like “why didn’t you tell me before?”
 - Acknowledge how hard it was for the pupil to tell you
 - Do not criticise the perpetrator or make a verbal judgement, the pupil might have a relationship with them
 - Do not promise confidentiality, reassure the pupil that they have done the right thing, explain whom you will have to tell (the Designated Senior Person) and why; and, depending on the pupil’s age, what the next stage will be. It is important that you avoid making promises that you cannot keep such as “I’ll stay with you all the time” or “it will be all right now”.
- 6.13. When recording information: Please use a Child Causing Concern form which should then be given to the DSL:
- 6.14.
- Make some brief notes at the time or immediately afterwards; record the date, time, place and context of disclosure or concern
 - When making notes, the child’s language should be used and wherever possible what they say should be written verbatim
 - Record facts and not assumption, opinion or interpretation.
 - If it is observation of bruising or an injury try to record detail, e.g. “right arm above elbow”
 - Note the non-verbal behaviour and the key words in the language used by the pupil (try not to translate into ‘proper terms’).
 - It is important to keep these original notes and pass them on to the Designated Senior Person who may ask you to write a referral. A written referral is needed within 24 hours of the referral call.
- 6.15. Any action that the named person takes when dealing with an issue of child protection must be in line with the procedures outlined in the LA Child Protection guidelines.

- 6.16. The school will keep written records of concerns about children, even when there is no need to refer the matter immediately. All records are kept securely, separate from the main pupil file.
- 6.17. If a child goes missing during the school day, immediate contact must be made with a member of the SMT. A swift response must be made to ask other children if they saw the child leaving school. A phone call to parents/carers must be made and a call to the child's mobile phone, if appropriate. A full sweep of all school grounds must be made and a check of local area. If the child is not at home and no contact can be made. A 999 call must be made to the Police. At this point the LA must also be informed. Advice given must be taken and acted upon quickly.
- 6.18. If a child leaves Culcheth Primary School, Child Protection records will be sent directly to the Designated Senior Person in the new school/institution. Where practically possible, the Designated Senior Person from Culcheth Primary will meet with the Designated Senior Person of the new school to facilitate the smooth transfer of such material.
- 6.19. The school's named co-ordinator works closely with the Social Services department and the Warrington Safeguarding Children Board when investigating any allegations of abuse. All parties involved handle such investigations in a sensitive manner, but the interest of the child is of paramount importance.
- 6.20. If a child alleges abuse, the school usually makes a referral without communicating with parents first. In some circumstances we inform parents first.

7. CONFIDENTIALITY

- 7.1. The personal information about all pupils' families is regarded by those who work in this school as confidential. All staff and volunteers need to be aware of the confidential nature of personal information and will aim to maintain this confidentiality
- 7.2. Staff understand that they need know only enough to prepare them to act with sensitivity to a pupil and to refer concerns appropriately. The Designated Senior Person will disclose information about a pupil to other members of staff on a need to know basis only. It is inappropriate to provide all staff with detailed information about the pupil, the incident, the family and the consequent actions.
- 7.3. Staff must be aware that they cannot promise a child confidentiality – instead they must explain that they may need to pass information to other professionals to help keep the child or other children safe.
- 7.4. Where there are concerns about a child's welfare relevant agencies need to be involved at an early stage. If a member of staff or a volunteer has concerns about a child's welfare, or if a child discloses that s/he is suffering abuse or reveals information that gives grounds for concern, the member of staff should speak to the Designated Senior Person with a view to passing on the information.

8. SUPPORTING CHILDREN

8.1. The staff and governors recognise that a child or young person who is abused or witnesses violence may find it difficult to develop and maintain a sense of self-worth. We recognise that in these circumstances pupils might feel helpless and humiliated, and that they might feel self-blame.

8.2. We recognise that this school might provide the only stability in the lives of pupils who have been abused or who are at risk of harm.

8.3. We accept that research shows that the behaviour of a pupil in these circumstances might range from that which is perceived to be normal to aggressive or withdrawn.

8.4. The school will support all pupils by:

- discussing child protection cases with due regard to safeguarding the pupil and his/her family
- supporting individuals who are or thought to be in need or at risk in line with Warrington Safeguarding Children Board procedures
- encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness
- challenging and not condoning aggression, bullying or discriminatory behavior
- Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment.

9. WORKING WITH PARENTS AND CARERS

9.1. Parents and carers play an important role in protecting their children from harm. In most cases, the school will discuss concerns about a pupil with the family and, where appropriate, seek their agreement to making referrals to appropriate services which can provide support.

9.2. Where there are any doubts, the Designated Senior Person should clarify with the Local Authority or Social Care whether, and if so when and by whom, the parents should be told about the referral.

9.3. The school aims to help parents understand that the school, like all others, has a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils. The school may need to share information and work in partnership with other agencies when there are concerns about a pupil's welfare.

10. CURRICULUM

10.1. Through our curriculum we cover many areas which relate to child protection and in particular the safety of children. At Culcheth Primary, we recognise the importance of developing pupils' awareness of behaviour that is unacceptable towards them and others, and how they can help keep themselves and others safe. So that pupils have a strong understanding of how to keep safe we use the following:

- Drug awareness
- Sex and Relationships Education
- Anti-bullying awareness
- The PSHE programme
- NSPCC programmes

- Local Police support

Appendix 1 - Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

A definition of female genital mutilation

FGM comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. It has no health benefits and harms girls and women in many ways. It involves removing and damaging healthy and normal female genital tissue, and hence interferes with the natural function of girls' and women's bodies. The practice causes severe pain and has several immediate and long-term health consequences, including difficulties in childbirth also causing dangers to the child. In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, the practice is illegal under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003. **Any person found guilty of an offence under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 is liable to a maximum penalty of 14 years imprisonment or a fine, or both.**

Specific factors that may heighten a girl's or woman's risk of being affected by FGM

There are a number of factors in addition to a girl's or woman's community or country of origin that could increase the risk that she will be subjected to FGM:

- The position of the family and the level of integration within UK society – it is believed that communities less integrated into British society are more likely to carry out FGM
- Any girl born to a woman who has been subjected to FGM must be considered to be at risk of FGM, as must other female children in the extended family.
- Any girl who has a sister who has already undergone FGM must be considered to be at risk of FGM, as must other female children in the extended family.
- Any girl withdrawn from Personal, Social and Health Education or Personal and Social Education may be at risk as a result of her parents wishing to keep her uninformed about her body and rights.

Indications that FGM may be about to take place soon

The age at which girls undergo FGM varies enormously according to the community. **The procedure may be carried out when the girl is newborn, during childhood or adolescence, at marriage or during the first pregnancy.** However, the majority of cases of FGM are thought to take place between the ages of 5 and 8 and therefore girls within that age bracket are at a higher risk. It is believed that **FGM happens to British girls in the UK as well as overseas** (often in the family's country of origin). Girls of school age who are subjected to FGM overseas are thought to be taken abroad at the start of the school holidays, particularly in the summer holidays, in order for there to be sufficient time for her to recover before returning to her studies.

There can also be clearer signs when FGM is imminent: It may be possible that families will practise FGM in the UK when a female family elder is around, particularly when she is visiting from a country of origin.

- The key issues
- Risk factors
- High risk absences
- Symptoms

- Long term health problems

How staff can make a difference

Girls who are threatened with, or have undergone FGM may withdraw from education, restricting their educational and personal development. They may feel unable to go against the wishes of their parents and consequently may suffer emotionally. Staff may become aware of a pupil because she appears anxious, depressed and/or emotionally withdrawn. They may be prevented with a sudden decline in her performance, aspirations or motivation. There may be occasions when a pupil comes to school but then absents herself from lessons, possibly spending prolonged periods in the toilets.

At Culcheth Primary School we aim to create an environment where pupils feel comfortable and safe to discuss the problems they are facing. Pupils know they will be listened to and their concerns taken seriously. We will:

- discuss issues around FGM
- inform pupils where to find relevant information e.g. NSPCC's Helpline; Childline services; Careline; National Domestic Violence Helpline
- raise awareness of FGM among staff
- ensure the DSP is aware of the main issues around FGM
- refer pupils on to relevant agencies where appropriate

What to do when you are concerned that a pupil may be at risk of, or has undergone, FGM

Girls are most at risk from FGM during the long summer holiday, so staff should pay particular attention in the summer term and when girls return to school after the summer break. Staff should ensure that if they have any concerns around a girl's potential subjection to FGM they should immediately inform the DSP or another member of the safeguarding team. If the DSP suspects that the girl is at risk of FGM or has undergone FGM, or she has expressed fears of reprisals or violence, both the police and social care should be informed.

Staff should:

- talk about FGM in a professional and sensitive manner;
- explain that FGM is illegal in the UK and that they will be protected by the law;
- recognise that FGM is child abuse and therefore a child's welfare is paramount. Informing the police and social care may well go against the wishes of the child but **MUST** happen;
- ensure that the girl is informed of the long term health consequences of FGM and encourage her to seek medical attention;
- ensure that safeguarding and protection is considered for any other family members.

Staff should not:

- treat any revelations merely as a domestic issue;
- ignore what the girl has told them or ignore the need for immediate protection via a referral to the police and social care;
- approach the girl's family either directly or by letter, phone, text or email.
- attempt to try and investigate the allegations

What to do if a pupil stops attending school

If a school suspects that a pupil has been removed from, or prevented from, attending school **as a result of FGM**, a referral should be made to social care and the police.

Appendix 2

Guidance for tackling Forced Marriages

Schools are well placed to raise concerns and take action to prevent young people from being forced into marriage whilst on extended visits to their parents' home country or that of extended family. While the majority of extended holidays or visits to family overseas are for valid reasons, this guidance aims to raise awareness amongst education professionals of children at risk of forced marriage.

What is forced marriage?

A forced marriage is a marriage in which one or both spouses do not or, (in the case of some adults with learning or physical disabilities, cannot) consent to the marriage but are coerced into it. Duress can include physical, psychological, financial, sexual and emotional pressure.

This is not the same as an arranged marriage. In arranged marriages, the families of both spouses take a leading role in arranging the marriage but the choice of whether or not to accept the arrangement remains with the prospective spouses.

Since June 2014 forcing someone to marry has become a criminal offence in England and Wales under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

Who is at risk?

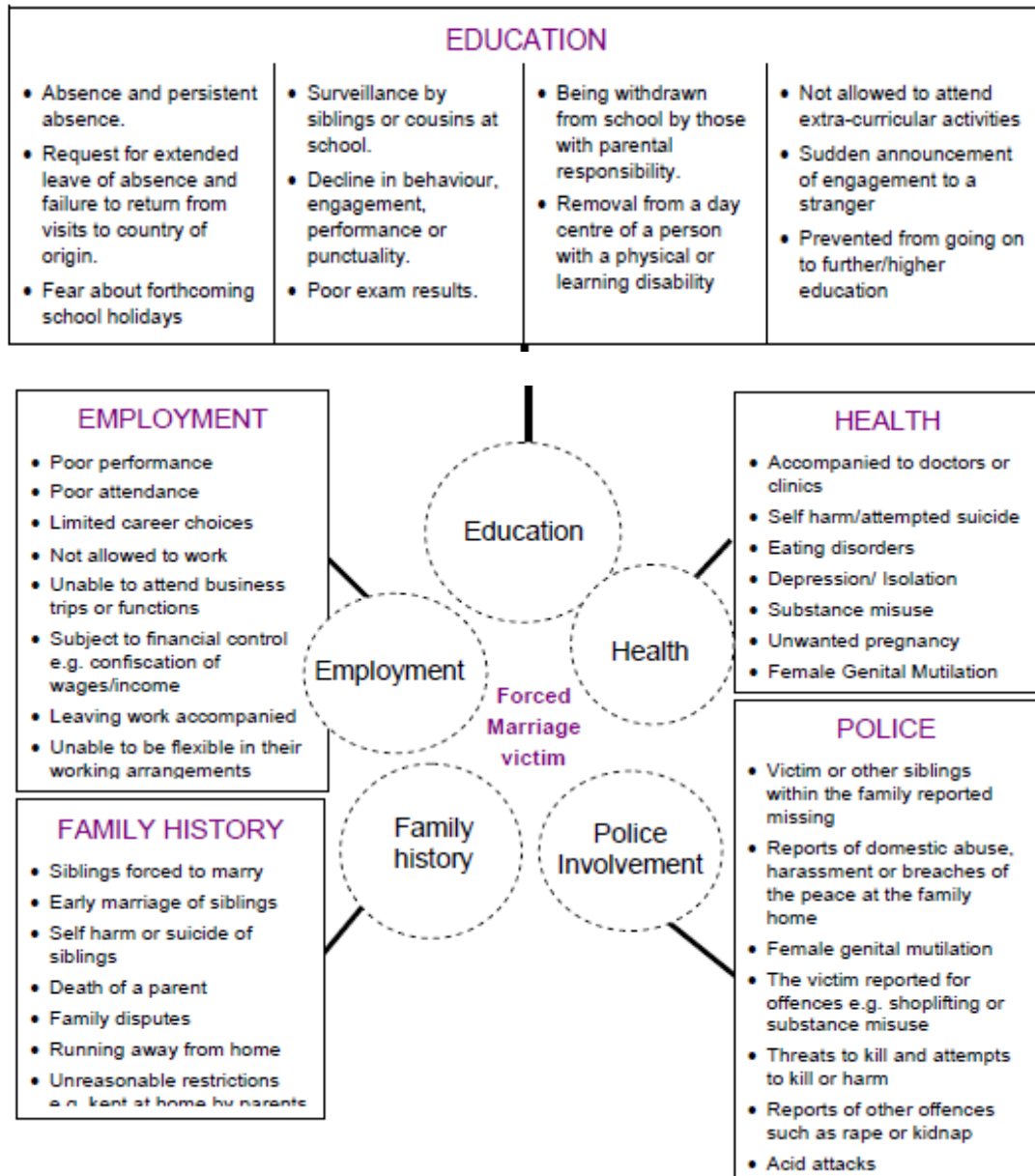
Research indicates that hundreds of people in the UK (particularly girls and young women) and some as young as 7 years old are forced into marriage each year. Where the age was known, 15% of cases involved victims below 16 years, 25% involved victims aged 16-17, 33% involved victims aged 18-21, 15% involved victims aged 22-25, 7% involved victims aged 26-30, 3% involved victims aged 31+. 82% of cases involved female victims and 18% involved male victims.¹

The key motives for forcing a child into marriage have been identified as:

- Controlling unwanted behaviour and sexuality (including perceived promiscuity such as kissing or hand-holding, or being gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender);
- Controlling unwanted behaviour, for example, alcohol and drug use, wearing make-up or behaving in a 'westernized manner'
- Preventing 'unsuitable' relationships, e.g. outside the ethnic, cultural religious or caste group
- Protecting 'family honour' or 'izzat'
- Rejecting a proposal of marriage
- Responding to peer group or family pressure
- Attempting to strengthen family links
- Achieving financial gain
- Ensuring land, property and wealth remain within the family
- Protecting perceived cultural ideas
- Protecting perceived religious ideals that are misguided
- Ensuring care for a child or vulnerable adult with special needs when parents or existing carers are unable to fulfil that role
- Assisting claims for residence and citizenship
- Long-standing family commitments

¹ Source: Forced Marriage Unit statistics January to December 2013

CHART OF POTENTIAL WARNING SIGNS OR INDICATORS²



² Taken from 'Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines: Handling Cases of Forced Marriage', HM Government (2014)

What can Schools & College do to tackle Forced Marriage?

- Signposting where appropriate to further support and advice regarding forced marriage.
- Displaying relevant information e.g. details of the NSPCC Helpline, Child Line, and appropriate local and national support groups on forced marriage.
- Educating teachers and other staff about the issues surrounding forced marriage and the presenting symptoms – appropriate training should be included in continuing professional development (CPD).
- Encouraging young people to access appropriate advice, information and support.

Managing Requests for Holidays/Extended Absence

When managing requests for absence, it is useful for school clusters to share a common absence request form which requests information on all siblings who attend other schools. Sometimes younger siblings tell teachers information that has a bearing on older members of the family so it is important that schools liaise with each other when considering requests for leave of absence during term-time.

Where head teachers require a meeting with parents to discuss applications for extended leave of absence during term time, this can provide an opportunity to gather important information.

When parents/carers make requests for extended holiday leave, consider whether the parents/carers are volunteering information on the following:

- The precise location of where the pupil is going;
- The purpose of the visit;
- The child/children know and corroborate the purpose of the visit;
- The return date and whether it is estimated or fixed.

Parents/carers may not always be able to provide a definite return date due to return flights being booked as last minute availability occurs. The circumstances triggering a trip may also necessitate a flexible return date.

You should also consider other historical factors such as:

- persistent unexplained absence from school;
- child not allowed to attend extra-curricular activities;
- close supervision of child by family/carers;
- maltreatment of siblings.

If a return date has been specified and a child has not returned to school, school must contact their Attendance Improvement Officer. In no circumstances should a school remove the student from the roll without first making enquiries about the child's disappearance and referring the case to the police and Children's Services as appropriate.

What to do if you suspect a student is being forced into marriage:

A child at risk of forced marriage or FGM may also be at risk of other forms of honour based abuse. Extreme caution should be taken in sharing information with any family members or those with influence within the community as this may alert them to your concerns and may place the student in danger.

The "one chance" rule:

Practitioners may only have **one chance** to speak to a potential victim of forced marriage and thus they may only have one chance to save a life. If a victim is allowed to walk out of the door without support being offered, that one chance might be wasted.

What you should do:

- ✓ Take the issue seriously and recognise the potential risk of harm to the victim.
- ✓ See them on their own in a private place where the conversation cannot be overheard.
- ✓ Gather as much information as possible about the victim – it may be the only opportunity.
- ✓ Remind of their rights i.e. that they have the right to enter into marriage with their full and free consent and the right to make decisions about their lives.
- ✓ **Follow our child protection procedures and talk to the Senior Designated Professional without delay in order to get support from other agencies.**
- ✓ **The SDP should contact the Duty and Assessment Team and/or Education and Safeguarding Team**

Do not:

- X Send the victim away and dismiss the allegation of forced marriage as a domestic issue.
- X Inform the victim's family, friends or members of the community that the victim has sought help.
- X Attempt to be a mediator.
- X Involve an elder from the family, member of the community or member of professional organisation.

In cases of forced marriage, it is important that agencies do not actively initiate, encourage or facilitate family counselling, mediation, arbitration or reconciliation – whether offered by community councils, religious or professional groups. There have been cases of women being murdered by their families during mediation. Mediation can also place someone at risk of further emotional and physical abuse.

If the parents are vague about plans for overseas trips or there are other concerns amongst staff, expert advice is available from:

The Forced Marriage Unit [FMU]  **020 7008 0151**
<https://www.gov.uk/forced-marriage#forced-marriage-unit>

This service provides advice and guidance for British nationals being forced into marriage overseas. The Unit also provides expert advice to professionals, especially those confronted by it for the first time.

If a situation is urgent you should call 999

Further Guidance and references:

Please visit <https://www.gov.uk/forced-marriage> for further information practice guidelines and resources for professionals protecting, advising and supporting victims.

[Multi-Agency Statutory Guidance for dealing with forced marriage 2014](#): Guidance is for all persons and bodies who exercise public function in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults.

[Multi-Agency practice guidelines: Handling cases of forced marriage 2014](#): Step-by-step advice for frontline workers. This is essential reading for health professionals, educational staff, police, children's social care, adult social services and local authority housing.

E- Learning for professionals: The Forced Marriage Unit has designed an e-learning training package to support professionals, including education, social and health care professionals, police officers, housing officers, the voluntary sector and others dealing with forced marriage in the course of their work.

Using real life case studies, the training gives professionals a basic understanding of the main issues surrounding forced marriage, how cases can present and how to respond appropriately. This tool complements the multi-agency practice guidelines for professionals and should be read alongside the training. You can access the tool on the **Forced marriage eLearning website**

But It's Not Fair by Aneeta Prem is a fictional account of different perspectives on forced marriages that's useful reading for school children and teachers. The publication is free and can be ordered from the FMU or downloaded.

Promoted by the FMU, the organisation **<http://www.freedomcharity.org.uk/>** has produced a very clever app that offers help, assistance and instruction to children, friends of children, professionals with an interest and any other parties.

Forced Marriage: A Survivors Handbook – guidance and advice for victims or potential victims of forced marriage.

Marriage: it's your choice: these are business-card sized and contain contact details for the FMU. They can be given to any potential victim. They are small enough to be placed in wallets/purses.

All schools can prominently display posters/ leaflets with guidance and contact information for those who are worried about forced marriage and FGM. A variety of resources can be accessed from **Foreign & Commonwealth Office** and **Home Office** pages: <https://www.gov.uk/forced-marriage>

Appendix 3

The Identification of children at risk of sexual exploitation

A recent inquiry undertaken by the Office of the Children's Commissioner reported that at least 16,500 children were identified as being at risk of children sexual exploitation during one year. The same research also estimates that the actual numbers of children at risk of and suffering child sexual exploitation are much higher because professionals in the study did not always recognise and respond appropriately to the issue. Schools are well placed to prevent, identify and respond to children at risk of sexual exploitation. This guidance aims to raise the awareness of child sexual exploitation in order to support education professionals to identify and respond appropriately to pupils at risk.

What is Child Sexual Exploitation?

The sexual exploitation of children and young people (CSE) under-18 is defined as that which:

'involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities.

Child sexual exploitation can occur through the use of technology without the child's immediate recognition; for example being persuaded to post sexual images on the Internet/mobile phones without immediate payment or gain. In all cases, those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources. Violence, coercion and intimidation are common, involvement in exploitative relationships being characterised in the main by the child or young person's limited availability of choice resulting from their social/economic and/or emotional vulnerability.' (Department for Education, 2012)

Please see 2017 link below

[Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners - GOV.UK](#)

[Core guidance](#)

Child sexual exploitation is a form of abuse which involves children (male and female, of different ethnic origins and of different ages) receiving something in exchange for sexual activity.

Who is at risk?

Child sexual exploitation can happen to any young person from any background. Although the research suggests that females are more vulnerable to CSE, boys and young men are also victims of this type of abuse.

The characteristics common to all victims of CSE are not those of age, ethnicity or gender, rather their powerlessness and vulnerability. Victims often do not recognise that they are being exploited because they will have been groomed by their abuser(s). As a result, victims do not make informed choices to enter into, or remain involved in, sexually exploitative situations but do so from coercion, enticement, manipulation or fear. Sexual exploitation can happen face to face and it can happen online. It can also occur between young people.

In all its forms, CSE is child abuse and should be treated as a child protection issue.

WARNING SIGNS AND VULNERABILITIES CHECKLIST

The evidence available points to several factors that can increase a child's vulnerability to being sexually exploited.

The following are typical **vulnerabilities in children prior to abuse**:

- Living in a chaotic or dysfunctional household (including parental substance use, domestic violence, parental mental health issues, parental criminality)
- History of abuse (including familial child sexual abuse, risk of forced marriage, risk of 'honour'-based violence, physical and emotional abuse and neglect)
- Recent bereavement or loss
- Gang association either through relatives, peers or intimate relationships (in cases of gang-associated CSE only)
- Attending school with young people who are sexually exploited
- Learning disabilities

- Unsure about their sexual orientation or unable to disclose sexual orientation to their families
- Friends with young people who are sexually exploited
- Homeless
- Lacking friends from the same age group
- Living in a gang neighbourhood
- Living in residential care
- Living in hostel, bed and breakfast accommodation or a foyer
- Low self-esteem or self-confidence
- Young carer

The following signs and behaviour are generally seen in children who are **already being sexually exploited**.

- Missing from home or care
- Physical injuries
- Drug or alcohol misuse
- Involvement in offending
- Repeat sexually-transmitted infections, pregnancy and terminations
- Absent from school
- Evidence of sexual bullying and/or vulnerability through the internet and/or social networking sites
- Estranged from their family
- Receipt of gifts from unknown sources
- Recruiting others into exploitative situations
- Poor mental health
- Self-harm
- Thoughts of or attempts at suicide

Evidence shows that any child displaying several vulnerabilities from the above lists should be considered to be at high risk of sexual exploitation. If you identify a child who you consider to be suffering from or at high risk of CSE, it is important that the Senior Designated Professional (SDP) in school is informed so that they can contact Children's Services.

Consent?

The report from the Office of the Children's Commissioner also highlights confusion about issues of consent to sexual activity amongst professionals *and* victims of CSE. Professionals frequently described victims of sexual exploitation as being 'promiscuous', 'liking the glamour', engaging in 'risky behaviour' and generally presenting with challenging behaviour.

In assessing whether a child or young person is a victim of sexual exploitation, or at risk of becoming a victim, careful consideration should be given to the issue of consent. It is important to bear in mind that:

- a child under the age of 13 is not legally capable of consenting to sex (it is statutory rape) or any other type of sexual touching;
- sexual activity with a child under 16 is also an offence;
- it is an offence for a person to have a sexual relationship with a 16 or 17 year old if they hold a position of trust or authority in relation to them;
- where sexual activity with a 16 or 17 year old does not result in an offence being committed, it may still result in harm, or the likelihood of harm being suffered;
- non consensual sex is rape whatever the age of the victim; and

- if the victim is incapacitated through drink or drugs, or the victim or his or her family has been subject to violence or the threat of it, they cannot be considered to have given true consent and therefore offences may have been committed.

Child sexual exploitation is therefore potentially a child protection issue for all children under the age of 18 years and not just those in a specific age group.

What can schools do to tackle Child Sexual Exploitation?

1. Training and Awareness

The SDP should ensure that all staff and volunteers who work with children and young people are made aware of Child Sexual Exploitation and the indicators of concern in order to identify and respond to concerns at an early stage.

2. Promotion of healthy relationships through the curriculum

Educational institutions play an important role in helping children and young people gain an understanding of acceptable and unacceptable relationships and sexual behaviour and to gain a sense of self-worth and respect for others. The PSHE curriculum, including Sex and Relationship Education (SRE), provides a vehicle for this important learning which can help prevent children and young people becoming involved in sexual exploitation.

By enabling children and young people to explore what makes a safe and healthy relationship, schools can help to develop the awareness and skills to recognise and manage potential risks of harm, stay safe and seek help if they need it. It is important that this message is repeated throughout a child's time at school to support prevention through the promotion of safe practices. Both primary and secondary schools have a vital role to play in this preventive education and awareness raising.

3. Identification

Schools may wish to map pupils against the CSE vulnerabilities checklist provided in this document and target interventions appropriately with regular review.

In addition, schools should be vigilant to the link between children going missing and the risk of CSE. The SDP should ensure that attendance staff and those monitoring truancy during the school day are fully briefed on CSE and monitor/log unexplained absences and those pupils leaving during the school day with the potential for CSE in mind.

Appendix 4 - Private Fostering Guidance for Schools and other Education Settings

Schools play an essential role in identifying privately fostered children. Although most children in private fostering situations are likely to be safe, in some private fostering arrangements there are

clear safeguarding issues and children and young people effectively have no one who is concerned for their safety or welfare.

This guidance aims to raise the awareness of the role of education professionals in highlighting cases of private fostering and safeguarding children at risk.

What is a private fostering arrangement?

A private foster carer is someone *other than* a parent or a close relative who cares for a child for a period of 28 days or more, in agreement with the child's parent. It applies only to children under 16 years, or under 18 if they are disabled.

A private fostering arrangement is not a when a child is Looked After by the Local Authority or placed in any residential home, hospital or school.

Private foster carers can be part of the child's wider family, a friend of the family, the parents of the child's boyfriend or girlfriend or someone unknown but willing to foster the child. A cousin, great aunt or a co-habitee of a mother or father would therefore be a private foster carer.

Close relatives - a grandparent, a brother or sister, an aunt or an uncle, a step parent - are *not* private foster carers.

Who may be privately fostered?

This list is by no means exhaustive and indicates the scale and variety of situations and agencies these arrangements can cover.

- Children whose parents are unable to care for them, for example if they have chronic ill health or are in prison;
- Children sent to this country, for education or health care, by parents who live overseas;
- A child living with a friend's family because they don't get on with their own family;
- Children living with a friend's family because of their parents' study or work;
- Children staying with another family because their parents have separated or divorced;
- Teenagers living with the family of a boyfriend or girlfriend;
- Children from abroad who attend a language school or mainstream school in the county and are staying with host families;
- Children at boarding schools who do not return to their parents in the holidays but stay with 'host families' recruited by 'education guardians';
- Unaccompanied asylum seeking minors who are living with friends, relatives or strangers.

Children who are trafficked into the UK are especially vulnerable and are often living in de facto private fostering arrangements. Child trafficking is the movement of children for exploitation, including domestic servitude, commercial sexual exploitation and to support benefit claims (see www.ecpat.org.uk for further information). Where trafficking is suspected, a safeguarding referral should be made to Warrington Children's Services.

What to do if you are aware of a private fostering arrangement:

By law, a parent, private foster carer or other persons involved in making a private fostering arrangement must notify Children's Services as soon as possible. However, parents and carers often do not tell professionals or agencies about such arrangements; they may not be aware that they need to (and this may apply particularly to new communities in the UK such as migrant families from new-EU states), or they chose not to tell agencies about these arrangements.

Children's Services are **not** involved in making private fostering arrangements but are responsible for checking that the arrangements are suitable for the child. As a professional it is important for you to notify Children's Services if you are in contact with a child or young person who is being privately fostered. This will help protect the child against abuse or neglect and provide some reassurance that the child is being looked after properly.

Signs to watch out for

- Has someone else started collecting a child from school on a regular basis?
- Has a child mentioned to you that they are staying with someone else or that their parent(s) have gone away for a long time?
- Is there something unusual or unclear in the child's administration file? This may include copies of passports, visas and other immigration related documents which are unclear or do not clearly show that the child has rights of residence in the UK, or that it is unclear who has parental responsibility for the child.

What schools can do:

- Ensure that all staff are aware of the definition of private fostering and the Local Authority's responsibilities when such arrangements occur;
- Look at admission files to check on the home situation, and make a note to follow up any circumstances which are not clear.
- Whenever staff become aware of private fostering arrangements they should notify the Senior Designated Professional for safeguarding (SDP);
- The SDP or another appropriate member of staff should speak to the families of children who might be involved in private fostering and check that they are aware of their duty to notify the Local Authority of the arrangement. School staff should actively encourage the parents and/or carer to notify Children's Services of the arrangement

If you believe that a private fostering arrangement has not been reported to Children's Services you should contact them directly:

Customer Services Centre: 443400

If you suspect that a child who is living in a private fostering arrangement is being harmed or is at risk of significant harm (including suspecting that a child may be trafficked) and urgent action is required, follow your Child Protection procedures.

What happens after the Local Authority is notified?

When the Local Authority receives notification about a private fostering arrangement, Social Care will arrange for a colleague to visit the child within seven working days. They will contact the parent or person with parental responsibility, run checks on the carer and talk to the young person. This will be to ensure the young person is happy, safe and thriving in the arrangement and that they are able to access education, medical care and any other services they may need. The Local Authority will also check that the accommodation is safe and suitable and enable the carer to access suitable training if required. Providing everything is in order, the family will continue the arrangement with the social worker providing checks at regular intervals to ensure the young person is safe, happy and has access to all the services to meet their needs.

Further Guidance & Resources:

- <http://privatefostering.org.uk/>
- ['Child Trafficking and Private Fostering', ECPAT UK](#)

Many schools ensure a staff presence at entrances/exits to the school at the beginning and end of the school day. These staff should be mindful of who is dropping-off and collecting pupils; gather details, including vehicle details, if there are any concerns.

4. Referral

What to do if you are concerned about a child:

If you have concerns that a child is at risk of or suffering Child Sexual Exploitation you should contact Children's Services without delay on 443400.

In all referrals and consultations with other agencies, it is important that you are clear that you believe the child is at risk of or is a victim of sexual exploitation.

5. Useful Contact Numbers and Websites:

In an emergency call the police – **999**

Women's Aid and Refuge run the 24hr National Domestic Violence Helpline – **0808 2000 247**
They also provide guidance and support to those experiencing domestic abuse. Further information about the services they offer can be found at www.womensaid.org.uk

Broken Rainbow UK Broken Rainbow is the first and only UK organisation dedicated to confronting and eliminating domestic violence and abuse within and against the LGBT communities. Further information about their services can be found at www.brokenrainbow.org.uk and they can be contacted on **0845 2 60 55 60**

Missing People is a national charity that provides advice and support to missing people and their families. Further information about their services can be found at www.missingpeople.org.uk and they can be contacted on **116 000**

The Samaritans – www.samaritans.org - **08457 90 90 90**

The National Stalking Helpline provides guidance and information to anyone who is currently or has previously been affected by harassment or stalking. Further information about the services they offer can be found at www.stalkinghelpline.org and they can be contacted on **0808 802 0300**

FRANK provide confidential drugs advice – further information can be found at www.talktofrank.com or they can be contacted on **0300 123 6600**

DVD/Films

'My Dangerous Loverboy' www.mydangerousloverboy.com

Website which includes short DVD films, e.g. animation called 'Me, Jenny and Kate', the trailer for the film of 'MDL' and details of resources and projects, e.g. 'Love and Lies' education pack.

'Sick Party' www.genesisleeds.org.uk/sick-party-dvd-clip

'Sick Party' DVD is produced by Eddy Marshall, Genesis 2013 Basis – Increasing Safety Reducing Risk. Tel: 0113 243 0036

'THINK AGAIN' www.mesmac.co.uk/blast-resources

Resource pack with DVD to work with boys/young men – Blast Project

'East Enders Plot – Tiffany' www.cse.siyonatech.com/

The sexual exploitation of young people – can you recognise the signs (Child Line and Association of Police Officers) – Eastenders plot 20 minute clip

'THISTLE' www.blaenau-gwent-lscb.org.uk/thistle.html

A short awareness film – 7 minutes – on CSE, made by young people for young people with Gwent Police

Appendix 5 – Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism in School

WHAT IS 'EXTREMISM'?

Extremist organisations can develop and popularise ideas which create an environment conducive to violent extremism and terrorism.

"In assessing the drivers of and pathways to radicalisation, the line between extremism and terrorism is often blurred. Terrorist groups of all kinds very often draw upon ideologies which have been developed, disseminated and popularised by extremist organisations that appear to be non-violent (such as groups which neither use violence nor specifically and openly endorse its use by others)". [*Prevent Strategy 5.34*]

"Terrorist groups can take up and exploit ideas which have been developed and sometimes popularised by extremist organisations which operate legally in this country. This has significant implications for the scope of our Prevent strategy. Evidence also suggests that some (but by no means all) of those who have been radicalised in the UK had previously participated in extremist organisations" (*Prevent Strategy - opening summary to chapter 5*)

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT FOR SCHOOLS TO DISCUSS EXTREMISM?

Education can be a powerful tool, equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and reflex to think for themselves, to challenge and to debate; and giving young people the opportunity to learn about different cultures and faiths and, to gain an understanding of the values we share. Exploring ideas, developing a sense of identity and forming views are a normal part of growing up.

Schools can support young people in this: providing a safe environment for discussing controversial issues and helping young people understand how they can influence and participate in decision-making. We need to encourage young people to express their views but also to appreciate the impact their views can have on others, to take responsibility for their actions and to

understand that the use of violence to further any cause is criminal. "We believe that schools of all kinds can play a role in enabling young people to explore issues like terrorism and the wider use of violence in a considered and informed way. According to a survey by the UK Youth Parliament in August 2008, 94% of young people said they thought schools were the best environment in which to discuss terrorism. Schools can facilitate understanding of wider issues within the context of learning about the values on which our society is founded and our system of democratic government. These are important for reasons which go far beyond Prevent but they connect to the Prevent agenda" (*Prevent Strategy*).

We also need to recognise that, young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views, particular those via the internet and other social media. "Schools can help to protect children from extremist and violent views in the same ways that they help to safeguard children from drugs, gang violence or alcohol. Schools' work on Prevent needs to be seen in this context. The purpose must be to protect children from harm and to ensure that they are taught in a way that is consistent with the law and our values. Awareness of Prevent and the risks it is intended to address are both vital. Staff can help to identify and to refer to the relevant agencies, children whose behaviour suggests that they are being drawn into terrorism or extremism" (*Prevent Strategy*)

Schools, working with other local partners, families and communities, can help support pupils who may be vulnerable as part of their safeguarding responsibilities.

Extremism affects individuals and communities and can be a catalyst for alienation and disaffection, potentially leading to violence. There is a need to empower learners to come together, with their families and the wider community, to expose extremism to critical scrutiny and reject violence and intolerance in whatever forms they take and whether it be from animal rights activists, ecological protesters, Al Qaida-influenced groups, Irish republican terrorists, racist and fascist organisations or far-right extremist groups.

Publicly funded schools remain under a duty to promote community cohesion. Schools can give learners the opportunity to learn about different cultures and faiths and to debate shared values, so as to enable them to become involved in decision-making about important and real issues.

So the tasks facing schools and colleges are to:

- raise awareness;
- provide information;
- enable learners to make a positive contribution; and
- safeguard young people.

Values and leadership strategies underpin the ethos of the school to play a positive role model in preventing extremism. These should be developed, understood and shared by leaders at all levels in the school; governors, the senior leadership team and all staff and then made explicit to pupils, parents and the community served by the school.

Possible school actions:

- Creating explicit value statements that are inclusive of all students
- Reviewing curriculum and pupil participation and safeguarding processes
- Developing critical personal thinking skills and using curriculum opportunities including small group work
- Implementing social and emotional aspects of learning
- Exploring and promoting diversity and shared values between and within communities
- Challenging Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and other prejudices
- Supporting those at risk of being isolated
- Building ties with all local communities, seeking opportunities for linking with other schools

- Using 'Safe to learn' anti-bullying strategies to minimise hate and prejudice based bullying
- Using restorative approaches to repair harm caused

Leadership & management

Ofsted Inspectors assess the leadership and management of the school as part of their inspection.

Possible school actions to demonstrate good leadership and management:

- Working with Safer School Partnerships police officers and Local Authority 'Prevent' staff to deliver training to staff, parents and governors.
- Facilitating a session of Act Now or Internet Safety with local police, and inviting teachers, parents and governors.
- Promoting equal opportunity and tackling discrimination to challenge the ideology that underpins extremist belief.
- Using the Manchester Metropolitan University lesson plans and teaching resources which help pupils to learn to understand others, to value diversity and promote shared values.

Effective school leadership and management could include:

- focusing on the leadership, values and ethos of the school;
- focusing on learning, teaching and the curriculum;
- focusing on learner support processes;
- focusing on the management of risks and responding to events;
- focusing on the relationship between the school and its community; and
- focusing on the evaluation of the progress being made.

[Common inspection framework: education, skills and early years from September 2015](#)

Learning, teaching and the curriculum

In approaching the issues outlined above through an entry point of learning, teaching and the curriculum therefore requires some thought to be given to teacher style. A curriculum and pedagogy for learners to support them in achieving the goals outlined above could include:

- promoting knowledge, skills and understanding to build the resilience of learners;
- exploring controversial issues;
- recognising local needs;
- challenging extremist narratives;
- promoting universal rights;
- promoting critical analysis; and
- promoting pro-social values.

Many schools already do a number of things to contribute to these goals such as helping learners develop knowledge of religion, history, geography, citizenship, being critically aware of the role of different media and knowledge of current affairs. Schools can also help learners develop the skills to critically evaluate controversial issues. They provide safe places for learners and they provide opportunities for learners to meet people from backgrounds other than their own.

Teaching controversial issues

Effectively tackling controversial issues can help learners challenge the perceptions and misconceptions of their own and others'. To do this classroom practices can include:

- developing questioning techniques to open up safe debate;
- building confidence to promote honesty about a plurality of views;
- ensuring freedom of expression and freedom from threat;
- debating fundamental moral and human rights principles;
- promoting open respectful dialogue; and
- affirming multiple identities.

Prevent Officer: Brendan McKrilly 01606 362147 prevent@cheshire.pnn.police.uk
SPOC for Warrington: Michelle Heritage 01925 442928 mheritage@warrington.gov.uk

The police non-emergency number 101

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

Anti-Terrorism Hotline 0800 789 321

Appendix 6 – Sexting

Sexting is when someone sends or receives a sexually explicit text, image or video on their mobile phone, usually in a text message.

When people talk about sexting, they usually refer to sending and receiving:

- naked pictures or 'nudes'
- 'underwear shots'
- sexual or 'dirty pics'
- explicit 'rude' text messages or videos.

The UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) Education Group has recently published sexting advice for schools and colleges. [W:\UK Council for Child Internet Safety UKCCIS Guidance.htm](#)

Culcheth Primary School adopt the guidelines given in the document below to ensure correct procedures are followed when dealing with an incident of Sexting. All staff have received training and will report any concerns to the Safeguarding Team.

Sexting in schools and colleges: Responding to incidents and safeguarding young people

If pupils are 'sexting' indecent images of someone under the age of 18, they may be committing a criminal offence under Section 1 of the Protection of Children Act 1978 and Section 160 Criminal Justice Act 1988. This means, it is a crime to:

- Take an indecent photograph or allow an indecent photograph to be taken;
- To make an indecent photograph (and this includes downloading or opening an image that has been sent);
- To distribute or show such an image;
- To possess with the intention of distributing images;
- To possess such images.

Whether someone is charged is decided by the Crown Prosecution Service. Generally, children are not prosecuted. HOWEVER children and young people need to be aware that they may be breaking the law. Although unlikely to be prosecuted, children and young people who send or possess the images may be visited by Police and on some occasions media equipment e.g. computers and mobile phones could be removed.

The key factor to highlight is that the real harm in relation to 'sexting' is that those in the photographs may become victims should the images be shown to others. Further information can be found in the Appendices with also link to Child Exploitation Online protection Service. (CEOPS)

Appendix 7 Children Missing from Education

All children, regardless of their circumstances, are entitled to an efficient, full time education which is suitable to their age, ability, aptitude and any special educational needs they may have. Children missing education are children of compulsory school age who are not registered pupils at a school and are not receiving suitable education otherwise than at a school.

Children missing education are at significant risk of underachieving, being victims of harm, exploitation or radicalisation, and becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) later in life. Effective information sharing between parents, schools and local authorities is critical to ensuring that all children of compulsory school age are safe and receiving suitable education

The Local Authority officer responsible for CME is David Sampson, who can be contacted on 01925 442928.

A child going missing from education is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect. School staff members should follow the procedures for dealing with 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. However, if a child as in immediate danger or at risk of harm, a referral should be made immediately to children's social care (and the police if appropriate). Local authority officers responsible for CME should check that a referral has been made and, if not, they should alert children's social care.

Requirement for schools (From September 2016) in line with statutory guidance '*Children Missing Education: Statutory guidance for Local Authorities*' (2016).

All schools (including academies and independent schools) must notify their local authority when they are about to remove a pupil's name from the school admission register under any of the fifteen grounds listed in the regulations¹ (Appendix 8). This duty does not apply when a pupil's name is removed from the admission register at standard transition points – when the pupil has completed the final year of education normally provided by that school – unless the local authority requests that such returns are to be made.

When removing a pupil's name, the notification to the local authority must include:

- (a) The full name of the pupil,
- (b) The full name and address of any parent with whom the pupil normally resides,
- (c) At least one telephone number of the parent,
- (d) The pupil's future address and destination school, if applicable, and
- (e) The ground in regulation 8 under which the pupil's name is to be removed from the admission register (see Appendix 8).

Schools must make reasonable enquiries to establish the whereabouts of the child jointly with the local authority, before deleting the pupil's name from the register if the deletion is under regulation 8(1), sub-paragraphs (f)(iii) and (h)(iii) (see Appendix 8).

All schools must also notify the local authority within five days of adding a pupil's name to the admission register at a non-standard transition point. The notification must include all the details contained in the admission register for the new pupil.

This duty does not apply when a pupil's name is entered in the admission register at a standard transition point – at the start of the first year of education normally provided by that school – unless the local authority requests that such returns are to be made. When adding a pupil's name, the notification to the local authority must include all the details contained in the admission register for the new pupil.

Appendix 8 Modern Slavery

Modern slavery encompasses slavery, servitude, forced and compulsory labour and human trafficking. Traffickers and slave drivers coerce, deceive and force individuals against their will into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment. A large number of active organised crime groups are involved in modern slavery. But it is also committed by individual opportunistic perpetrators.

Slavery is: 'the status or condition of a person over whom any or all of the powers attaching to the right of **ownership** are exercised'. (*Convention to Suppress the Slave Trade and Slavery 1926*)

Forced or Compulsory Labour is: 'all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily' (*Convention Concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour, 1930 (No.29)*)

Labour is the provision of any service, not just manual labour.

Servitude is: 'an obligation to provide a service that is imposed by the use of coercion'.

Human Trafficking is: Although many people think of human trafficking as only affecting adults it affects children as well. Child trafficking is child abuse. Children are recruited, moved or transported and then exploited, forced to work or sold. They are often subject to multiple forms of exploitation.

It is also not just about trafficking adults and children across national borders, human trafficking can take place anywhere.

The trafficking of human beings involves the movement of a person from one place to another for the purpose of exploiting them using deception, coercion, the abuse of power or the abuse of someone's vulnerability. People can be trafficked in order to exploit them for sexual purposes, forced labour, domestic servitude or organ harvesting.

Appendix 9 Faith Abuse

Faith abuse is where certain kinds of child abuse are linked to faith or belief. This includes: belief in concepts of witchcraft and spirit possession, demons or the devil acting through children or leading them astray (traditionally seen in some Christian beliefs), the evil eye or djinns (traditionally known in some Islamic faith contexts) and dakini (in the Hindu context); ritual or muti murders where the killing of children is believed to bring supernatural benefits or the use of their body parts is believed to produce potent magical remedies; and use of belief in magic or witchcraft to create fear in children to make them more compliant when they are being trafficked for domestic slavery or sexual exploitation.

Child abuse can also occur in culture or faith contexts in general, this can include female genital mutilation, forced marriage, excessive physical punishment or abuse relating to gender, sexuality, ethnicity, nationality, disability or other differences recognised within social or cultural beliefs.

Abuse in any culture or faith context is not acceptable and is child abuse. School staff should follow the procedures and share any concerns with DSL and complete and Initial Concern Form (Appendix 1), if it is suspected that a child is at risk of this type of abuse.

Appendix 10 Children's Equality Act 2010

Childrens Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 protects children, young people and adults against discrimination, harassment and victimisation in relation to housing, education, clubs, the provision of services and work. Discrimination is broadly unfair treatment related to:

- age (under-18s are only protected against age discrimination in relation to work);
- disability;
- gender reassignment;
- marriage and civil partnership (with some restrictions);
- pregnancy and maternity;
- race;
- religion or belief;
- sex;
- sexual orientation.

These are called "protected characteristics".

The public sector equality duty in Section 149 of the Equality Act requires public bodies, including local authorities, schools and hospitals, to take active steps to eliminate discrimination and to do positive things to promote equality.

Advancing equality of opportunity includes having due regard to the need to:

remove or minimise disadvantage associated with a protected characteristic;

taking steps to meet the needs of individuals who share a protected characteristic (where these are different from others); and

encouraging persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity where participation by that group of people is disproportionately low.

Appendix 11 Allegations of abuse made against other children

Staff should recognise that children are capable of abusing their peers. Governing bodies and proprietors should ensure their child protection policy includes procedures to minimise the risk of peer on peer abuse and sets out how allegations of peer on peer abuse will be investigated and

dealt with. The policy should reflect the different forms peer on peer abuse can take, make clear that abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as “banter” or “part of growing up”. It should be clear as to how victims of peer on peer abuse will be supported.

Governors and proprietors should ensure the child protection policy reflects the different gender issues that can be prevalent when dealing with peer on peer abuse. This could, for example, include girls being sexually touched/assaulted or boys being subject to initiation/hazing type violence.

Appendix 12 Children with special educational needs and disabilities

85. Children with special educational needs (SENd) and disabilities can face additional safeguarding challenges. Governing bodies and proprietors should ensure their child protection policy reflects the fact that additional barriers can exist when recognising abuse and neglect in this group of children. These can include:

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

Procedures in dealing with incidents with SENd are outlined in the SENd policy.

Organisations

National Working Group <http://www.nwgnetwork.org/>

You can sign up to this organisation to receive newsletters and access resources

Barnardo's - Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation

CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre) works with child protection partners across the UK and overseas to identify online and offline threats to children and young people. More information about their work can be found at www.ceop.police.uk

BLAST! Project for boys and young men www.mesmac.co.uk

This website provides support and guidance for boys and young men experiencing sexual exploitation. Their website contains information and resources for young people and professionals around CSE.

Governmental Reports

Department for Education (2011) *Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation: Action Plan (2011) and Progress Report (July 2012)* <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-child-sexual-exploitation-action-plan>

Department for Children, Schools and Families (2009) *Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation: Supplementary Guidance to Working Together to Safeguard Children* <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-and-young-people-from-sexual-exploitation-supplementary-guidance>

Department for Education (2012) *What to do if you suspect a child is being sexually exploited: A step-by-step guide for frontline practitioners* <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-you-suspect-a-child-is-being-sexually-exploited>

Department for Education (2014) *Health Working Group Report on Child Sexual Exploitation* <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-working-group-report-on-child-sexual-exploitation>

Reports on CSE

Barnardo's (2011) *Puppet on a string: the urgent need to cut children free from sexual exploitation* http://www.barnardos.org.uk/ctf_puppetonastring_report_final.pdf

Barnardo's (2012) *Tackling child sexual exploitation: Believe in Children: Barnardo's Helping Local Authorities to develop effective responses* http://www.barnardos.org.uk/tackling_child_sexual_exploitation.pdf

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) (June 2011) *Out of Mind, out of Sight: breaking down the barriers to understanding child sexual exploitation* http://ceop.police.uk/Documents/ceopdocs/ceop_thematic_assessment_executive_summary.pdf

Child Line (2012) *Caught in a trap: the impact of grooming in 2012* https://www.nspcc.org.uk/news-and-views/our-news/nspcc-news/12-11-12-grooming-report/caught-in-a-trap-pdf_wdf92793.pdf

Children's Commissioner (November 2012) *'I thought I was the only one. The only one in the world' The Office of the Children's Commissioner inquiry into child sexual exploitation in gangs and groups: Interim Report* http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/content/publications/content_636

Harper, Z. and Scott, S. (2005) *Meeting the needs of sexually exploited young people in London: Summary Report*. Barkingside: Barnardo's [online]. Available at: www.barnardos.org.uk/full_london_report.pdf

Jago, S. and Pearce, J. (2008) *Gathering evidence of the sexual exploitation of children and young people: a scoping exercise*. University of Bedfordshire http://www.beds.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0018/40824/Gathering_evidence_final_report_June_08.pdf

Lillywhite, R. and Skidmore, P. (2006) *Boys are not sexually exploited? A Challenge to Practitioners*. *Child Abuse Review*, Vol. 15, pp.351-361 http://mesmac.co.uk/files/boys_are_not_a_challenge_to.pdf

www.trixonline.co.uk/website/index.htm - brief reports on CSE/Grooming and Gangs (2013-14)

Domestic Violence

Safety plan for teenagers experiencing relationship abuse: support for professionals www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/resourcesforprofessionals/abusiverelationships/safety-plan-guidance_wdf99874.pdf

Further information and local resources

www.paceuk.info/ - **Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation** - comprehensive website containing information and advice about Child Sexual Exploitation. The site is aimed specifically at parents but also contains some information for professionals.