

# SAFEGUARDING

UPDATED SEPT 2024

*'Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility.'* The school's safeguarding and child protection policies have been reviewed in line with the updates to Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024 (KCSiE). You can access relevant policies on our website in the 'Key Information' then 'Safeguarding and Child Protection' tab. Paper copies may be requested from the office. If you have any questions please speak to Mrs Kay Vousden, headteacher and DSL.

## KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION (KCSiE) 2024

Everyone working in schools, in either paid or voluntary roles, must read and understand Part 1 of KCSiE. If you work directly with children (which is most staff) you must also read and understand Annex B. You must be aware of the indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation.

## OTHER KEY DOCUMENTS TO READ AND UNDERSTAND

1. Nursteed Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
2. Staff Behavior Policy
3. Code of Conduct
4. Whistleblowing Policy
5. Online Safety Policy

## KEY PEOPLE

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): Mrs Kay Vousden.

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs): Mrs Amy Pretlove, and Miss Carla Webb.

Nominated Governor for safeguarding and child protection (NG) Mr Andy Geddes: contact details Tel. 01380 721358, [ageddes@nursteed.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:ageddes@nursteed.wilts.sch.uk)

## KEY POINTS

At Nursteed we aim for a culture of listening to our children and showing 'professional curiosity'. If you are working with a child, try to give them chance to chat to you so that you can get to know them and then you may be able to notice if something is wrong.

Through our curriculum we provide opportunities for pupils to develop skills, concepts, attitudes and knowledge that promotes their safety and wellbeing. If you have any concerns about a child, please let the DSL know.

## RECORDING CONCERNS

Staff record concerns electronically, using software called CPOMS, however volunteers are invited to continue to use paper copies of our '*Welfare and Child Protection Concern Form*' which can be found in the staffroom or from

the school office. Please complete one of these if you have any concerns about a child's welfare and then pass it to the DSL or DDSL. If they are not available, please pass it to the admin staff and make it clear that it contains a concern about a child, so that they can pass it to the DSL or DDSL as a matter of urgency. All concerns are stored confidentially and are transferred when a child leaves our school, in line with Wiltshire's Transfer of Documents Guidance.

## SHARING CONCERNS

Confidentiality requires that you share information *only* with the person or people who need to know. Please do not discuss your concerns with other members of staff or anyone out of school.

## LOW LEVEL CONCERNS

Staff and volunteers must act in an appropriate way at all times. If you ever have a concern about the way a member of staff has behaved, please report this to the DSL so that it can be addressed.

## MAKING REFERRALS

You will usually refer any concerns to our DSL or DDSL. However you must know how to make a referral *yourself* in case this is ever necessary (e.g. senior leaders absent). Look at the

'What to do...' flowchart that is always displayed in the staff room and adult toilets. If you are concerned about the imminent safety of a child and are unable to contact a member of staff, you should call the police for urgent concerns or MASH to seek advice or to report a concern: **0300 456 0108**.

## DISCLOSURE

If a concern is prompted by something a child says you must know how to react *there and then*. Please read and understand the section in the policy 'Responding to concerns/disclosures of abuse', noting that you must not:

- take photographs of any injuries.
- postpone or delay the opportunity for the child to talk.
- take notes while the child is speaking or ask the child to write an account.
- try to investigate the allegation.
- promise confidentiality eg say they will keep 'the secret'.
- approach or inform the alleged abuser.

Do not ask leading questions, but you can ask what we call TED questions to gather more information to decide whether there is reason for concern.

- Tell me about that.
- Explain what happened?
- Describe that.

## CHILD ON CHILD ABUSE

'Occasionally, safeguarding allegations may be made against

pupils by others in the school. Members of staff recognise that pupils can abuse other children and such abuse is not tolerated, passed off as 'banter' or seen as 'part of growing up'. Consequently, it is dealt with as a safeguarding concern and not managed through the systems set out in the school's 'Behaviour Policy'. Please note this and raise any concerns about suspected child on child abuse with the DSL without delay.

## PRIVATE FOSTERING

Under certain conditions, a child might be cared for by someone who is not their parent. This may constitute 'private fostering'. By law, parents and carers must notify the local authority of private fostering arrangements. If you learn of such an arrangement please tell the DSL.

## CSE

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is abuse where children are sexually exploited for money, power or status. It doesn't always involve physical contact and can happen online. Anything that makes you concerned this may be happening must be reported to the DSL, e.g. children who:

- Appear with unexplained gifts or new possessions
- Suffer marked changes in emotional well-being
- Go missing for periods of time or regularly come home late
- Regularly miss school.

## FGM (TEACHERS)

If anyone working in school has a concern that a child may have had, or may be about to have FGM, this must be reported to

the DSL immediately. Teachers have a particular duty to report to the police any known cases of female genital mutilation (FGM) in children.

## VOLUNTEERS IN SCHOOL

All parents and others who regularly help in school must complete an enhanced DBS check before they start and provide two references. Those who help with one off events may not be DBS checked, so will be added to the risk assessment for the event and will not be left alone with children.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Two flowcharts are always displayed in the staff room and adult toilets for reference: *'What to do if you are worried a child is being abused or neglected'* *'Allegations against adults – risk of harm to children'*.

## WHISTLEBLOWING

If you're not happy with the way something is been dealt with or you think school practices are unsafe you must escalate your concern. Firstly, speak *again* with the DSL or her deputy. If after that you're still not happy you should use the school's *'Whistleblowing Policy'*. If you ever felt unable to raise the matter within school there is also the NSPCC Helpline:

Tel: 0800 028 0285

Email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

## TRAINING

All staff and volunteers must attend a safeguarding training event annually. Thank you for taking the time to read this summary.