

Policy and Procedure on Child Protection and Safeguarding – children’s services

Hill House School

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92 1. Monitoring and review

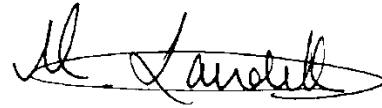
- 93 1.1 The Cambian (the Proprietor) will undertake a formal annual review of this policy for the purpose of
 94 monitoring and of the efficiency with which the related duties have been discharged, by no later than one
 95 year from the date shown below, or earlier if significant changes to the systems and arrangements take
 96 place, or if legislation, regulatory requirements or best practice guidelines so require.
- 97 1.2 The local content of this policy will be subject to continuous monitoring, refinement and audit by the Head
 98 of Service.

99
100

Signed:



Jeremy Wiles
Group Executive Director- Children's Services
Date: August 2021



Kate Landells
Principal
September 2021

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103 **2. Terminology**

 104 2.1. Our aim is to use consistent terminology throughout this policy and all supporting documentation as
 105 follows:

Establishment' or 'Location	This is a generic term which means the Children's Home/school/college.
Individual	This means any child or young person under the age of 18, young adult between the ages of 18 and 25. At Hill House we have children and young people residing at and/or attending our home and school between the ages of 11 and 19.
Head of Service	This is the senior person with overall responsibility for the school and home. At Hill House, this is the Principal who is Kate Landells and the Registered Manager who is Kirsty Marsden (awaiting registration).
Key Worker	Members of staff that have special responsibility for Individuals residing at or attending the Establishment.
Parent, Carer, Guardian	Means parent or person with Parental Responsibility
Regulatory Authority	Regulatory Authority is the generic term used in this policy to describe the independent regulatory body responsible for inspecting and regulating services.
Social Worker	This means the worker allocated to the individual's family. If there is no allocated worker, the Duty Social Worker or Team Manager is responsible.
Safeguarding Authority	Children's Social Care, Safeguarding Partners, Local Safeguarding Adults Board [LSAB] - England, Regional Safeguarding Children's Boards [RSCB] – Wales *whichever apply for the type of service and country
LADO	Local Authority Designated Officer
DSL/DSL Deputy	Designated Safeguarding Lead/Designated Safeguarding Lead Deputy
Placing Authority	Placing Authority means the local authority/agency responsible for placing the child or commissioning the service
Staff	Means full or part-time employees of Cambian, agency workers, bank workers, contract workers and volunteers.
CambianKPI	The online in-house information system which holds data for each site on quality measures.

 106 **3. Definitions and age-related arrangements**

 107 3.1. **Children and Young people are under 18.** Whilst Working together to Safeguard Children (2018) applies
 108 to children and young people until they reach the age of 18, Keeping Children Safe in Education (2021)
 109 now applies to providers of post 16 education as set out in Education and Training (Welfare of Children)
 110 Act 2021.

 111 3.2. **Adults are over the age of 18.** Over 18 year olds are covered by the Local Safeguarding Adult Boards
 112 (LSABs). Government guidance can be gained from the Care Act 2014. An adult at risk of harm or abuse
 113 is any person who has needs for care and support and, is experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect;
 114 and as a result of their particular care and support needs, is unable to protect themselves from either
 115 the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect'. We refer to adult service users in our provision as
 116 **young adults** due to the fact we provide children's services up to the age of 25.

- 117 3.3. The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 came into force in April 2016 and it provides the
118 legal framework for social service provision in Wales. It sets out what must and should be done to
119 safeguard children and adults. At a local level regional safeguarding children's boards co-ordinate
120 and ensure the effectiveness of work to protect and promote the welfare of children.
- 121 3.4. Staff working with young adults aged 18 and over, who receive education, care and support from our
122 children's services division will follow the Adult safeguarding referral process to LSAB/MASH/Regional
123 Safeguarding Children's Boards depending on local arrangements.
- 124 3.5. This policy addresses children and young people up to the age of 18 and those over the age of 18 who
125 attend a day or residential school or college – this might be 38 or 52 weeks' provision. Some children
126 attending school or college live in children's homes or care homes across England and Wales, hence
127 the reason why this policy and procedure is more comprehensive than that of a traditional day school
128 or college. Our safeguarding responsibility extends beyond day education and often covers 24hrs
129 services regulated by various regulators across the UK.
- 130 3.6. Where we make references to schools and colleges, this also includes associated children's or care
131 homes in which children/young people live. Where we make references to children's or care homes,
132 those cover all children's/care homes including those within the children's residential care division.

133 Multi agency working – Safeguarding Partners & Children's Social Care

- 134 1.1. Children Social Care - provide support to children in need of help and protection, including children
135 with disabilities. Services include statutory assessment and care planning for children at risk of
136 significant harm, provision for cared for children and care experienced young people, as well as
137 fostering and adoption services.
- 138 3.7. Schools and colleges have a pivotal role to play in multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.
139 Governing bodies and proprietors should ensure that the school or college contributes to multi-agency
140 working in line with statutory guidance [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#).
- 141 3.8. Locally, the three safeguarding partners (the local authority, a clinical commissioning group for an area
142 within the local authority and the chief officer of police for an area (any part of which falls) within the
143 local authority area made arrangements to work together with appropriate relevant agencies to
144 safeguard and promote the welfare of local children, including identifying and responding to their
145 needs.
- 146 3.9. It is especially important that schools and colleges understand their role in the three safeguarding
147 partner arrangements. Governing bodies, proprietors and their senior leadership teams, especially
148 their DSLs, should make themselves aware of and follow their local arrangements.
- 149 3.10. The three safeguarding partners should make arrangements to allow all schools and colleges in the
150 local area to be fully engaged, involved and included in safeguarding arrangements. It is expected
151 that, locally, the three safeguarding partners will name schools and colleges as relevant agencies and
152 will reach their own conclusions on the best way to achieve the active engagement with individual
153 institutions in a meaningful way.

154 Child protection definition

- 155 3.11. Child protection is part of the safeguarding process. It focuses on protecting individual children
156 identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. This includes child protection procedures which
157 detail how to respond to concerns about a child.

158 Safeguarding definition – Working together to safeguarding children 2018

- 159 3.12. **Safeguarding children and young people** is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children
160 and protect them from harm. It means:
- 161 • Protecting children from abuse and maltreatment,
 - 162 • Preventing harm to children's health or development,
 - 163 • Ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care,
 - 164 • Taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

16 Safeguarding definition – Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021

166 3.13. Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is everyone’s responsibility. Everyone who comes
167 into contact with children and their families has a role to play. In order to fulfil this responsibility
168 effectively, all practitioners should make sure their approach is child-centred. This means that they
169 should consider, at all times, what is in the best interests of the child.

170 3.14. Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this guidance as:
171 • Protecting children from maltreatment,
172 • Preventing impairment of children’s mental and physical health or development,
173 • Ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective
174 care, and
175 • Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

17 Safeguarding Adults

177 3.15. Safeguarding Adults means protecting an adult’s right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.
178 It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of
179 abuse or neglect, while at the same time making sure that the adult’s wellbeing is promoted including, where
180 appropriate, having regard to their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action.

181 3.16. The statutory guidance enshrines the **six principles** of adults safeguarding:
182
183 • Empowerment - presumption of person led decisions and informed consent
184 • Prevention - it is better to take action before harm occurs
185 • Proportionality - proportionate and least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented
186 • Protection - support and representation for those in greatest need
187 • Partnerships - local solutions through services working with their communities
188 • Accountability - accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding
189 3.17. Caretech has Safeguarding Adults at Risk (England) and Safeguarding Adults (Wales) policies and
190 procedures which apply to its Adults’ Services. Both policies can be accessed via Rezume. Services
191 operating in Wales can find their Safeguarding Regional Boards via this hyperlink which provides
192 access to local procedures for each Board <https://safeguardingboard.wales/find-your-board/>.

17 The difference between safeguarding and child protection

194 3.18. In relation to children’s services - in practice safeguarding is the policies and practices that
195 schools/colleges/children’s homes employ to keep children safe and promote their well-being. This
196 means everything from security of the buildings, to the safe recruitment of staff and everything in
197 between. **Appendix 10.** Illustrates Safeguarding in children’s services.

18 Abuse and neglect – child and young person context

199 3.19. In the context of a child/young person abuse and neglect are forms of maltreatment. Somebody may
200 abuse or neglect a child/young person by inflicting harm, or by failing to act to prevent harm.
201 Children/young people may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting, by those
202 known to them or, more rarely, by a stranger. They may be abused by an adult or adults, or another
203 child/young person or children/young people.

204 3.20. Abuse could mean neglect, physical, emotional, sexual abuse, any other including combination of
205 these. The different types of abuse are explained in more detail in **Appendix 4 – Types of abuse -**
206 **children.** The signs that someone could be a victim or an abuser have been explored in **Appendix 6**
207 **and Appendix 7.** Parents, carers and other people can harm children and young people by direct acts
208 and/or failure to provide proper care. It should also be understood that children can also be abused
209 by being sexually exploited, or subject to honour based abuse, domestic violence, forced marriage,
210 female genital mutilation and through online social media. See **Appendix 11 - Further safeguarding**
211 **information – what everyone need to know.**

- 212 3.21. In the context of an adult, abuse is a violation of a person's human and civil rights by another person
213 or persons and may result in significant harm to, or the exploitation of, the person subjected to it.
- 214 3.22. In addition to the types of abuse mentioned in **Appendix 4 – Types of abuse - Children**, there are other
215 forms of abuse in relation to adults explained in more detail in **Appendix 5 – Types of abuse – Adults**.
- 216 3.23. Abuse can happen anywhere: for example, in someone's own home, in a public place, in hospital, in
217 a care home, school or in a college. It can happen when someone lives alone or with others. Anyone
218 can carry out abuse or neglect. Abuse can be intentional or unintentional, it may be a single act or
219 repeated acts.

220 4. Purpose

- 221 4.1. As an organisation we have a clear set of guidelines to make sure we deal with child protection and
222 safeguarding concerns effectively.
- 223 4.2. This policy is aligned with legislation outlined in **Appendix 2 – Legislation and guidance**, and it complies
224 with the statutory and best practice guidance as set out in the **25.10 Staff Safeguarding Information**
225 **Poster**. This policy complies with Hampshire's model safeguarding policy and locally agreed
226 procedures. Printed or electronic copies of the Local Safeguarding Children's Partnerships (LSCP), Local
227 Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) or Regional Safeguarding Children's Boards (Wales) procedures are
228 available in every setting.
- 229 4.3. Policies and procedures for child protection and safeguarding must be undertaken in accordance with
230 the requirements of the local authority in which the establishment is situated.
- 231 4.4. This policy, and supporting information in various accessible forms, is made available to all Individuals,
232 staff and parents associated with Cambian Hill House School to ensure that everyone is clear on
233 procedures for ensuring the protection of children and safeguarding children and young adults.
- 234 4.5. This policy and procedure must be read in conjunction with **GHR 30. Whistleblowing Policy** and **GHR 11.**
235 **Staff Code of Practice and GHR 37. Code of Conduct**.
- 236 4.6. In addition, staff should be aware of and have access to the NSPCC whistle-blowing helpline number
237 **0800 028 0285** and the Cambian Whistleblowing service operated by **EthicsPoint** on **0800 086 9128**.
238 More information about EthicsPoint and how it can be contacted can be found in the Whistleblowing
239 policy.
- 240 4.7. **'When to call the police'** has been produced by the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) to support
241 school and college staff with when it is appropriate to contact the police.
- 242 4.8. This NPCC advice does not cover safeguarding incidents. Where a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer
243 from harm, it is important that a referral to children's social care (and if appropriate the police) is made
244 immediately. Referrals should follow the local referral process.

245 5. Policy

246 Safeguarding culture of the organisation

- 247 5.1. Cambian safeguarding culture can be best described as:
- 248 - **Proactive**, being professionally curious to determine further information in the interests of the child.
249 It is essential that staff exercise professional curiosity at all times as it is likely that signs of any form
250 of abuse including neglect will be identified when dealing with an un-associated incident. Having
251 strong governance and leadership, raising awareness through and enhancing children's and
252 young people's capacity around the risks and their own safety, regular reflective supervision).
- 253 - **Reactive** (taking swift actions, reducing the risk of harm to a minimum, involving other professionals
254 in timely manner, active listening, applying theory in practice in a methodical way).

255 - **Reflective** (understanding ‘how we got there in the first place’, completing a reflective account of
256 events, involving other key professionals in future planning, identifying actions and further changes
257 to be made.

258 5.2. Child Protection and Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility. Everyone working for or visiting our
259 locations has a responsibility to understand and implement this policy and procedure at all times.

260 5.3. All Individuals in our services have a right to feel safe, secure and be protected from harm.

261 5.4. As a provider of specialist education and care services it is imperative that all staff are aware that all
262 Individuals with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and disabilities:

- 263 • Are more likely to be abused or neglected;
- 264 • May display behaviour, mood and/or injury which may relate to possible abuse and not just their
265 SEN or a particular disability.
- 266 • Have a higher risk of peer group isolation.
- 267 • Can be disproportionately impacted by things like bullying without outwardly showing any signs.
- 268 • Experience communication barriers and difficulties in overcoming these barriers.

269 5.5. The most common reason for children or young people being looked after is as a result of
270 abuse/neglect. We will ensure all staff have the skills, knowledge and understanding to help keep
271 children and young people safe.

272 5.6. All staff have a key role in the prevention of harm and an equal responsibility to act on any suspicion
273 or disclosure that may indicate an Individual is at risk of harm, either in the school, college, and care
274 home or in the community, taking into account contextual safeguarding, see **Appendix 11 - Further**
275 **safeguarding information – what everyone need to know** which also contains information related to
276 safeguarding issues related to individual children and young people’s needs.

277 5.7. We have a duty to help Individuals learn how to keep themselves safe and deepen their understanding
278 of safeguarding, through both formal curriculum and informal opportunities.

279 5.8. As an organisation we acknowledge that working in partnership with other agencies protects
280 Individuals and reduces risk and so we will engage in partnership, working throughout the child
281 protection process to safeguard children and will equally work through safeguarding adults’
282 procedures as directed by local procedures.

283 5.9. A comprehensive list of all supporting documentation and related policies, procedures and guidance
284 referred to in this document can be found in separate appendices at the end of this document.

285 Divisional Safeguarding Board

286 5.10. As an organisation Caretech children’s services operates 3 Divisional Safeguarding Boards: Education,
287 Residential Care and Fostering. The main purpose of each board is to ensure that all services
288 across all divisions discharge their responsibilities effectively for assuring safe and secure services
289 for children and young people, and manage all safeguarding risks appropriately within its own
290 workforce, including direct employees and also the contracted workforce (supply
291 workers/agency/contractor and subcontractors). The full terms of reference for each Board is available
292 on [Cambian Point](#).

293 What staff should read and be aware of

294 5.11. KCSIE2021 guidance replaces Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020 updated in January 2021. The
295 changes will come into force from September 2021. The statutory guidance should be read and
296 followed by the Proprietor(s) of independent schools and non-maintained special schools and colleges.
297 In both instances this includes including Senior Leadership Teams.

- 298 5.12. All staff in Caretech/Cambian schools and colleges must read at least [Part one of KCSiE2021](#) guidance
299 and school/colleges should have a record to confirm this has been completed prior to 1st September
300 2021.
- 301 5.13. HTs / Principals and DSL (or a deputy) should read the [whole KCSiE2021 Guidance](#).
- 302 5.14. The guidance also suggests that Governors and Proprietor should read [Annex A](#) which is a condensed
303 version of Part one: 'Annex A can be provided (instead of Part one) to those staff who do not directly
304 work with children, if the governing body or proprietor think it will provide a better basis for those staff
305 to promote the welfare and safeguard children'. The Organisation maintains that all staff including
306 those supporting the school/college with frequent or less frequent visits to the site read at **least Part**
307 **One** so all staff understand their safeguarding responsibilities.
- 308 5.16 The guidance should be read alongside:
- 309 • statutory guidance - [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#)
- 310 • departmental advice - [What to do if you are Worried a Child is Being Abused - Advice for](#)
311 [Practitioners](#) ; and;
- 312 • [Part 5 of KCSiE2021](#) should be read alongside the departmental advice - [Sexual violence and sexual](#)
313 [harassment between children in schools and colleges](#) which contains further details on: what
314 sexual violence and sexual harassment constitutes, important context to be aware of, including;
315 what is consent, power imbalances, and developmental stages, harmful sexual behaviour (HSB),
316 including that a child displaying HSB may be an indication that they are a victim of abuse
317 themselves, related legal responsibilities for schools and colleges, advice on a whole school or
318 college approach to preventing child on child sexual violence and sexual harassment, and more
319 detailed advice on responding to reports of sexual violence and sexual harassment, including
320 safeguarding and supporting both the victim(s) and alleged perpetrator(s).
- 321 5.15. In July 2021 DSL (or a deputy) within Education division, Heads/Principals, Representative from
322 Children's residential care (Senior Managers), Representatives from Business Support Functions and
323 Directors attended KCSiE2021 webinar provided by the Safeguarding Network. Following the webinar,
324 recording of session and the additional learning resources have been shared with the participants to
325 support dissemination to their teams.
- 326 5.16. Caretech/Cambian schools and colleges are members of the Safeguarding Network and should plan
327 how the learning will take place with their staff, organise KCSiE2021 knowledge check (via Safeguarding
328 Network) and ensure that the record of completed knowledge check is stored on MYRUS - the
329 Organisation's Learning and Development platform .
- 330 5.17. The Heads/Principals and DSL should ensure that mechanisms are in place to assist staff to understand
331 and discharge their role and responsibilities as set out in Part one of KCSiE2021 guidance. Schools and
332 colleges and their staff are an important part of the wider safeguarding system for children. This system
333 is described in the statutory guidance [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#).
- 334 5.18. All staff should be aware of systems within their school or college which support safeguarding and
335 these should be explained to them as part of staff induction. This should include the:
- 336 - Child protection and safeguarding policy
- 337 - Behaviour Support policy
- 338 - Anti bullying policy
- 339 - Whistleblowing policy, Code of conduct and Code of Practice policy
- 340 - Missing from Care policy, local procedure for children missing from education
- 341 - Role of the DSL (including the identity of the DSL and any deputies)
- 342 - Have Access to policies and a copy of Part one of KCSiE2021

343 - All staff should be aware of their local early help process and understand their role in it, more
344 information can be found in [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk)
345 ([publishing.service.gov.uk](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk)).

346 5.19. All staff should be aware of the process for making referrals to children's social care and for statutory
347 assessments under the Children Act 1989, especially section 17 (children in need) and section 47 (a
348 child suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm) that may follow a referral, along with the role they
349 might be expected to play in such assessments.

350 5.20. Schools concerned about a child's welfare should refer their concern to local authority children's social
351 care. Where a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer from harm, it is important that a referral to children's
352 social care (and if appropriate the police) is made immediately. Referrals should follow the local referral
353 process. Children's homes/care homes should follow their referral process as per their local procedure
354 and contact Safeguarding Partner/Safeguarding Board as per their local Safeguarding procedure.

355 5.21. All staff should know what to do if a child tells them he/she is being abused, exploited or neglected.
356 Staff should know how to manage the requirement to maintain an appropriate level of confidentiality.
357 This means only involving those who need to be involved, such as the DSL (or a deputy) and children's
358 social care. Staff should never promise a child that they will not tell anyone about a report of any form
359 of abuse, as this may ultimately not be in the best interests of the child.

360 5.22. Staff should **not** assume a colleague, or another professional will take action and share information
361 that might be critical in keeping children safe. They should be mindful that early information sharing is
362 vital for the effective identification, assessment, and allocation of appropriate service provision, whether
363 this is when problems first emerge, or where a child is already known to local authority children's social
364 care (such as a child in need or a child with a protection plan).

365 Whole service approach to Safeguarding

366 5.23. The proprietor and service (school/college/home) leaders should ensure they facilitate a whole school
367 or college approach to safeguarding. This means ensuring safeguarding and child protection are at
368 the forefront and underpin all relevant aspects of process and policy development. Ultimately, all
369 systems, processes and policies should operate with the best interests of the child at their heart.

370 5.24. Where there is a safeguarding concern, the proprietor and service leaders should ensure the child's
371 wishes and feelings are taken into account when determining what action to take and what services
372 to provide. Systems should be in place, and they should be well promoted, easily understood and
373 easily accessible for children to confidently report abuse, knowing their concerns will be treated
374 seriously, and knowing they can safely express their views and give feedback.

375 Children with special educational needs and disabilities or physical health issues

376 5.25. Children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) or certain health conditions can face
377 additional safeguarding challenges. There might be some additional barriers when recognising abuse
378 and neglect in this group of children. These can include:

379 • assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate
380 to the child's/young person's condition without further exploration;

381 • these children/young people being more prone to peer group isolation or bullying
382 (including prejudice-based bullying) than other children/young people;

383 • the potential for children/young people with SEND or certain medical conditions being
384 disproportionately impacted by behaviours such as bullying, without outwardly showing
385 any signs; and

386 • Communication barriers and difficulties in managing or reporting these challenges.

387 5.26. SEN division and other services where children have/may have SEND should consider extra pastoral
388 support and attention for these children, along with ensuring any appropriate support for
389 communication is in place. Further information can be found in the Department's: [SEND Code of](#)
390 [Practice 0 to 25 and Supporting Pupils at School with Medical Conditions](#).

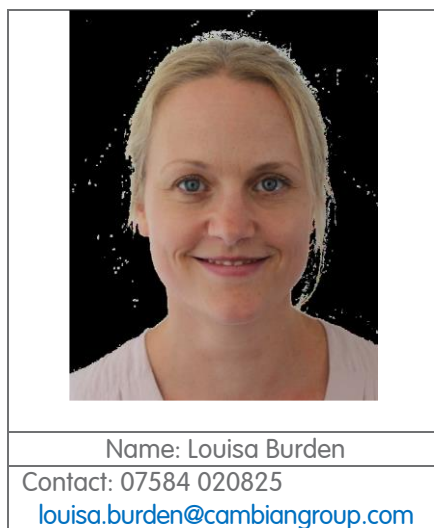
391 **6. Procedure**

392 **Roles and responsibilities**

393 6.1. **All employees, volunteers, consultants, agency staff, sub-contractors, partner organisations and**
 394 **visitors** are obliged to follow this policy and maintain an environment that prevents exploitation and
 395 abuse and which encourages reporting of breaches of this policy using the appropriate procedures.

396 6.2. **Managers at all levels** are responsible for ensuring volunteers, consultants, agency staff, sub-
 397 contractors, partner organisations and visitors are aware of the policy and are supported to implement
 398 and work in accordance with it, as well as creating a management culture that encourages a focus on
 399 safeguarding. They must ensure that they are responsive, acting immediately if they become aware of
 400 any safeguarding concerns, and supportive towards employees or volunteers who complain about
 401 breaches in this policy.




402 6.3. The **DSL** is responsible for handling reports and/or concerns, about the protection of children, young
 403 people and adults, appropriately and in accordance with the procedures that underpin this policy.
 404



405 6.4. **Our DSL** is Louisa Burden who is a senior member of our leadership team. The role of the DSL is to:

- 406 • Ensure this child protection and safeguarding policy and local arrangements are known,
 407 understood and used appropriately by the staff.
- 408 • Act as a source of support, advice and expertise for all staff, provide support to staff to carry out
 409 their safeguarding duties.
- 410 • Act as a point of contact with the Safeguarding Authority.
- 411 • Take lead responsibility for referring and managing safeguarding issues and cases, unless
 412 management of a particular case is passed on to a more senior member of the organisation – see
 413 section of allegations (those meeting harm threshold and those which don't meet LADO criteria).
- 414 • Liaise with staff (especially teachers, pastoral support staff, school nurses, IT Technicians, senior
 415 mental health leads and special educational needs coordinators (SENCOs) or the named person
 416 with oversight for SEN in a college and Senior Mental Health Leads) on matters of safety and
 417 safeguarding and welfare (including online and digital safety) and when deciding whether to make
 418 a referral by liaising with relevant agencies so that children's needs are considered holistically.
- 419 • Liaise with the senior mental health lead and, where available, the Mental Health Support Team,
 420 where safeguarding concerns are linked to mental health.
- 421 • Refer all cases of suspected abuse or allegations of abuse to the Local Safeguarding Authority (child
 422 or adult) and where appropriate - Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO).
- 423 • Liaise with the head teacher or principal (if they are not the DSL themselves) to inform him or her of
 424 issues, especially ongoing enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police
 425 investigations.

- 426 • As required, liaise with the “case manager” and the local authority designated officer(s) (LADO) for
427 child protection concerns in cases which concern a staff member.
 - 428 • Refer cases to the Channel programme where there is a radicalisation concern as required.
 - 429 • Refer cases where a person is dismissed or left due to risk/harm to a child/young person to the
430 Disclosure and Barring Service as required; and
 - 431 • Refer cases where a crime may have been committed to the Police as required.
 - 432 • Act as a source of advice, support and expertise within the location when deciding to make a
433 referral by liaising with relevant agencies.
 - 434 • Help promote educational outcomes by sharing the information about the welfare, safeguarding
435 and child protection issues that children are experiencing, or have experienced, with teachers and
436 school and college leadership staff.
 - 437 • Identify staff safeguarding training needs and organise training for their staff.
 - 438 • Participate in local safeguarding boards when required.
 - 439 • Evaluate and contribute to high standards of safeguarding practice at the location.
 - 440 • Work to ensure that the wellbeing of children and young people is in constant focus and that they
441 are guarded from harm or abuse.
 - 442 • Ensure the child protection and safeguarding policy is available publicly and parents/those with
443 parental responsibility are aware of the fact that referrals about suspected abuse or neglect may
444 be made and the role of the school/college/home in this.
 - 445 • Understands the relevant data protection legislation and regulations, especially The Data Protection
446 Act 2018.
- 447 6.5. More details about the role of the DSL including their availability, management of referrals, information
448 sharing, working with others, raising awareness and other can be found in [KCSIE 2021 Annex C – Role](#)
449 [of the DSL](#).
- 450 6.6. Designated Deputy – will act up in the absence of the DSL and compliment their ongoing work where
451 asked do to so. There are arrangements for covering the role of the DSL when Louisa Burden is
452 unavailable. Our larger provisions such as schools and college will have an internal Safeguarding
453 Team lead by a DSL with a number of deputies where required. Our Designated Deputies are Kate
454 Landells, Kirsty Marsden, and Greg Jagger.
455

		
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- 456 6.7. All staff are required to be aware of and alert to the signs of abuse and neglect. All cases of suspected
457 abuse and neglect should be given the highest priority.
- 458 6.8. All staff will be given a copy of the **Hill House Safeguarding and Child Protection Guidance**

459 6.9. There is **Appendix 3. Child Protection and safeguarding flowchart procedure**, which sets out clear
460 steps to be followed when dealing with particular allegations, incidents or suspected physical injuries.
461 Staff must use the correct forms when recording and managing concerns and allegations regarding
462 the abuse of individuals. Education services must use Behaviour Watch system: Concern/Safeguarding
463 function to record concerns. Where, throughout this policy, references are made to the 'concern form'
464 this means either **25.04 Concern form** which is a word document (part of this policy) or the Behaviour
465 Watch – Concern/Safeguarding functionality where the system is being used.

466 **Information sharing and managing the child protection file**

467 6.10. **The DSL** is responsible for ensuring that child protection files are kept up to date. Information should
468 be kept confidential and stored securely. It is good practice to keep concerns and referrals in a separate
469 child protection file for each child. Schools and colleges should use the Behaviour Watch system -
470 Concern/Safeguarding function to record all concerns and to generate Safeguarding Tracking Packs
471 per child/young person as necessary.

472 6.11. Records should include:

- 473 • a clear and comprehensive summary of the concern;
- 474 • details of how the concern was followed up and resolved;
- 475 • a note of any action taken, decisions reached and the outcome

476 6.12. They should ensure the file is only accessed by those who need to see it and where the file or content
477 within it is shared, this happens in line with information sharing advice as set out in Part one of
478 KCSIE2021. Schools and colleges using Behaviour Watch must set up their system Group purposes in
479 line with Behaviour Watch guidance. Behaviour Watch 'Safeguarding Group' controls who can view
480 and report on Concern/SG slips and 'Not Safeguarding Group' is an opposite Group to restrict who can
481 complete certain sections within the Concern/SG slips.

482 6.13. Where reasonably possible, schools and colleges hold **more than one emergency contact number for**
483 **each pupil or student**. This goes beyond the legal minimum. It is good practice to give the school or
484 college additional options to make contact with a responsible adult when a child missing education is
485 also identified as a welfare and/or safeguarding concern.

486 **LADO referral criteria (KCSIE2021) – meeting the harm threshold**

487 6.14. This is about managing cases of allegations that might indicate a person could pose a risk of harm if
488 they continue to work in regular or close contact with children in their present position, or in any capacity
489 with children in a school or college. This guidance should be followed where it is alleged that anyone
490 working in the school or college that provides education for children under 18 years of age, including
491 supply teachers and volunteers has:

- 492 • A person(s) behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child, and/or,
- 493 • A person(s) possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child, and/or,
- 494 • A person(s) behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she may pose a risk
495 of harm to children; and/or,
- 496 • A person(s) behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work
497 with children

498 6.15. The harm test is explained on the [Disclosure and Barring service website on GOV.UK. Section 31\(9\) of](#)
499 [the Children Act 1989 as amended by the Adoption and Children Act 2002](#).

500 6.16. The last bullet point above includes behaviour that may have happened outside of school or college
501 that might make an individual unsuitable to work with children, this is known as transferable risk.
502 Where appropriate an assessment of transferable risk to children with whom the person works should
503 be undertaken. If in doubt seek advice from the local authority designated officer (LADO).

504 6.17. This above information relate to members of staff, supply staff and volunteers who are currently
505 working in any school or college regardless of whether the school or college is where the alleged abuse
506 took place. Allegations against a teacher who is no longer teaching should be referred to the police.
507 Historical allegations of abuse should also be referred to the police.

508 **Children potentially at greater risk of harm**

509 6.18. Many children and young people in our services (Education and care) organisation have an allocated
510 social worker due to safeguarding or welfare needs.

511 6.19. Children may need this help due to abuse, neglect and complex family circumstances. A child's
512 experiences of adversity and trauma can leave them vulnerable to further harm, as well as
513 educationally disadvantaged in facing barriers to attendance, learning, behaviour and mental health.

514 6.20. Local authorities should share the fact a child has a social worker, and the DSL should hold and use
515 this information so that decisions can be made in the best interests of the child's safety, welfare and
516 educational outcomes. This should be considered as a matter of routine. There are clear powers to
517 share this information under existing duties on both local authorities and schools and colleges to
518 safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

519 6.21. Where children need a social worker, this should inform decisions about safeguarding (for example,
520 responding to unauthorised absence or missing education where there are known safeguarding risks)
521 and about promoting welfare (for example, considering the provision of pastoral and/or academic
522 support, alongside action by statutory services). Schools/colleges must follow missing from education
523 protocol agreed with their LA.

524 **Unexplained body marks**

525 6.22. Whilst Individuals are in our care there may be occasions where minor injuries occur such as bruises,
526 swellings, cuts and scratches which by and large will be as a result of daily activities or for some
527 Individuals as a result of self-injurious behaviour. However, all marks or physical changes must be
528 recorded appropriately using (number to be added) weekly body chart. A Concern form must be
529 completed for all unexplained marks and physical changes and passed to the DSL (or a deputy) along
530 with copies of the last 3 days of Daily Diary notes and Activity Records. Parents/carers and social
531 workers should always be kept informed. Concern log should be updated with concern and relevant
532 reference number provided to concern.

533 6.23. The flowchart provided in - **25.14 Guidance for Investigating Unexplained Body marks** indicates the
534 correct course of action for dealing with unexplained body marks.

535 6.24. The DSL will assign a manager to investigate the concern to ascertain the reason for the marks and if
536 no reasonable explanation can be given the DSL must contact the Safeguarding Authority/LADO for
537 further advice and mutual conclusion as to whether the matter should be treated as a Safeguarding
538 Concern.

539 6.25. If the concern is considered to be a safeguarding concern, then safeguarding tracking pack must be
540 opened and safeguarding process followed.

541 6.26. If the concern is considered not to be a safeguarding concern, then the concern investigation outcome
542 must be shared with social worker and parents.

543 **Disclosure from an Individual**

544 6.27. Staff must follow the process outlined in **Appendix 3. Child Protection and safeguarding flowchart**
545 **procedure.**

- 546 6.28. It is important to note that children/young people may not find it easy to tell staff about their abuse
547 verbally. Children/young people can show signs or act in ways that they hope adults will notice and
548 react to. In some cases, the victim may not make a direct report. For example, a friend may make a
549 report or a member of school or college staff may overhear a conversation that suggests a child has
550 been harmed or a child's/young person's own behaviour might indicate that something is wrong. If
551 staff have any concerns about a child's/young person's welfare, they should act on them immediately
552 rather than wait to be told and follow the procedure described in **Appendix 3. Child Protection and**
553 **safeguarding procedure.**
- 554 6.29. In case of reports of sexual violence and sexual harassment between children and young people, these
555 are extremely complex to manage. It is essential that victims are protected, offered appropriate support
556 and every effort is made to ensure their education and care is not disrupted. It is also important that
557 other children, young people and staff are supported and protected as appropriate.
- 558 6.30. The service's initial response to a report from a child is incredibly important. How the staff respond to
559 a report can encourage or undermine the confidence of future victims of sexual violence and sexual
560 harassment to report or come forward.
- 561 6.31. If the child/young person make a disclosure - **Listen** to what they have to say and take them seriously.
562 Reassure them but do not promise to keep it a secret. Not promising confidentiality at this initial stage
563 as it is very likely a concern will have to be shared further (for example, with the DSL and Safeguarding
564 Authority) to discuss next steps. Staff should only share the report with those people who are necessary
565 in order to progress it. It is important that the victim understands what the next steps will be and who
566 the report will be passed to.
- 567 6.32. **Reflect back**, using the child's language, being non-judgmental, being clear about boundaries and
568 how the report will be progressed, don't ask leading questions and only prompt the child where
569 necessary with open questions – where, when, what, etc. It is important to note that whilst leading
570 questions should be avoided, staff can ask children if they have been harmed and what the nature of
571 that harm was.
- 572 6.33. **Recognise** that a child is likely to disclose to someone they trust: this could be anyone on the school or
573 college staff. It is important that the person to whom the child discloses recognises that the child has
574 placed them in a position of trust. They should be supportive and respectful of the child.
- 575 6.34. **Consider** the best way of making a record of the report. Best practice is to wait until the end of the
576 report and immediately write up a thorough summary. This allows the staff member to devote their full
577 attention to the child and to listen to what they are saying. It may be appropriate to make notes during
578 the report (especially if a second member of staff is present). However, if making notes, staff should be
579 conscious of the need to remain engaged with the child and not appear distracted by the note taking.
580 Either way, it is essential a written record is made using Concern form which is part of this policy. The
581 written record must be fully completed within maximum of 24 hours of the disclosure, but verbal report
582 to the DSL must be completed within an hour from the moment of the disclosure being made.
- 583 6.35. Only recording the facts as the child presents them. The notes should not reflect the personal opinion
584 of the note taker. Staff should be aware that notes of such reports could become part of a statutory
585 assessment by Safeguarding Authority and/or part of a criminal investigation.
- 586 6.36. In cases where either a child/young person informs the staff that an act of FGM – however described
587 – has been carried out on her, or where the staff observes physical signs on a girl appearing to show
588 that an act of FGM has been carried out these situations, the DSL must be informed, who will trigger
589 child protection/safeguarding procedures described in this policy and contact the Police. If a
590 child/young person is at immediate risk – the Police (999) must be contacted immediately. If a
591 child/young person required medical attention follow steps identified in '**Setting priorities**' section
592 below.
- 593 6.37. Remember, **do not**:
- 594
 - Investigate the incident
- 595
 - Ask leading questions
- 596
 - Get the young person to repeat the disclosure over and over

- 597 • Make assumptions or offer alternative explanations
598 • Approach/inform the alleged abuser
- 599 6.38. The procedure for reporting concern is described in **Appendix 8. DSL/DSL Deputy – actions, reporting
600 and recording procedure.**
- 601 6.39. All staff know that they can contact the Local Authority direct should that be necessary. Where a
602 safeguarding issue is raised for a young adult, the matter should be dealt with by the Local
603 Safeguarding Adult Board. Where someone is over 18 but still receiving children’s services, the matter
604 should be dealt with by the local Safeguarding Adult Board.
- 605 6.40. For allegation made against a staff member or senior managers/directors follow relevant allegations
606 procedures described later on in this policy.
- 607 6.41. Where contact is made with the Local Authority in which Cambian Hill House School is geographically
608 located, contact will also be made with the individual’s own Local Authority and also the child/young
609 person’s social worker. This will be completed by one of the members of the school/college/home’s
610 safeguarding team.
- 611 6.42. In the case of serious harm, and/or the Individual is in immediate danger the local Police should be
612 informed immediately a and they can take immediate protective action as necessary.
- 613 6.43. If a member of staff feels their concerns are not being taken seriously then they are to inform a more
614 senior manager, a Director of the Company or contact Ofsted/CQC/CIW/Estyn, the local safeguarding
615 boards, the police or the **Whistleblowing Hotline – on 0800 086 9128.**

Risk Assessment

- 617 6.44. When there has been a report of sexual violence, the DSL (or a deputy) should make an immediate risk
618 and needs assessment. Where there has been a report of sexual harassment, the need for a risk
619 assessment should be considered on a case-by-case basis. The risk and needs assessment should
620 consider:
- 621 • the victim, especially their protection and support,
622 • whether there may have been other victims,
623 • the alleged perpetrator(s); and
624 • all the other children, (and, if appropriate, adult students and staff) at the school or
625 college especially, and any actions that are appropriate to protect them from the alleged
626 perpetrator(s), or from future harms.
- 627 6.45. Risk assessments should be recorded (written or electronic) and should be kept under review. At all
628 times, staff should be actively considering the risks posed to all their pupils and students and put
629 adequate measures in place to protect them and keep them safe. The DSL (or a deputy) should ensure
630 they are engaging with Safeguarding Authority and specialist services as required. Where there has
631 been a report of sexual violence, it is likely that professional risk assessments by social workers and or
632 sexual violence specialists will be required. The above school or college risk assessment is not intended
633 to replace the detailed assessments of expert professionals. Any such professional assessments
634 should be used to inform the school’s or college’s approach to supporting and protecting their pupils
635 and students and updating their own risk assessment.

Following a report - what to consider

- 637 6.46. Important considerations will include:
- 638 • the wishes of the victim in terms of how they want to proceed. This is especially important in
639 the context of sexual violence and sexual harassment. Victims should be given as much
640 control as is reasonably possible over decisions regarding how any investigation will be
641 progressed and any support that they will be offered. This will however need to be balanced
642 with the school’s or college’s duty and responsibilities to protect other children;

- 643 • the nature of the alleged incident(s), including whether a crime may have been
644 committed and/or whether HSB has been displayed;
 - 645 • the ages of the children involved;
 - 646 • the developmental stages of the children involved;
 - 647 • any power imbalance between the children. For example, is the alleged perpetrator(s)
648 significantly older, more mature or more confident? Does the victim have a disability or
649 learning difficulty?
 - 650 • if the alleged incident is a one-off or a sustained pattern of abuse (sexual abuse can be
651 accompanied by other forms of abuse and a sustained pattern may not just be of a
652 sexual nature);
 - 653 • that sexual violence and sexual harassment can take place within intimate personal
654 relationships between peers;
 - 655 • are there ongoing risks to the victim, other children, adult students or school or college
656 staff; and
 - 657 • other related issues and wider context, including any links to child sexual exploitation
658 and child criminal exploitation.
- 659 6.47. As always when concerned about the welfare of a child, all staff should act in the best interests of the
660 child. In all cases, schools and colleges should follow general safeguarding principles as set out
661 throughout this guidance. Immediate consideration should be given as to how best to support and
662 protect the victim and the alleged perpetrator(s) (and any other children involved/impacted).

663 Options to manage the report

- 664 6.48. It is important that schools and colleges consider every report on a case-by-case basis. When to inform
665 the alleged perpetrator(s) will be a decision that should be carefully considered. Where a report is going
666 to be made to Safeguarding Authority and/or the police, then, as a general rule, the school or college
667 should speak to the relevant agency and discuss next steps and how the alleged perpetrator(s) will be
668 informed of the allegations. However, as per general safeguarding principles, this does not and should
669 not stop the school or college taking immediate action to safeguard their children, where required.
- 670 6.49. There are four likely scenarios for schools and colleges to consider when managing any reports of
671 sexual violence and/or sexual harassment. It will be important in all scenarios that decisions and
672 actions are regularly reviewed and that relevant policies are updated to reflect lessons learnt. It is
673 particularly important to look out for potential patterns of concerning, problematic or inappropriate
674 behaviour. Where a pattern is identified, the school or college should decide on a course of action.
675 Consideration should be given as to whether there are wider cultural issues within the school or college
676 that enabled the inappropriate behaviour to occur and where appropriate extra teaching time and/or
677 staff training could be delivered to minimise the risk of it happening again. The four scenarios are:
- 678 • **Manage internally;** In some cases of sexual harassment, for example, one-off incidents,
679 the school or college may take the view that the children concerned are not in need of
680 early help or that referrals need to be made to statutory services and that it would be
681 appropriate to handle the incident internally, perhaps through utilising their behaviour
682 policy and by providing pastoral support.
 - 683 • **Early help:** In line with the above, the school or college may decide that the children
684 involved do not require referral to statutory services but may benefit from early help. Early
685 help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's
686 life. Providing early help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than
687 reacting later. Early help can be particularly useful to address non-violent HSB and may
688 prevent escalation of sexual violence. It is particularly important that the DSL (and their
689 deputies) know what the Early Help process is and how and where to access support.

- 690
- 691
- 692
- 693
- 694
- 695
- **Referrals to Safeguarding Authority** - where a child has been harmed, is at risk of harm, or is in immediate danger, schools and colleges should make a referral to the local Safeguarding Authority. At the point of referral, schools and colleges will generally inform parents or carers, unless there are compelling reasons not to (if informing a parent or carer is going to put the child at additional risk). Any such decision should be made with the support of children’s social care.
- 696
- **Reporting to the Police** - any report to the police will generally be in parallel with a referral to children’s social care (as above. It is important that the DSL and their deputies) are clear about the local process for referrals and follow that process.
- 697
- 698
- 699 6.50. More information about the four areas listed above, considering bail conditions, managing any delays
- 700 in the criminal process and the end of criminal process can be found in [KCSIE2021 Part 5 para 452.](#)

701 **Unsubstantiated, unfounded, false or malicious reports**

- 702 6.51. If a report is determined to be unsubstantiated, unfounded, false or malicious, the DSL should consider
- 703 whether the child and/or the person who has made the allegation is in need of help or may have been
- 704 abused by someone else and this is a cry for help. In such circumstances, a referral to Safeguarding
- 705 authority may be appropriate.
- 706 6.52. If a report is shown to be deliberately invented or malicious, the school or college, should consider
- 707 whether any disciplinary action is appropriate against the individual who made it as per their own
- 708 behaviour policy.

709 **Safeguarding and supporting the victim**

- 710 6.53. The needs and wishes of the victim should be paramount (along with protecting the child) in any
- 711 response. It is important they feel in as much control of the process as is reasonably possible. Wherever
- 712 possible, the victim, if they wish, should be able to continue in their normal routine. Overall, the priority
- 713 should be to make the victim’s daily experience as normal as possible, so that the school or college is
- 714 a safe space for them.
- 715 6.54. Consider the age and the developmental stage of the victim, the nature of the allegations and the
- 716 potential risk of further abuse. Schools and colleges should be aware that, by the very nature of sexual
- 717 violence and sexual harassment, a power imbalance is likely to have been created between the victim
- 718 and alleged perpetrator(s).
- 719 6.55. The victim should never be made to feel that they are the problem for making a report or made to feel
- 720 ashamed for making a report. This has been made clear throughout this policy and procedure.
- 721 6.56. Consider the proportionality of the response. Support should be tailored on a case-by-case basis. The
- 722 support required regarding a one-off incident of sexualised name-calling is likely to be vastly different
- 723 from that for a report of rape.
- 724 6.57. Services should be aware that sexual assault can result in a range of health needs, including physical,
- 725 mental, and sexual health problems and unwanted pregnancy. Children and young people that have
- 726 a health need arising from sexual assault or abuse can access specialist NHS support from a Sexual
- 727 Assault Referral Centre (SARC). SARCs offer confidential and non-judgemental support to victims and
- 728 survivors of sexual assault and abuse. They provide medical, practical, and emotional care and advice
- 729 to all children and adults, regardless of when the incident occurred.
- 730 6.58. More information about Early help, Children and young people’s Independent Sexual Violence Advisors
- 731 and ChISVAs services (where available), CAMHS and other can be found in [KCSIE 2021 Part 5 para 456.](#)

732 **Safeguarding and supporting the alleged perpetrator(s)**

- 733 6.59. Advice about safeguarding and supporting the alleged perpetrators is also set out in departmental
- 734 advice: [Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children at schools and colleges.](#) The
- 735 following principles are based on effective safeguarding practice and should help shape any decisions
- 736 regarding safeguarding and supporting the alleged perpetrator(s):

- 737 • The school or college will have a difficult balancing act to consider. On the one hand,
738 they need to safeguard the victim (and the wider pupil/student body) and on the other
739 hand provide the alleged perpetrator(s) with an education, safeguarding support as
740 appropriate and implement any disciplinary sanctions. Taking disciplinary action and still
741 providing appropriate support are not mutually exclusive actions. They can, and should,
742 occur at the same time if necessary.
- 743 • Consider the age and the developmental stage of the alleged perpetrator(s), the nature
744 of the allegations and frequency of allegations. Any child will likely experience stress as
745 a result of being the subject of allegations and/or negative reactions by their peers to the
746 allegations against them.
- 747 • Consider the proportionality of the response. Support (and sanctions) should be
748 considered on a case-by-case basis. The alleged perpetrator(s) may potentially have
749 unmet needs (in some cases these may be considerable) as well as potentially posing a
750 risk of harm to other children. HSB in young children may be (and often are) a
751 symptom of either their own abuse or exposure to abusive practices and or materials.
- 752 • It is important that the perpetrator(s) is/are also given the correct support to try to stop
753 them re-offending and to address any underlying trauma that may be causing this
754 behaviour. Addressing inappropriate behaviour can be an important intervention that
755 helps prevent problematic, abusive and/or violent behaviour in the future.
- 756 • Advice on behaviour and discipline in schools is clear that teachers can discipline pupils
757 whose conduct falls below the standard which could be reasonably expected of them. If
758 the perpetrator(s) is to be excluded the decision must be lawful, reasonable and fair.

759 6.60. More information in relation to this section can be found in [KCSIE 2021 Part 5 para 464](#).

760 Setting priorities

- 761 6.61. The priority, at all stages throughout the child protection or safeguarding process, is the interests and
762 safety of the individual.
- 763 6.62. Where appropriate, any concerns will be discussed with the Individual's family / carers and where
764 possible their agreement will be sought to making a referral to the Local Authority. However, where
765 there is a conflict of interests between the Individual and parent/guardian, the interests of the Individual
766 must take priority and Cambian Hill House School reserves the right to contact the Individual's local
767 authority, Social Care or the Police, without notifying parents/carers if this is in their best interests.
- 768 6.63. If an urgent medical attention or advice is required and GP/speciality doctor is not available, staff MUST
769 use the NHS 111 service. NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- 770 6.64. If the situation is life - threatening, staff must call 999 immediately and ask for an ambulance.
771 Alternatively, if it's assessed to be in the best interest of the child/young person - the DSL MUST take
772 the Individual to the Accident and Emergency Unit at the nearest hospital, having first notified the Local
773 Authority/Police, remembering that every reasonable effort should be made to inform the
774 parents/carers as soon as possible.
- 775 6.65. If the suspected abuse is sexual, then the medical professional must determine if the medical
776 examination should be delayed until the Local Authority and the Police can liaise with the hospital.
777 There is a possibility that the needs of the young person are such that medical attention is the priority,
778 in such case medical professional's judgment must be followed. There must at all times be an
779 appropriate adult (parent guardian or a social worker) with the individual whether from the Individual's
780 care home/school/college, the Local Authority or the Police, if the parents/carers are not included. This
781 section must be read in conjunction with our **29. Child Sexual Exploitation policy**.
- 782 6.66. Cambian will provide an advocate to each Individual where appropriate, if they are unable to speak
783 for themselves without support or an Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA) if subject to MCA.
784 Further information on MCA are available in our **13. Mental Capacity and Consent policy**.

785 Allegation of abuse by one or more Individuals on another Individual

786 6.67. All Individuals involved, whether perpetrator or victim, are treated as being 'at risk'. The procedures
787 for dealing with such abuse will be followed, where there is 'reasonable cause to suspect that an
788 Individual is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm'. DSL must refer peer on peer abuse to a
789 Safeguarding Authority, local Authority and Regulator.

79 Allegation of abuse of an Individual who is not registered at our provision – staff involved

791 6.68. If we were given information that suggested that someone who does not reside at or attends our
792 location has been abused by one of our members of staff, the DSL would immediately report this to
793 the Local Authority and LADO. The Head of Service must be kept informed and HR Business Partner
794 consulted. Should the staff member be involved we would then formally advise the member of staff of
795 the allegation, making it clear that we would not play any part in the investigatory process. The
796 employee would be advised of the possibility of facing suspension, re-assignment to other duties (to
797 manage any perceived risks) etc., in exactly the same way as if the allegation had involved an Individual
798 at our home/school/college. However, HR Business Partner must be consulted before any action is
799 taken. If the allegation is subsequently proved to be unfounded, he or she would be given full support
800 in resuming their career. Should we be asked by LADO/Safeguarding authority to be involved in any
801 potential investigations or parts of it, a HR Business Partner will have to be consulted first. At this point
802 an assessment will need to be made to identify what detail (if any) can be disclosed to a member of
803 staff involved.

80 Allegation of abuse of an Individual who is not registered at our provision- third party involved

805 6.69. If we were given information that suggested that someone who does not reside at or attends our
806 location has been abused by a third party (known or unknown to the provision), the DSL would
807 immediately report this to the Local Authority and Police. The Head of Service must be kept informed.
808 DSL will follow advice provided by the leading agency and report back to the Head of Service who will
809 explore any associated risk/s in relation to the provision.

81 Allegations against staff

811 6.70. All allegations must be reported to the DSL (Louisa Burden) or in their absence to a DSL Deputy – see
812 your local Safeguarding poster. Also, where appropriate - HR Business Partner must be consulted.

813 6.71. When an allegation is made against a member of staff, set procedures must be followed, see the
814 flow chart in **Appendix 3. Child Protection and safeguarding procedure (Flow chart)**.

815 6.72. Staff MUST act on every allegation, all repeated allegations must be treated as new and carefully
816 assessed and investigated. Staff who are the subject of an allegation have the right to have their case
817 dealt with fairly, quickly and consistently and to be kept informed of its progress.

818 6.73. Staff should refer to the **25.08.Guidance for staff who have the allegation made against them** provided
819 for what to do in the event an allegation is made against them.

82 Allegations against staff in Education

821 6.74. The staff in this section include teachers and TAs, supply teachers, other staff, volunteers and
822 contractors. KCSiE2021 splits the type of allegations into two groups:

- 823 • Allegations that may meet the harms threshold (see **LADO referral criteria (KCSiE2021) –**
824 **meeting the harm threshold** of this policy)
- 825 • Allegation/concerns that do not meet the harms threshold – referred in the guidance and
826 this policy as 'low level concerns'.

827 6.75. This is about managing cases of allegations that might indicate a person would pose a risk of harm if
828 they continue to work in regular or close contact with children in their present position, or in any capacity
829 with children in a school or college. The KCSiE2021 guidance should be followed where allegations are
830 made against anyone working in the school or college that provides education for children under 18
831 years of age, including supply teachers and volunteers.

- 832 6.76. The information above relate to members of staff, supply staff, volunteers and contractors who are
833 currently working in any school or college regardless of whether the school or college is where the
834 alleged abuse took place. In Education allegations against people listed above should be referred to
835 the Head/Principal who is often the DSL, however where the Head/Principal is not the DSL, allegations
836 against staff including supply, volunteers and contractors must be referred to the Head/Principal. This
837 is because the concern/allegation may align with other performance or personal related issues the
838 Head/Principal might already be aware of, whereas the DSL may not be. The Principal/Head should
839 ensure the DSL is briefed as appropriate and will then decide who the case should be led by – the DSL
840 or themselves. Allegations against a teacher who is no longer teaching should be referred **to the police**
841 and HR Business Partner advised.
- 842 6.77. Where an adult makes an allegation to a school or college that they were abused as a child, the
843 individual should be advised to report the allegation to the police. Non recent allegations made by a
844 child, should be reported to the LADO in line with the local authority's procedures for dealing with non-
845 recent allegations. The LADO will coordinate with children social care and the police. Abuse can be
846 reported no matter how long ago it happened.
- 847 6.78. Where a teacher's employer, including an agency, dismisses or ceases to use the services of a teacher
848 because of serious misconduct, or might have dismissed them or ceased to use their services had they
849 not left first, they must consider whether to refer the case to the Secretary of State (via the Teaching
850 Regulation Agency). Details about how to make a referral to the Teaching Regulation Agency can be
851 found on GOV.UK.

8 Allegations against supply teachers and all workers supplied by agency

- 853 6.79. In some circumstances schools and colleges will have to consider an allegation against an individual
854 not directly employed by them, where its disciplinary procedures do not fully apply because agencies
855 will have their own policies and procedures; for example, supply teachers or contracted staff provided
856 by an employment agency or business.
- 857 6.80. Whilst The Organisation's schools and colleges are not the employer of supply teachers, they should
858 ensure allegations are dealt with properly. In no circumstances should a school or college decide to
859 cease to use a supply teacher due to safeguarding concerns, without finding out the facts and liaising
860 with the LADO to determine a suitable outcome. Schools and colleges must also consult HR Business
861 Partner who may advise further. Governing bodies and proprietors should discuss with the supply
862 agency or agencies where the supply teacher is working across a number of schools of colleges,
863 whether it is appropriate to suspend the supply teacher, or redeploy them to another part of the school
864 or college, whilst they carry out their investigation.
- 865 6.81. Agencies should be fully involved and co-operate with any enquiries from the LADO, police and/or
866 children's social care. The school or college will usually take the lead because agencies do not have
867 direct access to children or other school of college staff, so they will not be able to collect the facts when
868 an allegation is made, nor do they have all the relevant information required by the LADO as part of
869 the referral process.
- 870 6.82. When using a supply agency, schools and colleges should inform the agency of its process for
871 managing allegations but also take account of the agency's policies and investigatory process and
872 their duty to refer to the DBS as personnel suppliers. This should include inviting the agency's human
873 resource manager or equivalent to meetings and keeping them up to date with information about its
874 policies. It is important we not blur the lines of employment, so in case there is any confusion, HR
875 Business Partner should be consulted.
876

8 Allegations against the DSL (Principal or Registered Manager or DSL as a substantive role)

- 878 6.83. All allegations must be reported to:
- 879 - Education division: Regional Education Lead (Simon Brown), unless within residential education
880 Registered Manager is the DSL in which case the matter will be referred to the Head/ Principal. For
881 the DSL fulfilling the role as their substantive role, all allegations must be reported to the
882 Principal/Head.

- 883 - Children’s residential care division: Regional Manager (Hayley Lukaszewski), unless Regional
884 Manager is the DSL in which case the matter will be referred to the Managing Director.
- 885 6.84. Depending on the division and who is the service DSL, people notified of allegation made (see above)
886 will then refer the matter to the LADO and notify their line manager:
- 887 - Education division: Regional Education Lead (Simon Brown) or
- 888 - Managing Director for Education (Andrew Sutherland). In Independent schools – the Proprietor must
889 also be notified.
- 890 - Children’s residential care division: Managing Director (Andrew Sutherland)
- 891 6.85. The person who referred the matter to the LADO in line with agreed course of action will make a
892 decision about who will lead the case including management investigation – should the allegation
893 threshold be met. The appropriate HR Business Partner should be notified, so they can advise and
894 where required - support the investigation.
- 895 6.86. In residential education associated with children’s homes/care homes the Responsible/Nominated
896 Individual MUST also be notified.
- 897 6.87. Services using Behaviour Watch system – allegations made against the DSL or DSL Deputy who have
898 full access to the system including Concern/Safeguarding function, should not be initially entered to
899 the system, but recoded on the policy associated Concern form and Safeguarding Tracking Pack as
900 they would have been prior to implementation of the Behaviour Watch. This is to ensure that no one,
901 including those who are part of the service’s Safeguarding Team are able to see the details of their
902 own case which could have a detrimental impact on the investigation itself and the outcome of it.
903 However, once the case has been concluded, a decision should then be made about whether or not
904 the detail related to the case should be retrospectively entered in to Behaviour Watch or kept in the
905 original format. Such a decision should be made by the Case Manager, Managing Director and a
906 member of HR Team. Should a decision be made to keep it in the original format, a Concern/SG slip in
907 the Behaviour Watch must still be retrospectively opened and a note added to reflect that there was
908 an allegation made against the DSL/DSL Deputy but without specifying any further detail about the
909 character of the allegation. Instead a reference number of the case and location of the pack related to
910 the case is provided. This action will ensure that the case has been captured in the system which will
911 then allow the service to generate a log with accurate numbers of concerns and safeguarding cases
912 for the service.

Allegations against the Regional Manager/other Regional staff

- 914 6.88. Any allegations linked to the site, must be reported to the DSL of the site (In Education – the
915 Head/Principal) who will make the initial referral to the LADO. Following this, the allegation should be
916 passed to the identified senior person to follow through with the LADO and subsequently act in line
917 with agreed course of action. This means that the DSL will retain the responsibility to report the initial
918 concern, but will have no further part in the process regarding gathering any information or, should it
919 be required, in the actual investigation in relation to a senior member.
- 920 6.89. Allegations not linked to specific site must be reported to Managing Director who will refer the matter
921 to the LADO and act in line with agreed course of action.
- 922 6.90. The appropriate HR Business Partner should be notified, so they can advise and where required -
923 support the investigation.

Allegations against the Managing Director

- 925 6.91. Any allegations linked to the site, must be reported to the DSL of the site (In Education – the
926 Head/Principal) who will make the initial referral to the LADO. Following this, the allegation should be
927 passed to the identified senior person to follow through with the LADO and subsequently act in line
928 with agreed course of action. This means that the DSL will retain the responsibility to report the initial
929 concern, but will have no further part in the process regarding gathering any information or, should it
930 be required, in the actual investigation in relation to a senior member.

931 6.92. Allegations not linked to specific site must be reported to Chief Operating Officer who will refer the
932 matter to the LADO and act in line with agreed course of action.

933 6.93. The Head of HR should be notified, so they can advise and where required - support the investigation.

9.2 Allegations against any other Senior Leader

935 6.94. Any allegations linked to the site, must be reported to the DSL of the site (In Education – the
936 Head/Principal) who will make the initial referral to the LADO. Following this, the allegation should be
937 passed to the identified senior person to follow through with the LADO and subsequently act in line
938 with agreed course of action. This means that the DSL will retain the responsibility to report the initial
939 concern, but will have no further part in the process regarding gathering any information or, should it
940 be required, in the actual investigation in relation to a senior member.

941 6.95. Allegations not linked to specific site must be reported to the person's (whom allegation is made
942 against) line manager who will refer the matter to the LADO and act in line with agreed course of action.

943 6.96. The Head of HR should be notified, so they can advise and where required - support the investigation.

9.3 Allegations against the Chief Operating Officer / Head of Children's Services

945 6.97. Any allegations linked to the site, must be reported to the DSL of the site (In Education – the
946 Head/Principal) who will make the initial referral to the LADO. Following this, the allegation should be
947 passed to the identified senior person to follow through with the LADO and subsequently act in line
948 with agreed course of action. This means that the DSL will retain the responsibility to report the initial
949 concern, but will have no further part in the process regarding gathering any information or, should it
950 be required, in the actual investigation in relation to a senior member.

951 6.98. Allegations not linked to specific site must be reported to the Chair of the Care Governance Committee
952 - Moira Livingstone - who will refer the matter to the LADO and act in line with agreed course of action.

953 6.99. The Head of HR should be notified, so they can advise and where required - support the investigation.

9.4 Allegations against the Chief Executive Officer

955 6.100. Any allegations linked to the site, must be reported to the DSL of the site (In Education – the
956 Head/Principal) who will make the initial referral to the LADO. Following this, the allegation should be
957 passed to the identified senior person to follow through with the LADO and subsequently act in line
958 with agreed course of action. This means that the DSL will retain the responsibility to report the initial
959 concern, but will have no further part in the process regarding gathering any information or, should it
960 be required, in the actual investigation in relation to a senior member.

961 6.101. Allegations not linked to a specific site must be reported to the Chair of the Care Governance Committee
962 - Moira Livingstone who will refer the matter to the LADO and act in line with agreed course of action.

963 6.102. The Head of HR should be notified, so they can advise and where required - support the investigation.

9.5 Low level concerns

965 6.103. As part of their whole school approach to safeguarding, schools and colleges should ensure that they
966 promote an open and transparent culture in which all concerns about all adults working in or on behalf
967 of the school or college (including supply teachers, volunteers and contractors) are dealt with promptly
968 and appropriately.

969 6.104. Creating a culture in which all concerns about adults (including allegations that do not meet the harms
970 threshold are shared responsibly and with the right person, recorded and dealt with appropriately, is
971 critical. If implemented correctly, this should encourage an open and transparent culture; enable
972 schools and colleges to identify concerning, problematic or inappropriate behaviour early; minimise
973 the risk of abuse; and ensure that adults working in or on behalf of the school or college are clear
974 about professional boundaries and act within these boundaries, and in accordance with the ethos and
975 values of the institution.

- 976 6.105. The term 'low-level' concern does not mean that it is insignificant, it means that the behaviour towards
977 a child does not meet the threshold set out in **LADO referral criteria (KCSIE2021) – meeting the harm**
978 **threshold section. If there is any doubt about whether or not the concern meets LADO referral criteria**
979 **– LADO should be contacted and advice sought.**
- 980 6.106. A low-level concern is any concern – no matter how small, and even if no more than causing a sense
981 of unease or a 'nagging doubt' - that an adult working in or on behalf of the school or college may
982 have acted in a way that:
- 983 • is inconsistent with the staff code of conduct, including inappropriate conduct outside of
984 work; and
 - 985 • does not meet the allegations threshold or is otherwise not considered serious enough
986 to consider a referral to the LADO
- 987 6.107. Examples of such behaviour could include, but are not limited to:
- 988 • being over friendly with children;
 - 989 • having favourites;
 - 990 • taking photographs of children on their mobile phone (this depend on the circumstances,
991 so it would require DSL assessment and LADO advice)
 - 992 • engaging with a child on a one-to-one basis in a secluded area or behind a closed door;
993 or,
 - 994 • using inappropriate sexualised, intimidating or offensive language.
- 995 6.108. Such behaviour can exist on a wide spectrum, from the inadvertent or thoughtless, or behaviour that
996 may look to be inappropriate, but might not be in specific circumstances, through to that which is
997 ultimately intended to enable abuse.
- 998 6.109. It is crucial that any such concerns, including those which do not meet the harm threshold (see [Part](#)
999 [Four - Section one](#)), are shared responsibly and with the right person, and recorded and dealt with
1000 appropriately. Ensuring they are dealt with effectively should also protect those working in or on behalf
1001 of schools and colleges from potential false allegations or misunderstandings.

1002 **The initial response to allegation**

- 1003 6.110. Where the school or college identifies a child/young person has been harmed, that there may be an
1004 immediate risk of harm to a child/young person or if the situation is an emergency, they should contact
1005 the Safeguarding Authority and as appropriate the police immediately as per the processes. There are
1006 two aspects to consider when an allegation is made:
- 1007 • **Looking after the welfare of the child** - the DSL is responsible for ensuring that the child
1008 is not at risk and referring cases of suspected abuse to the local authority children's social
1009 care as described in Part one of this guidance.
 - 1010 • **Investigating and supporting the person subject to the allegation** - the case manager
1011 should discuss with the LADO, the nature, content and context of the allegation, and
1012 agree a course of action.
- 1013 6.111. When dealing with allegations, schools and colleges should:
- 1014 • apply common sense and judgement
 - 1015 • deal with allegations quickly, fairly and consistently; and
 - 1016 • provide effective protection for the child and support the person subject to the allegation.

- 1017 6.112. Schools and colleges should ensure they understand the local authority arrangements for managing
 1018 allegations, including the contact details and what information the LADO will require when an
 1019 allegation is made. Before contacting the LADO, schools and colleges should conduct basic enquiries
 1020 in line with local procedures to establish the facts to help them determine whether there is any
 1021 foundation to the allegation, being careful not to jeopardise any future police investigation. For
 1022 example:
- 1023 • was the individual in the school or college at the time of the allegations?
 - 1024 • did the individual, or could they have, come into contact with the child?
 - 1025 • are there any witnesses? and,
 - 1026 • was there any CCTV footage?
- 1027 6.113. These are just a sample of example questions. Services should be familiar with what initial information
 1028 the LADO will require. This information can be found in local policy and procedural guidance provided
 1029 by the LADO service. Any enquiries of this nature must be carefully recorded and dated so they can be
 1030 shared with the HR department to support any investigation.
- 1031 6.114. When to inform the individual of the allegation should be considered carefully on a case by case basis,
 1032 with guidance as required from the LADO, and if appropriate Safeguarding Authority and the police.
- 1033 6.115. If there is cause to suspect a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer significant harm, a strategy discussion
 1034 involving the police and/or children’s social care will be convened in accordance with the statutory
 1035 guidance [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#).
- 1036 6.116. Where it is clear that an investigation by the police or Safeguarding Authority is unnecessary, or the
 1037 strategy discussion or initial assessment decides that is the case, the LADO should discuss the next
 1038 steps with the case manager (A ‘case manager’ will be the person leading any investigation. This will be
 1039 either the DSL/DSL Deputy which is often the Principal/Head/Registered Manager or, where the case
 1040 manager is the subject of an allegation, it will be the Proprietor or a Director nominated by them). A
 1041 LADO should be informed who will lead investigation to ensure there is no conflict of interest or any
 1042 other concerns related to the choice of the case manager.

No Further Action

- 1044 6.117. Where the initial discussion initial discussion leads to no further action, the case manager and the
 1045 LADO should:
- 1046 • record the decision and justification for it; and,
 - 1047 • agree on what information should be put in writing to the individual concerned and by
 1048 whom.

Further enquiries

- 1050 6.118. Where further enquiries are required to enable a decision about how to proceed, the LADO and case
 1051 manager should discuss how and by whom the investigation will be undertaken. In straightforward
 1052 cases, the investigation should normally be undertaken by a senior member of the school’s or college’s
 1053 staff.
- 1054 6.119. Where there is a lack of appropriate resource within the school or college, or the nature or complexity
 1055 of the allegation requires it, the allegation will require a senior member of the off-site team: Regional
 1056 Manager (Education or Care), a Director, HR Business Partner or an independent investigator if
 1057 appropriate.
- 1058 6.120. The case manager should monitor the progress of cases to ensure that they are dealt with as quickly
 1059 as possible in a thorough and fair process. Reviews should be conducted at fortnightly or monthly
 1060 intervals, depending on the complexity of the case.

1061 6.121. Wherever possible, the first review should take place no later than four weeks after the initial
1062 assessment. Dates for subsequent reviews, ideally at fortnightly intervals, should be set at the review
1063 meeting if the investigation continues. The LADO will provide advice and guidance to schools and
1064 colleges when considering allegations against adults working with children. The LADO's role is not to
1065 investigate the allegation, but to ensure that an appropriate investigation is carried out, whether that
1066 is by the police, children's social care, the school or college, or a combination of these.

1067 Suspension

1068 6.122. Suspension should not be an automatic response when an allegation is reported. All options to avoid
1069 suspension should be considered prior to taking that step. The case manager must consider carefully
1070 whether the circumstances warrant suspension from contact with children at the school or college, or
1071 until the allegation is resolved. It should be considered only in cases where there is cause to suspect a
1072 child or other children at the school or college is/are at risk of harm, or the allegation could be
1073 considered as gross or serious misconduct. Prior to any suspension, the case manager must consult
1074 with their HR Business Partner and the LADO, as well as the police and Safeguarding Authority where
1075 they have been involved. More information on suspension and associated process can be found in
1076 [KCSIE 2021 Part 4 page 86 – 87.](#)

1087 Supporting those involved

1078 6.123. The welfare of a child/young person is paramount (how children should be protected and supported
1079 is set out throughout KCSIE2021 guidance) and this will be the prime concern in terms of investigating
1080 an allegation against a person in a position of trust. However, when an allegation or safeguarding
1081 concern is being investigated it is likely to be a very stressful experience for the adult subject of the
1082 investigation, and potentially for the family members. It is important that an employer offers
1083 appropriate welfare support at such a time and recognises the sensitivity of the situation. Information
1084 is confidential and should not ordinarily be shared with the other staff or with children or parents who
1085 are not directly involved in the investigation. More about employers duty of care to their employees can
1086 be found in [KCSIE2021 part 4/Duty of care.](#)

1087 6.124. Staff whom allegation/s have been made against must always be supported and if suspended they
1088 will receive a support person (nominated contact), any suspension is not an indication of guilt.

1089 Allegation outcomes

1090 6.125. The definitions that should be used when schools and colleges determine the outcome of an allegation
1091 are set out below:

- 1092 • Substantiated: there is sufficient evidence to prove the allegation;
- 1093 • Malicious: there is sufficient evidence to disprove the allegation and there has been a
1094 deliberate act to deceive or cause harm to the person subject of the allegation;
- 1095 • False: there is sufficient evidence to disprove the allegation;
- 1096 • Unsubstantiated: there is insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation.
1097 The term, therefore, does not imply guilt or innocence; or
- 1098 • Unfounded: to reflect cases where there is no evidence or proper basis which supports
1099 the allegation being made.

1100 6.126. It should be noted that these definitions are available to support the decision-making process.
1101 However, in certain cases, in the absence of any substantiating evidence, the Company may still
1102 progress through the formal disciplinary procedure if there are reasonable grounds to do so, or there
1103 is a reasonable belief that an employee has committed an act of misconduct.

1104 6.127. Ultimately the options open to the school or college depend on the nature and circumstances of the
1105 allegations and the evidence and information available. This will range from taking no further action,
1106 to dismissal or a decision not to use the person's services in future. Suspension should not be the
1107 default position, an individual should be suspended only if there is no reasonable alternative ([see](#)
1108 [paragraphs 361-368 on suspension](#)).

1109

11 Serious incident reporting

1111 6.128. In addition to all regulatory reporting requirements, all serious incidents will be escalated and reported
1112 as outlined in **35. SUI Part 1 – Risk Categories - Reference form and SUI Part 2 –Briefing form.**

11 Death of someone in our care including rapid response to unexpected death

1114 6.129. In case of **unexpected death** of a child/young person/adult in Cambian services all staff to follow the
1115 rapid response process described below:

1116 • Call the Ambulance and Police

1117 • Unless the 999 operator tells you to, do not touch the person, do not move anything around them
1118 which may form part of forensic evidence. Police will make a decision about the forensic
1119 examinations and appropriate security of the scene.

1120 • DSL will contact Safeguarding Authority and follow the Serious Untoward Incidents (SUI) reporting
1121 procedure. The DSL will contact the Managing Director of the division they work in and verbally
1122 inform them of what happened before completing SUI Part 2.

1123 • DSL will contact Children’s/Adults Social Care Team

1124 • Where there is a suicide/suspected suicide then Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services
1125 (CAMHS) should also be notified by the Safeguarding Authority.

1126 6.130. Once the above rapid steps have been taken, further steps described below must be followed.

1127 6.131. In the event of the death of an Individual in one of our homes/schools/colleges we must notify the
1128 following within 24 hours:

1129 • Chief Operating Officer, Managing Director, Responsible/Nominated Individual, Regional Manager
1130 following the **35.01. Caretech Children’s services SUI process.**

1131 • Next of kin/parents/carer of the deceased.

1132 • Where the death of an individual occurs in an education location the assistance of the local police
1133 and social services department should be sought in informing the parents/guardians.

1134 • The appropriate regulatory body: e.g. Ofsted, CQC, CIW, Estyn

1135 • Ministry of justice if applicable.

1136 • The placing authority/authorities.

1137 • The local authority responsible for Social Services and Education (where the death takes place in a
1138 registered school) within whose area the education location is situated.

1139 • The District Health Authority within whose area the education location is situated.

1140 • The Department for Education, (where the death takes place in a registered school).

1141 • The Health and Safety Executive.

11 Abuse of position of trust

1143 6.132. All staff are aware that inappropriate behaviour towards those in our care is unacceptable. In addition,
1144 staff should understand that, under the Sexual Offences Act 2003, it is an offence for a person over the
1145 age of 18 to have a sexual relationship with a person under the age of 18, where that person is in a
1146 position of trust, even if the relationship is consensual. This means that any sexual activity between a
1147 member of the staff and a young person under 18 may be a criminal offence, even if that young person
1148 is over the age of consent.

11 Visitors

1150 6.133. All authorised visitors will be required to sign in and out, and wear a visitor or identity badge at all
1151 times. All unauthorised visitors will be challenged by staff and reported to the home
1152 manager/head/principal before entry is authorised.

11 Volunteers

1154 6.134. Volunteers undergo checks commensurate with their work in the home/school/college and contact
1155 with children, young people and adults i.e. if they are in regulated activity or not.

116 Contractors

1157 6.135. We will check the identity of all contractors working on site and requests the full range of DBS and other
1158 required checks where they work in regulated activity or unsupervised in accordance with the latest
1159 government guidance.

116 Use of school or college premises for non-school/college activities

1161 6.136. Where governing bodies or proprietors hire or rent out school or college facilities/premises to
1162 organisations or individuals (for example to community groups, sports associations, and service
1163 providers to run community or extra-curricular activities) they should ensure that appropriate
1164 arrangements are in place to keep children safe. More information can be found in [KCSIE2021 Part 2](#)
1165 [para 155 & 156](#).

116 Extended school and off-site arrangements

1167 6.137. Where extended off-site activities are provided by and managed by us, our safeguarding policy and
1168 procedures apply. If other organisations provide services or activities on our site we will check that they
1169 have appropriate policies and procedures in place, including safer recruitment procedures and clarify
1170 whose procedure is to be followed if there are concerns. There will be clear communication channels
1171 to ensure the DSL is kept appropriately informed.

1172 6.138. When our Individuals are doing off-site activities, including day and residential visits and work related
1173 activities, we will risk assess and check that effective safeguarding arrangements are in place. The
1174 DSL will be kept appropriately informed.

117 Use of mobile phones

1176 6.139. Staff must behave in accordance with the [GHR 37. Staff Code of Conduct](#) and Internet and social media
1177 access including [Pro 01. Mobile Telephony Policy](#) at all times.

1178 6.140. All computer equipment and internet access within the home/school/college is subject to 'parental
1179 controls' and internet safety rules in line with our [27. E-safety policy](#) including internet and social media
1180 access and [Hill House School – Anti-bullying policy](#). Staff should not use any computer for personal
1181 reasons during working hours. Staff need to help our Individuals to prepare for the hazards whilst
1182 promoting the many learning and social opportunities available through the internet and social media.

1183 6.141. If staff contribute to internet blogs or access social media networking sites e.g. Facebook, they MUST
1184 neither mention Hill House School or make reference to their employment at the school. Staff are
1185 advised not to communicate with parents, guardians, carers or Individuals via social networking sites

118 Photography and images

1187 6.142. This section should be read in conjunction to our [GIG 02. Data Protection policy](#).

1188 6.143. The vast majority of people who take or view photographs or videos of Individuals do so for entirely
1189 innocent and acceptable reasons. Sadly, some people abuse children or vulnerable young people
1190 through taking or using images, so we have some safeguards in place.

1191 6.144. To protect our children, young people or young adults we will:

- 1192 • seek their consent for photographs to be taken or published (for example, on our website or in
1193 newspapers or publications)
- 1194 • seek parental consent of consent from the Individual
- 1195 • not use their full name with an image, only their initials
- 1196 • ensure that personal data is not shared
- 1197 • store images appropriately, securely and for no longer than necessary
- 1198 • only use school equipment, i.e. not personal devices
- 1199 • encourage our children, young people and adults to tell us if they are worried about any
1200 photographs that are taken of them

1201 Physical intervention and use of reasonable force

1202 6.145. All staff are encouraged to use de-escalation techniques and creative alternative strategies that are
1203 specific to each Individual and in line with **45 Behaviour support policy** and **46 Physical Intervention**
1204 **policy** and training. Restraint will only be used as a last resort and all incidents of this are reviewed,
1205 recorded and monitored.

1206 Staff Taking Medication or other substances

1207 6.146. Staff members must not be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance which may affect
1208 their ability to care for the Individuals. If they are taking medication they should seek medical advice
1209 and inform the Home Manager/Head/Principal who will review the medical advice and take a decision
1210 as to whether they are fit for work.

1211 6.147. We only allow staff to work if medical advice confirms that their ability to look after Individuals is unlikely
1212 to be impaired. Should a member of staff need to bring their medication to the home/school/college,
1213 it must be securely stored and out of reach of all children, young people and young adults. This section
1214 should be read in conjunction with our **GHR 12 Drug and Alcohol Policy**.

1215 Information for individuals and relatives/carers

1216 6.148. Individuals and carers will be informed that their concerns or complaints will be taken seriously, be
1217 dealt with independently and that they will be kept involved in the process to the degree that they wish
1218 to be. They will be reassured that they will receive help and support in taking action.

1219 6.149. They will also be advised that they can nominate an advocate or representative to speak and act on
1220 their behalf if they wish. For individuals assessed as lacking capacity to make decisions about how
1221 they could be protected, an Independent Mental Capacity Advocate (IMCA) must be considered and
1222 may be appointed. They will be advised of rights to legal aid in where appropriate to victim support
1223 and compensation.

1224 Recruitment and vetting

1225 6.150. Our **GHR 03. Recruitment Policy** reflects Safer Recruitment guidelines and legislation in **Appendix 2.**
1226 **Legislation and guidance** as well as carrying out further checks and precautions such as Good Conduct
1227 Certificates. HTs / Principals, DSLs and member of Recruitment team including those directly supporting
1228 schools should read the whole KCSIE2021 guidance including Part 3 dedicated to Safer Recruitment.

1229 6.151. Each Education location maintains a **Single Central Record (SCR)**. This covers all staff including supply
1230 teaching and teacher trainees, agency care staff as well as multisite managers and members of the
1231 proprietor body. This is regularly audited by the school/college SLT and available for inspection.

1232 6.152. For agency workers we obtain written confirmation that all checks have been completed, in line with
1233 safer recruitment from the employment business that is supplying the member of agency staff. All
1234 Locations must ensure that an agreement exists between the Location and the agency to confirm that,
1235 in the event of there being a disclosure on a DBS certificate, the Location will have sight of the certificate
1236 before that person can begin work at the home/school/college.

1237 6.153. All Locations must check the identity of any person deemed 'supply' or 'agency' staff separately to the
1238 agency.

1239 6.154. Where other Cambian staff (e.g. care staff) work on the same site as a school they must be subject to
1240 the same recruitment regulations and procedures as the education staff.

1241 Requirements to inform Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS)

1242 6.155. The employer has a legal duty to make a referral to the DBS for consideration of whether inclusion on
1243 the barred lists is required.

1244 6.156. Services will promptly make a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service (but no longer than one
1245 month after leaving the Location) if a person in regulated activity has been dismissed or removed due
1246 to safeguarding concerns, or would have been had they not resigned.

- 1247 6.157. In the case of a member of teaching staff at a school or sixth form college, the case manager must
1248 consider whether to refer the matter to the TRA to consider prohibiting the individual from teaching
1249 [\(paragraph 143 for further information\)](#).
- 1250 6.158. Referrals to the Disclosure and Barring Service will be made for any person (whether employed,
1251 contracted (e.g. supply), a volunteer or student) whose services are no longer required because he/she
1252 is considered unsuitable to work with children and young people.
- 1253 6.159. This is a legal duty and failure to refer when the criteria are met is a criminal offence. More detail is
1254 provided at paragraph 179.
- 1255 6.160. All Managers must read the Group leavers policy – all referrals must be recorded with HR so they can
1256 ensure any future references are correct. The references team log referrals so this can be completed.
1257 This will apply to both: DBS and TRA.

1258 Record-keeping

- 1259 6.161. Record keeping is an important element of safeguarding. Whenever a complaint or allegation of abuse
1260 is made, staff must keep clear and accurate records using a Concern Form.
- 1261 6.162. All concerns, discussions and decisions made, and the reasons for those decisions, should be recorded
1262 in writing. Information should be kept confidential and stored securely. It is good practice to keep
1263 concerns and referrals in a separate child protection file for each child. Schools/colleges using
1264 Behaviour Watch have Concern/Safeguarding function to record any concerns being raised. A report
1265 per child/young person can also be generated.
- 1266 6.163. Records should be factual, accurate, concise, ethical and relevant.
- 1267 6.164. All recording of written information should be legible and discussions with other professionals and
1268 agencies should be recorded chronologically.
- 1269 6.165. There will be a safeguarding section/folder for each Individual which will hold any
1270 concerns/safeguarding documentation for that individual. At the front of each folder there is an Index
1271 for Individual's Concerns. This is to enable the location to keep accurate records of any concerns raised
1272 regarding the individual and aid the monitoring/ reviewing of safeguarding incidents. The folders
1273 should be kept in a secure location.
- 1274 6.166. Each location apart from those using Behaviour Watch system will also maintain **25.07. Central Log of**
1275 **Concerns and Safeguarding** of all concerns raised at the location including the safeguarding
1276 information where the concern has escalated. Where this is held as a paper version this is to be made
1277 into a bound booklet and completed by the DSL. If kept electronically, access is to be restricted to the
1278 DSL and deputies only. In either case this should be kept in a secure location.

1279 Monitoring

- 1280 6.167. A quality assurance cycle operates to ensure that safeguarding incidents and notifications are
1281 recorded, managed and responded to at the Location, at a regional level and at a whole divisional
1282 level, see **section 9. Accountability**. The cycle is informed by a weekly (Monday) submission of Key
1283 Performance Indicators (KPIs) using **CambianKPI** and the identification and management of
1284 safeguarding risks. A report on the position of every site in relation to their KPIs is produced every
1285 Wednesday.

1286 Training

- 1287 6.168. All staff will receive information regarding Child Protection and Safeguarding on induction. The
1288 induction introduces the new staff member to the policy, procedure and practice at the location. They
1289 will also be orientated as to where to find information regarding safeguarding including relevant
1290 posters around the location. As part of their induction all staff are required to read this policy and
1291 confirm that they understand their role in safeguarding and protecting young people within the service
1292 they are going to work.

- 1293 6.169. All staff MUST complete mandatory safeguarding face to face or online training via MYRUS which must
1294 be completed as part of staff member induction and annually thereafter. This should include online
1295 safety. This is to maintain staff awareness of their responsibilities in relation to children /young
1296 people/young adult's safeguarding.
- 1297 6.170. Staff will not be allowed to work with Individuals unless they have completed the above training. The
1298 school/college/home must check that supply/agency staff have completed basic awareness training
1299 before being allowed into contact with Individuals.
- 1300 6.171. Contractors and others on site who might have unsupervised access to Individuals must also complete
1301 basic awareness training before being allowed to start work.
- 1302 6.172. The DSL will ensure that all staff receive regular updates regarding safeguarding policy, procedure and
1303 practice throughout the year. This can be undertaken in various forums: as a face to face or online
1304 session, staff meetings or workshops. In addition to this safeguarding updates are provided to schools
1305 and colleges by the external Safeguarding Network.
- 1306 6.173. The DSL and DSL Deputies should undergo the same level of training providing them with the
1307 knowledge and skills required to carry out the role. The DSL's/DSL Deputies' training should be provided
1308 by the LA within the boundaries they operate and be refreshed at least every two years. Both should
1309 also undertake Prevent awareness training.

1300 Confidentiality and information sharing

- 1311 6.174. Information sharing is vital in identifying and tackling all forms of abuse and neglect, and in promoting
1312 child's/young person's welfare, including their educational outcomes. Schools and colleges have clear
1313 powers to share, hold and use information for these purposes. Staff should be proactive in sharing
1314 information as early as possible to help identify, assess and respond to risks or concerns about the
1315 safety and welfare of children/ young people whether this is when problems are first emerging, or
1316 where a child is already known to local authority children's social care.
- 1317 6.175. Where the police are involved, wherever possible the school or college should ask the police to obtain
1318 consent from the individuals involved to share their statements and evidence for use in the employer's
1319 disciplinary process. This should be done as their investigation proceeds and will enable the police to
1320 share relevant information without delaying the conclusion of their investigation or any court case.
- 1321 6.176. The Safeguarding authority should adopt a similar procedure when making enquiries to determine
1322 whether the child or children named in the allegation are in need of protection or services, so that any
1323 information obtained in the course of those enquiries which is relevant to a disciplinary case can be
1324 passed to the employer without delay.
- 1325 6.177. The case manager should take advice from the LADO, police and Safeguarding Authority to agree the
1326 following:
- 1327 • who needs to know and exactly what information can be shared;
 - 1328 • how to manage speculation, leaks and gossip
 - 1329 • what, if any, information can be reasonably given to the wider community to reduce
1330 speculation; and
 - 1331 • how to manage press interest if, and when, it should arise.
- 1332 6.178. Exchange or disclose of personal information with other agencies will be completed in accordance with
1333 Data Protection and Confidentiality Code of Practice policies and all relevant legislation including the
1334 Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR which places duty on organisations and individuals to process
1335 personal information fairly and lawfully and to keep the information they hold safe and secure.
- 1336 6.179. Information relating to individual Safeguarding cases is confidential, although some information can
1337 be shared with relevant staff. This should be done only on a 'need to know' basis.

- 1338 6.180. Governing bodies and proprietors should ensure relevant staff have due regard to the relevant data
1339 protection principles, which allow them to share (and withhold) personal information, as provided for
1340 in the Data Protection Act 2018 and the GDPR. This includes:
- 1341 • being confident of the processing conditions which allow them to store and share information for
1342 safeguarding purposes, including information which is sensitive and personal, and should be
1343 treated as 'special category personal data'.
 - 1344 • understanding that 'safeguarding of children and individuals at risk' is a processing condition that
1345 allows practitioners to share special category personal data. This includes allowing practitioners to
1346 share information without consent where there is good reason to do so, and that the sharing of
1347 information will enhance the safeguarding of a child in a timely manner but it is not possible to gain
1348 consent, it cannot be reasonably expected that a practitioner gains consent, or if to gain consent
1349 would place a child at risk.
 - 1350 • for schools, not providing pupils' personal data where the serious harm test under the legislation is
1351 met. For example, in a situation where a child is in a refuge or another form of emergency
1352 accommodation, and the serious harms test is met, they must withhold providing the data in
1353 compliance with schools' obligations under the Data Protection Act 2018 and the GDPR. Where in
1354 doubt schools should seek independent legal advice.
- 1355 6.181. When sharing safeguarding information regarding an individual, staff will need to consider the
1356 following:
- 1357 • Information should only be shared on a 'need to know' basis when it is in the best interests of the
1358 individual
 - 1359 • Informed consent should be obtained but, if this is not possible and other adults are at risk of abuse
1360 or neglect, it may be necessary to override the requirement
 - 1361 • Distinguish fact from opinion
 - 1362 • Ensure you are giving the right information about the right person
 - 1363 • Ensure you are sharing information securely
 - 1364 • Inform the person that the information has been shared if they were not already aware of this and
1365 if it would not create or increase risk of harm to them/others.
- 1366 6.182. The Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR do not prevent the sharing of information for the purposes of
1367 keeping children safe. Fears about sharing information must not be allowed to stand in the way of the
1368 need to safeguard and promote the welfare and protect the safety of children.
- 1369 6.183. Further details on information sharing can be found in:
- 1370 • Chapter one of [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#), which includes a myth-busting guide to
1371 information sharing
 - 1372 • Information Sharing: [Advice for Practitioners Providing Safeguarding Services to Children, Young
1373 People, Parents and Carers](#). The seven golden rules for sharing information will be especially useful
 - 1374 • [The Information Commissioner's Office \(ICO\)](#), which includes ICO GDPR FAQs and guidance from
1375 the department
 - 1376 • [Data protection: toolkit for schools](#) - Guidance to support schools with data protection activity,
1377 including compliance with the GDPR.
- 1378 6.184. The following wording is to be added to any covering letter where we are sharing documentation:

1379 "The material contained in this letter and its enclosures are confidential to Cambian Group and the persons
1380 named within the documentation. The documentation is delivered only in accordance with a perceived
1381 legal obligation to make the documentation available and upon the strict understanding that the
1382 recipient and all members of the recipient's staff will undertake to preserve confidentiality and not in
1383 any way share the documentation or any details of the information therein contained with any other
1384 party. Any person receiving this information who breaches these obligations of confidentiality will be
1385 held strictly responsible and will be expected to indemnify Cambian Group and any persons named
1386 within the documentation against any losses that may arise as a result of misuse of this material".

1387 6.185. If in doubt, the DSL or deputies must liaise with the company Caldicott Guardian. The contact details
1388 for the Caldicott Guardian at our location is the Principal, Kate Landells.

1389 6.186. Failure to follow this policy and local procedure may result in disciplinary action.

1390 Complaints and Monitoring

1391 6.187. All complaints arising from the operation of this policy will be considered under a complaints procedure
1392 with reference to the our Designated Safeguarding Officer who is Louisa Burden (DSL) and Hampshire
1393 Safeguarding Children's Board

1394 7. Accountability

1395 7.1. Louisa Burden is the DSL at Cambian Hill House School and has lead responsibility for protecting and
1396 safeguarding children, young people and young adults and liaising with the local authority and other
1397 local agencies as appropriate. This includes young person protections, referrals, raising awareness,
1398 training, allocating resources and supporting/directing staff within the Location. In all matters relating
1399 to young person protection and safeguarding, Hill House School will follow the procedures outlined in
1400 this policy.

1401 7.2. The content and effective implementation of policy and procedures are subject to routine monitoring
1402 by the Head of Service. Our Managing/ Operations Director, Andrew Sutherland will undertake a full
1403 annual review of the content and effective application of this policy and associated procedures. The
1404 date for the next scheduled review is set out on page 2. The policy will be reviewed earlier in
1405 accordance with changes in legislation, regulatory requirements or as a result of best practice
1406 guidance.

1407 7.3. Safeguarding at a strategic level is overseen by Amanda Sherlock - the Group Executive Director
1408 Compliance, who will support and promote the development of initiatives to improve the prevention,
1409 identification and response to abuse and neglect. As the Director accountable for safeguarding, she is
1410 also responsible for reporting on safeguarding and providing executive leadership.

1411 7.4. Managers - are responsible for ensuring that staff are aware of this policy and offer support to those
1412 reporting abuse. It is important to recognise that dealing with situations involving abuse and neglect
1413 can be stressful and distressing for staff.

1414 7.5. Regulated professionals - Staff governed by professional regulation (for example, social workers,
1415 doctors, allied health professionals and nurses) should understand how their professional standards
1416 and requirements underpin their organisational roles to prevent, recognise and respond to abuse and
1417 neglect.

1418 7.6. All staff are responsible for identifying and responding to allegations of abuse. Staff at operational level
1419 need to share a common view of what types of behaviour may be abuse or neglect and what should
1420 be an initial response to suspicion or allegation of abuse or neglect.

1421 7.7. All staff MUST make sure that they have familiarised themselves with their local multi-agency
1422 safeguarding policy as this policy is designed to complement rather than replace the multi-agency
1423 policies which define the local practice that must be followed.

1424 7.8. In the event that the DSL or DSL Deputy are on leave or away from the Location and not contactable
1425 alternative arrangements must be put in place, cascaded to staff and displayed so staff can access
1426 contact names and details if required.

1427 **8. Further Safeguarding information – what everyone need to know (Appendix**
1428 **11)**

1429 8.1. All staff should have an awareness of safeguarding issues that can put children at risk of harm.
1430 Behaviours linked to issues such as drug taking and or alcohol misuse, deliberately missing education
1431 and consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi-nudes images and/or videos can be
1432 signs that children are at risk. Other safeguarding issues such as peer on peer (child on child) abuse
1433 all staff should be aware of are explored in the **Appendix 11. Further Safeguarding information – what**
1434 **everyone need to know.**

1435 **9. Appendices**

1436 **Appendix 1: Relevant policies and documents**

- 1437 **1.** Child Protection and Safeguarding
- 1438 a) 25.01 - Index Form for Individuals Concern File
- 1439 b) 25.02 - Abuse Poster Individual
- 1440 c) 25.03 - Individual Safeguarding booklet – Easy Read
- 1441 d) 25.04 - Concern Form
- 1442 e) 25.05 - Safeguarding Tracking Pack
- 1443 f) 25.06 – Visitor Information Leaflet template
- 1444 g) 25.07 – Central Log of Concerns and Safeguarding – excel version
- 1445 h) 25.08 – Guidance to staff who had an allegation made against them
- 1446 i) 25.09 – Local Safeguarding procedure
- 1447 j) 25.10 – Staff Safeguarding Information poster
- 1448 k) 25.11 – Guidance notes for Designated or On call person
- 1449 l) 25.12 – Static body chart
- 1450 m) 25.13 – Weekly body chart
- 1451 n) 25.14 – Guidance for Investigating Unexplained Body Marks
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- 1453 **2.** Whistleblowing
- 1454 **3.** Anti-bullying
- 1455 **4.** Child Sexual Exploitation
- 1456 **5.** Intimate and Invasive Care
- 1457 **6.** Self-harm and suicide
- 1458 **7.** Behaviour Support
- 1459 **8.** Physical Intervention
- 1460 **9.** Complaints Policy
- 1461 **10.** Health

- 1462 11. E –safety
- 1463 12. Capacity to consent
- 1464 13. Prevent
- 1465 14. Recruitment
- 1466 15. Code of Conduct
- 1467 16. Data Protection
- 1468 17. Confidentiality
- 1469 18. Disciplinary
- 1470 19. Complaints
- 1471 20. Code of Practice
- 1472 21. Mobile telephony
- 1473 22. SUI Caretech children’s services process
- 1474 23. Caretech - Group Leaving Policy
- 1475 24. GHR 02 – Harassment and Bullying
- 1476 25. GHR 41 – Reference Requests
- 1477 26. GHR 41.1 DBS referral log
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Appendix 2: Legislation and guidance

- 1499 • [The Children Act 2004, as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017](#)
- 1500 • [Statutory Instrument 2015 No.541 Social Care, England The Young people's/care home Homes](#)
- 1501 [\(England\) Regulations 2015 in force as of 1st April 2015](#)
- 1502 • [Guide to the Young people's/care home Homes Regulations including the Quality Standards \(DfE: April](#)
- 1503 [2015\)](#)
- 1504 • This policy is also in accordance with the Local Safeguarding Young people Board (LSCP) locally agreed
- 1505 inter-agency safeguarding processes and procedures
- 1506 • [Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales \(March 2015\) \(Prevent\). Prevent is supplemented by The](#)
- 1507 [Prevent duty: Departmental advice for schools and young person minders \(June 2015\) and The use of](#)
- 1508 [social media for on-line radicalisation \(July 2015\)](#)
- 1509 • [The Health and Social Care Act 2008 \(Regulated Activities\) Regulations 2015](#)
- 1510 • [Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003, \(as inserted by section 74 of the Serious Crime Act 2015\)](#)
- 1511 • [Terrorism Act 2000](#)
- 1512 • [Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015](#)
- 1513 • [The School staffing regulations, England 2009](#)
- 1514 • [The Teachers Disciplinary regulations, 2012](#)
- 1515 • [Parts 3 and 4 Schedule to the Education independent Schools Standard Regulations, 2014.](#)
- 1516 • [All Wales Child Protection Procedures 2008](#)
- 1517 • [All Wales POVA Guidance 2008](#)
- 1518 • [Keep learners Safe 2015](#)
- 1519 • [The Care Act 2014](#)
- 1520 • [Social services and wellbeing Act 2014](#)
- 1521 • [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018](#)
- 1522 • [Keeping children safe in Education 2021](#)
- 1523 • [Keeping children safe in education - part one 2021](#)
- 1524 • [Regulated activity in relation to children: scope](#)
- 1525 • [What to do if you're worried a child is being abused](#)
- 1526 • [Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges 2021](#)
- 1527 • [Violence against women and girls](#)
- 1528 • <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/safer-recruitment/>
- 1529 • [Teaching online safety in school.pdf](#)

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1595 **Appendix 4: Types of abuse – children**

- 1596 • **Abuse:** a form of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm
1597 or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or
1598 community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others. Abuse can take place wholly
1599 online, or technology may be used to facilitate offline abuse. Children may be abused by an adult or
1600 adults or by another child or children
- 1601 • **Physical abuse:** a form of abuse which may involve hitting, slapping, shaking, throwing, poisoning,
1602 burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical
1603 harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately
1604 induces, illness in a child.
- 1605 • **Emotional abuse:** the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and
1606 adverse effects on the child’s emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child that they
1607 are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another
1608 person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing
1609 them or ‘making fun’ of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or
1610 developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include
1611 interactions that are beyond a child’s developmental capability as well as overprotection and
1612 limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social
1613 interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious
1614 bullying (including cyberbullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the
1615 exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of
1616 maltreatment of a child, although it may occur alone.
- 1617 • **Sexual abuse:** Sexual abuse may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for
1618 example rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and
1619 touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children
1620 in the production of sexual images, forcing children to look at sexual images or watch sexual
1621 activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in
1622 preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult
1623 males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children. The sexual abuse of
1624 children by other children is a specific safeguarding issue (also known as peer on peer abuse) in
1625 education and all staff should be aware of it and of their school or colleges policy and procedures for
1626 dealing with it,
- 1627 • **Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Criminal Exploitation** are forms of abuse that occur where an
1628 individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance in power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a
1629 child into taking part in sexual or criminal activity, in exchange for something the victim needs or
1630 wants, and/or for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator and/or
1631 through violence or the threat of violence. CSE and CCE can affect children, both male and female
1632 and can include children who have been moved (commonly referred to as trafficking) for the purpose
1633 of exploitation Child Sexual Exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur
1634 through the use of technology.
- 1635 • **Neglect:** the persistent failure to meet a child’s basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to
1636 result in the serious impairment of the child’s health or development. Neglect may occur during
1637 pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a
1638 parent or carer failing to: provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home
1639 or abandonment); protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger; ensure adequate
1640 supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or ensure access to appropriate medical
1641 care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child’s basic emotional
1642 needs.
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- 1644 • **Online abuse** - abuse that is facilitated using internet-connected technology. It may take place
1645 through social media, online games or other channels of digital communication. Children can also be
1646 re-victimised if evidence of their abuse is recorded or uploaded online. Technology can facilitate a
1647 number of illegal abusive behaviours including, but not limited to: harassment; stalking; threatening
1648 behaviour; child sexual abuse material; inciting a child to sexual activity; sexual exploitation;
1649 grooming; sexual communication with a child; and, causing a child to view images or watch videos
1650 of a sexual act. Using technology to facilitate any of the above activities is online abuse. Alongside
1651 those illegal activities that are perpetrated online and constitute abuse, children may also be
1652 exposed to online harms, such as inappropriate behaviours or content online. For instance, children
1653 may be bullied online by their peers or they might, either accidentally or intentionally, view content
1654 which is intended for adults. Both online abuse and exposure to unsuitable content or behaviour can
1655 have a long-lasting impact on the wellbeing of children and young people.
1656

1657 **Appendix 5: Types of abuse - adults**

- 1658 • **Physical abuse** - assault, hitting, slapping, punching, kicking, hair-pulling, biting, pushing, rough
1659 handling, scalding and burning, physical punishments, inappropriate or unlawful use of restraint,
1660 making someone purposefully uncomfortable, involuntary isolation or confinement, misuse of
1661 medication, forcible feeding or withholding food, unauthorized restraint, restricting movement.
- 1662 • **Honour based abuse** - encompasses Incidents/crimes which have been committed to protect/defend
1663 the honour of the family and/or the community including female genital mutilation (FGM), forced
1664 marriage and practices such as breast ironing. Abuse committed in the context of preserving “honour”
1665 often involves a wider network of family or community pressure and can include multiple perpetrators.
1666 It is important to be aware of this dynamic and additional risk factors when deciding what form of
1667 safeguarding action to take. All forms of HBA are abuse (regardless if the motivation) and should be
1668 handled and escalated as such. Professionals in all agencies, individuals and groups in relevant
1669 communities, need to be alert to the possibility of a child being at risk of HBA, or already having suffered
1670 HBA.
- 1671 • **Domestic violence or abuse** – this type of abuse can be characterised by any of the indicators of abuse
1672 outlined in this briefing relating to: psychological, physical, sexual financial, emotional. Domestic
1673 violence and abuse includes any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening
1674 behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been, intimate partners
1675 or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.
- 1676 • **Sexual abuse** - Rape, attempted rape or sexual assault, inappropriate touch anywhere, non-
1677 consensual masturbation of either or both persons, non- consensual sexual penetration or attempted
1678 penetration of the vagina, anus or mouth, any sexual activity that the person lacks the capacity to
1679 consent to, inappropriate looking, sexual teasing or innuendo or sexual harassment, sexual
1680 photography or forced use of pornography or witnessing of sexual acts, Indecent exposure.
- 1681 • **Sexual harassment**- unwanted conducts of a sexual nature that can occur online and offline, sexual
1682 harassment is likely to: violate a child’s dignity, and/or make them feel intimidated, degraded or
1683 humiliated, and/or create a hostile, offensive or sexualised environment.
- 1684 • **Psychological or emotional abuse** - Enforced social isolation and/or preventing someone accessing
1685 services, educational and social opportunities and seeing friends, removing mobility or communication
1686 aids or intentionally leaving someone unattended when they need assistance, preventing someone
1687 from meeting their religious and cultural needs, preventing the expression of choice and opinion, failure
1688 to respect privacy, preventing stimulation, meaningful occupation or activities, intimidation, coercion,
1689 harassment, use of threats, humiliation, bullying, swearing or verbal abuse, addressing a person in a
1690 patronising or infantilising way, threats of harm or abandonment, cyber bullying.
- 1691 • **Financial or material abuse** - Theft of money or possessions, scamming, preventing a person from
1692 accessing their own money, benefits or assets, employees taking a loan from a person using the
1693 service, undue pressure, duress, threat or undue influence put on the person in connection with loans,
1694 wills, property, inheritance or financial transactions, arranging less care than is needed to save money
1695 to maximise inheritance, denying assistance to manage/monitor financial affairs, denying assistance
1696 to access benefits, misuse of personal allowance in a care home, misuse of benefits or direct payments
1697 in a family home, someone moving into a person’s home and living rent free without agreement or
1698 under duress, false representation, using another person's bank account, cards or documents,
1699 exploitation of a person’s money or assets, e.g. unauthorised use of a car, misuse of a power of
1700 attorney, deputy, appointeeship or other legal authority.
- 1701 • **Modern slavery** – Human trafficking, forced labour, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, such as
1702 escort work, prostitution and pornography, debt bondage – being forced to work to pay off debts that
1703 realistically they never will be able to.
- 1704 • **Discriminatory abuse** - Unequal treatment based on age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage
1705 and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sex or sexual orientation
1706 (known as ‘protected characteristics’ under the Equality Act 2010). Verbal abuse, derogatory remarks
1707 or inappropriate use of language related to a protected characteristic, denying access to
1708 communication aids, not allowing access to an interpreter, signer or lip-reader, harassment or
1709 deliberate exclusion on the grounds of a protected characteristic, denying basic rights to healthcare,
1710 education, employment and criminal justice relating to a protected characteristic, substandard service
1711 provision relating to a protected characteristic.

- 1712 • **Organisational or institutional abuse** - Discouraging visits or the involvement of relatives or friends, run-
1713 down or overcrowded establishment, authoritarian management or rigid regime, lack of leadership
1714 and supervision, insufficient staff or high turnover resulting in poor quality care, abusive and
1715 disrespectful attitudes towards people using the service, inappropriate use of restraints, lack of respect
1716 for dignity and privacy, failure to manage residents with abusive behaviour, not providing adequate
1717 food and drink, or assistance with eating, not offering choice or promoting independence, misuse of
1718 medication, failure to provide care with dentures, spectacles or hearing aids, not taking account of
1719 individuals' cultural, religious or ethnic needs, failure to respond to abuse appropriately, interference
1720 with personal correspondence or communication, failure to respond to complaints.
- 1721 • **Neglect or acts of omission** - Failure to provide or allow access to food, shelter, clothing, heating,
1722 stimulation and activity, personal or medical care, providing care in a way that the person dislikes,
1723 failure to administer medication as prescribed, refusal of access to visitors, not taking account of
1724 individuals' cultural, religious or ethnic needs, not taking account of educational, social and recreational
1725 needs, ignoring or isolating the person, preventing the person from making their own decisions,
1726 preventing access to glasses, hearing aids, dentures, etc., failure to ensure privacy and dignity.
- 1727 • **Self-neglect** -The Care Act 2014 statutory guidance for adults includes self-neglect in the categories of
1728 abuse or neglect relevant to safeguarding adults with care and support needs. In some circumstances,
1729 where there is a serious risk to the health and wellbeing of an individual, it may be appropriate to raise
1730 self-neglect as a safeguarding concern. However, interventions for self-neglect are usually more
1731 appropriate under the parts of the Care Act dealing with assessment, planning, information and
1732 advice, and prevention.
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1738 **Appendix 6: Signs that someone could be a victim**

1739 **Physical abuse**

- 1740 • No explanation for injuries or an inconsistent account of what happened
- 1741 • Injuries that don't seem likely, given the person's lifestyle
- 1742 • Bruising, cuts, welts, burns, marks on the body or loss of hair in clumps
- 1743 • Frequent injuries
- 1744 • Unexplained falls
- 1745 • Subdued or changed behaviour in the presence of a particular person
- 1746 • Signs of malnutrition (not having enough to eat)
- 1747 • Failure to seek medical treatment or frequent changes of GP

1748 **Sexual abuse**

- 1749 • Bruising, particularly to the thighs, buttocks and upper arms and marks on the neck
- 1750 • Torn, stained or bloody underclothing
- 1751 • Bleeding, pain or itching in the genital area
- 1752 • Unusual difficulty in walking or sitting
- 1753 • Foreign bodies in genital or rectal openings
- 1754 • Infections, unexplained genital discharge, or sexually transmitted diseases
- 1755 • Pregnancy in a child or young person who cannot consent to sexual intercourse
- 1756 • Using unexpectedly explicit sexual language
- 1757 • Major changes in sexual behaviour or attitude
- 1758 • Incontinence not to do with a medical condition
- 1759 • Self-harming
- 1760 • Poor concentration, withdrawal, sleep disturbance
- 1761 • Excessive fear of or withdrawal from relationships
- 1762 • Fear of receiving help with personal care
- 1763 • Not wanting to be alone with a particular person

1764 **Psychological or emotional abuse**

- 1765 • An air of silence when a particular person is present
- 1766 • Withdrawal or change in the psychological state of the person
- 1767 • Insomnia (not sleeping)
- 1768 • Low self-esteem
- 1769 • Uncooperative and aggressive behaviour
- 1770 • A change of appetite, weight loss or gain
- 1771 • Signs of distress: tearfulness, anger
- 1772 • Apparent false claims by someone involved with the person, to attract unnecessary treatment

1773 **Neglect and acts of omission**

- 1774 • Poor environment – dirty or unhygienic
- 1775 • Poor physical condition and/or personal hygiene
- 1776 • Pressure sores or ulcers
- 1777 • Malnutrition or unexplained weight loss
- 1778 • Untreated injuries and medical problems
- 1779 • Inconsistent or reluctant contact with medical and social care organizations
- 1780 • A build-up of medication that hasn't been taken
- 1781 • Uncharacteristic failure to engage in social interaction

1782 Unsuitable clothing or not enough clothes

1783

1784 **Domestic abuse**

- 1785 • becoming anxious or depressed
- 1786 • having difficulty sleeping
- 1787 • complaining of physical symptoms such as tummy aches
- 1788 • starting to wet their bed
- 1789 • behaving as though they are much younger than they are
- 1790 • having problems with school
- 1791 • becoming aggressive or they may internalise their distress and withdraw from other people
- 1792 • having a lowered sense of self-worth
- 1793 • older children may begin to play truant or start to use alcohol or drugs
- 1794 • they beginning to self-harm by taking overdoses or cutting themselves

1795

1796 **Peer on Peer abuse**

- 1797 • absence from school or disengagement from school activities
- 1798 • physical injuries
- 1799 • mental or emotional health issues
- 1800 • becoming withdrawn – lack of self esteem
- 1801 • lack of sleep
- 1802 • alcohol or substance misuse
- 1803 • changes in behavior
- 1804 • inappropriate behavior doe age
- 1805 • abusive towards others

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Appendix 7: Signs that someone could be an abuser

- 1837 • Using restraint when it's not needed
- 1838 • Having favourites
- 1839 • Giving treats, presents or money to certain people without permission from a manager
- 1840 • Finding ways to spend time with a particular child, young person or young adult, perhaps by working longer hours or giving up free time
- 1841
- 1842 • Finding ways to spend time alone with a particular child, young person or young adult , for example in a car or somewhere else
- 1843
- 1844 • Inviting a particular child, young person or young adult at risk to their own house without permission from a manager
- 1845
- 1846 • Being over-friendly with a child, young person or young adult's parents or guardians without permission from a manager
- 1847
- 1848 • Taking photos of the child, young person or young adult that aren't for work purposes
- 1849 • Trying to make private contact with a particular child, young person or young adult , including by text, email, mobile phone, online or in letter
- 1850
- 1851 • Finding ways to have physical contact, like play-fighting or tickling
- 1852 • Keeping collections of toys or other items that might attract children or people at risk
- 1853 • controlling behaviour
- 1854 • Narcissistic characteristics
- 1855 • bullying
- 1856 • being forced into a sexual act
- 1857 • humiliation
- 1858 • constant yelling and shouting
- 1859 • the threat or use of violence
- 1860 • destroying personal items
- 1861 • limiting contact with family, friends and work colleagues
- 1862 • checking up on your whereabouts
- 1863 • accusing the child/young person (the victim), of committing the abuse when it is the other way around.
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1880 **Appendix 8: DSL/DSL Deputy, Head/Principal (if the concern/allegation is related to staff) – actions, reporting**
1881 **and recording procedure**

- 1882 • Staff notifies the DSL /Head/Principal of their concern as soon as it is possible but no later than within
1883 1 hour from the moment of disclosure/report from the child/young person/other person, completes
1884 and passes the Concern form as soon as it is possible, but no later than 24hrs from the moment of
1885 disclosure/report. If the DSL is unavailable, passes it on to the DSL Deputy. In Education, if the concern
1886 is related to the staff and the Head/Principal is not available, staff must report their concern to the DSL
1887 instead, so there is no delay in reporting of the concern. The DSL will then liaise with the Head/Principal
1888 to agree on the next step. Services using Behaviour Watch: staff must report their concern verbally
1889 before completing the Concern/Safeguarding slip in the system.
- 1890 • DSL/DSL Deputy or Head/Principal (depending on who will lead on the case) enters the concern details
1891 on the **25.07. Central Log of Concerns and Safeguarding** and inserts the concern reference number on
1892 the Concern Form. Services using Behaviour Watch – DSL/DSL Deputy or Head/Principal reviews the
1893 concern and decides on the next step which may lead to Safeguarding Tracking Pack being opened
1894 (Safeguarding Tracking Pack is built as part of the concern slip should the case proceed to
1895 safeguarding).
- 1896 • If it is deemed to be a child protection/safeguarding (children and adults) matter the DSL/DSL Deputy
1897 or Head/Principal will then also additionally allocate the next sequential Safeguarding Reference
1898 number on the **25.07. Central Log of Concerns and Safeguarding**, write this number on the Concern
1899 form and immediately (or at least within one hour of receiving the concern form, make a referral to the
1900 local Safeguarding Authority and the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) where required, to
1901 discuss the allegation and agree a course of action. DSL/DSL Deputy or Head/Principal using the
1902 Behaviour Watch system will progress to the next stage – Safeguarding part of the concern/SG slip
1903 which is only accessible to the Safeguarding Team.
- 1904 • If the local Safeguarding Authority/LADO confirms that they do not consider the matter to be a
1905 safeguarding concern, then the date and time of the contact is recorded on the Concern Form and on
1906 the Central Log of Concerns and Safeguarding and it is marked as a Safeguarding Level 1 – Initial
1907 Informal Investigation. The Head of Service/Head/Principal/DSL/DLS Deputy MUST ensure that a
1908 member of their Senior Management Team is assigned to look into the concern. The review must be
1909 recorded and outcomes shared with the people involved. Feedback from the review session MUST be
1910 provided to local Safeguarding Authority/LADO. Services using the Behaviour Watch system will follow
1911 the same set of steps apart from populating the Central Log of Concerns and Safeguarding as the log
1912 can be generated by the system using chosen filtering criteria.
- 1913 • It is important to allocate a Safeguarding reference on the log even if no further action needs to be
1914 taken. This diligent approach will ensure a clear historic record of contact with local Safeguarding
1915 Authority/LADO for any matter which is deemed by the DSL to be of concern and has been raised with
1916 the local Safeguarding Authority/LADO whichever appropriate.
- 1917 • If the local Safeguarding Authority/LADO confirms that the matter is a safeguarding concern and that
1918 it requires investigation either at internal or external level then a **25.05 Safeguarding Tracking pack**
1919 must be opened with the next sequential Safeguarding Reference included on the form and details as
1920 such entered on the central log.
- 1921 • Services using the Behaviour Watch system – where a concern progresses to Safeguarding Tracking
1922 Pack being opened, a one record will be created including the original concern, with the whole
1923 document having the same slip number.

- 1924 • Copy of **25.05 Safeguarding Tracking Pack** (initially with completed sec. 1-5) should be submitted to the
1925 **Responsible/Nominated Individual and** in day schools - **Regional Education Manager** as a follow up to
1926 the initial reporting telephone contact. STP must be sent again to **Responsible/Nominated Individual**
1927 **and Regional Education Manager** on completion, providing detailed overview of the actions taken and
1928 the final outcome. Services using the Behaviour Watch will be able to trigger live notification to the
1929 Regional Manager (Education/Care), Responsible/Nominated Individual and Registered Manager –
1930 where appropriate. The **Responsible/Nominated Individual and Regional Education Manager** in day
1931 schools will update relevant Directors. This original form will be saved in the Safeguarding
1932 file/Behaviour Watch – Concern/SG module.
- 1933 • In the case of serious harm, and/or the child/young person or young adult is in immediate danger the
1934 local Police should be informed immediately as well and they can take immediate protective action as
1935 necessary.
- 1936 • If the matter is a more general concern then ensure that the 'Action Taken' log on the concern form is
1937 completed and the form is filed within the Safeguarding file. Either way the form must be signed by
1938 the DSL/DSL Deputy or Head/Principal. Services using the Behaviour Watch system can use
1939 Concern/Safeguarding 'Other' slip to record concerns which are not related to children/young people,
1940 staff or children/young people and staff.
- 1941 • The relevant concern form should be referenced in the Individual's **25.01 Index form for Individual**
1942 **concern/safeguarding file** and the site's **25.07 Central Log of Concerns and Safeguarding**. Services
1943 using Behaviour Watch will be able to filter information per chosen criteria and also generate reports
1944 per each child/young person in the school, college, children's or care homes.
- 1945 • All information relating to the Safeguarding concern is recorded on the **25.05 Safeguarding Tracking**
1946 **Pack /Behaviour Watch Concern/SG module**.
- 1947 • The Safeguarding Concern will remain open until local Safeguarding Authority/LADO have confirmed
1948 in writing that the concern is closed and Responsible/Nominated Individual and Regional Education
1949 Manager in day schools has signed the Safeguarding tracking pack to confirm that the investigation is
1950 completed in full and can be closed. **The Safeguarding will remain open until both elements of sign-**
1951 **off have been completed.** Once the Safeguarding tracking Pack is signed, it **MUST** be filed in the
1952 **Safeguarding file.**
- 1953 • If it is believed that the Individual is in imminent danger urgent advice should be sought from the Local
1954 Authority and/or the police. The individual can be kept in their care home or on the school/college site
1955 fully supported (e.g. if they are a day student) if advised to do so.
- 1956 • The parent/carers should be informed and a decision should be made with the Local Authority and the
1957 Police about what action is to be taken and whom by.
- 1958 • If the DSL/DSL Deputy or Head/Principal is unsure about what the Individual has said or what has been
1959 said by others they can phone the Local Authority to discuss concerns. To do so would not constitute
1960 an abuse referral but may help to clarify the situation but they must record all details of any
1961 conversation and advice received on a concern form. He/she can then move to a formal referral or
1962 actively monitor the situation.
- 1963 • The local Safeguarding Authority/LADO will oversee any subsequent investigation of any suspicion or
1964 allegation of abuse directed against anyone working within the establishment. The establishment
1965 **MUST** not internally investigate any allegations of abuse without first taking instruction from the local
1966 Safeguarding Authority/LADO.
- 1967 • Once agreed by local Safeguarding Authority/LADO that the provider can commence the internal
1968 management investigation (level 2), the investigation process will commence.
- 1969 • Once agreed by local Safeguarding Authority/LADO that the investigation will be completed by the
1970 external agency (level 3), Head of Service/Head/Principal /DSL/DSL Deputy will take appropriate steps
1971 to assist the external agency to ensure the investigation is completed without a delay.

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- Registered Manager MUST notify relevant regulator by submitting specific statutory notification within the time frame specified by their regulator. This is regardless of who leads on the investigation and whether or not the investigation has been concluded.
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- If as the result of an investigation there has been a substantiated allegation against a member of staff, we will work with the local Safeguarding Authority/LADO to determine whether there are any improvements to be made to our safeguarding policy, procedures and practice to prevent similar events in the future. Also we will work with our internal Human Resources department and may commence proceedings under **GHR 27. Disciplinary policy and procedure.**
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- We will co-operate entirely with any investigation carried out by the Local Authority and/or the Police. Records are kept of all conversations as part of the investigation process and made available as required.
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Appendix 9: Key contacts

2014

DSL is Louisa Burden

2016

Telephone (24hrs) 07584 020825

Email: louisa.burden@cambianguroup.com

2018

DSL Deputy is Kate Landells

2020

Telephone (24hrs) 07834 328501

Email: kate.landells@cambianguroup.com

2022

DSL Deputy is Kirsty Marsden

2024

Telephone (24hrs) 07917 152596

Email: kirsty.marsden@cambianguroup.com

2026

DSL Deputy is Greg Jagger

2028

Telephone (24hrs) 07917 653701

Email: greg.jagger@cambianguroup.com

2030

Outside of hours please refer to your school/home on-call rota and 24/7 contact number.

2032

Principal / Home Manager

2034

Telephone (24hrs) 07834 328501

Email: kate.landells@cambianguroup.com

2036

Managing Director is Andrew Sutherland

2038

Telephone (24hrs)

Email: andrew.sutherland@cambianguroup.com

2040

Group Executive Director – Children's Services is Jeremy Wiles

2042

Telephone: 079190232207

Email: Jeremy.Wiles@caretech-uk.com

2044

Organisation's Strategic Safeguarding Lead is Amanda Sherlock - Group Executive Director - Compliance

2046

Telephone: 01707 601 800

Email: Amanda.Sherlock@caretech-uk.com

2048

Representative, Proprietor - Caretech Education Services is Andrew Sutherland – MD of Education Services

2050

Telephone: 07701314378

Email: Andrew.Sutherland@caretech-uk.com

2052

Local authority

2054

Hampshire Local Authority & Hampshire Safeguarding Partners

2056

Telephone 0300 555 1384 / 0845 603 5620

Email: childrens.services@hants.gov.uk

2057

Office hours: Monday to Thursday 9:00am-5:15pm, Friday 9:00am-5:00pm

2059

Hampshire police 0845 0454545

2061

The non-emergency police telephone number is: 101

2063

For young people under the age of 18:

2065

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) is Mark Blackwell

2067

Telephone Office hours: 01962 876364

Outside of office hours/weekends, the emergency duty team can be contacted on: 0845 6004555



2070

Local Safeguarding Children Partners/ Local Safeguarding Adult's Board

The name, address and contact details for the Local Safeguarding Board is as follows:

2073

Telephone (24hrs): 0300 555 1386 / 01329 316192

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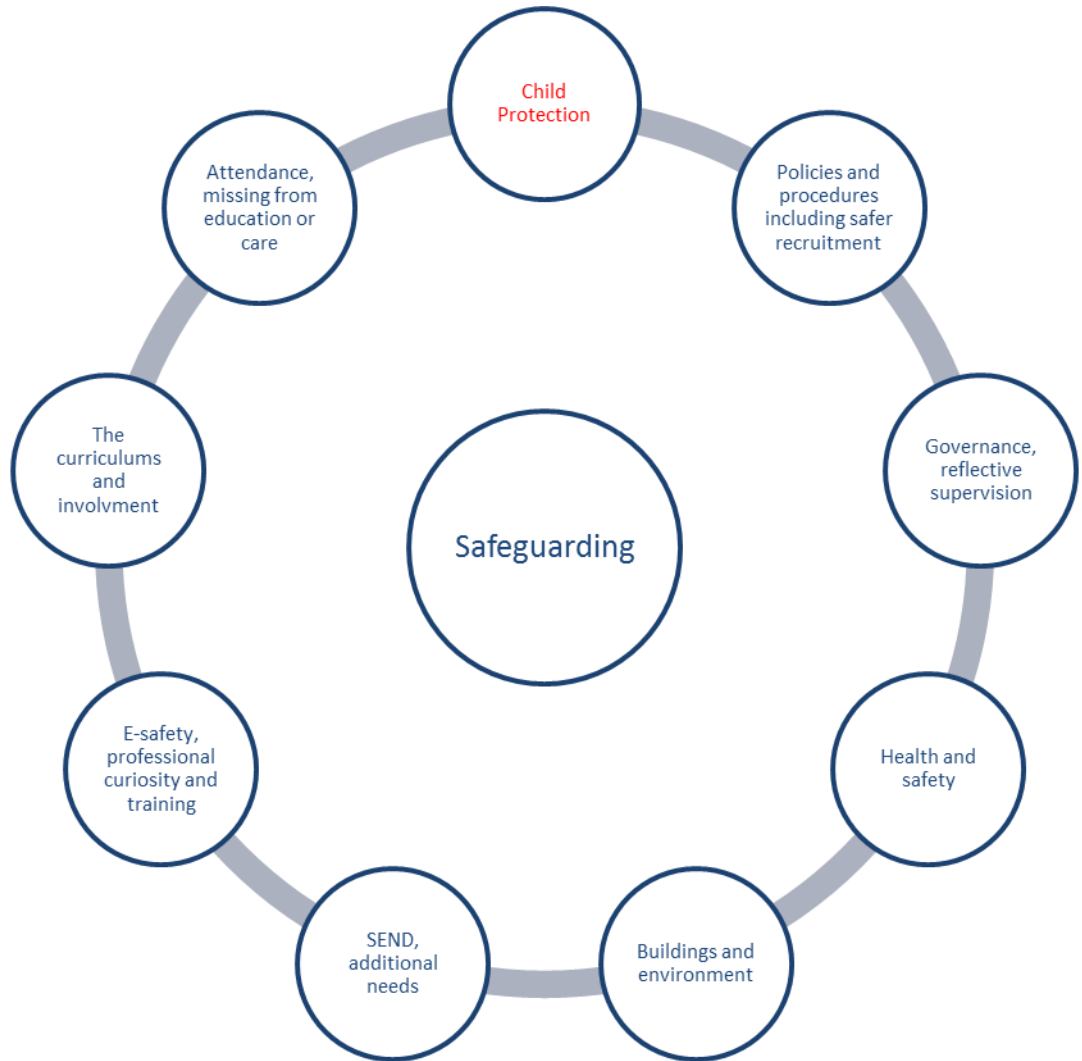
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2107 Appendix 10. Safeguarding in children's Services - illustration

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2130 Appendix 11. Further Safeguarding information – what everyone needs to know

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Contextual safeguarding

2134 9.1. Contextual Safeguarding is ‘an approach to understanding, and responding to, young people’s
2135 experiences of significant harm beyond their families. It recognises that the different relationships that
2136 young people form in their neighbourhoods, schools, colleges, children’s/care homes and online can
2137 feature violence and abuse. Parents and carers have little influence over these contexts, and young
2138 people’s experiences of extra-familial abuse can undermine parent-child relationships. Therefore
2139 children’s social care practitioners need to engage with individuals and sectors who do have influence
2140 over/within extra- familial contexts, and recognise that assessment of, and intervention with, these
2141 spaces are a critical part of safeguarding practices. Contextual Safeguarding, therefore, expands the
2142 objectives of child protection systems in recognition that young people are vulnerable to abuse in a
2143 range of social contexts’.

2144 9.2. All staff should be aware that safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours can be associated with factors
2145 outside the school or college and/or can occur between children outside of these environments. All
2146 staff, but especially the DSL (and deputies) should consider whether children are at risk of abuse or
2147 exploitation in situations outside their families. Extra-familial harms take a variety of different forms and
2148 children can be vulnerable to multiple harms including (but not limited to) sexual exploitation, criminal
2149 exploitation, and serious youth violence (KCSiE2021). Further advice for schools and colleges is provided
2150 in the [Home Office’s Preventing youth violence and gang involvement](#) and its [Criminal exploitation of
2151 children and vulnerable adults: county lines guidance](#)

2152 9.3. Children’s social care assessments should consider where children are being harmed in contexts
2153 outside the home (family home, children’s/care home), so it is important that schools, colleges and
2154 children’s/care homes provide as much information as possible as part of the referral process. This will
2155 allow any assessment to consider all the available evidence and enable a contextual approach to
2156 address such harm. More information about Contextual safeguarding can be found on [NSPCC website](#).

2157 9.4. We will consider the various factors that have an interplay with the life of any child/young person about
2158 whom we have concerns within the setting and the level of influence that these factors have on their
2159 ability to be protected and remain free from harm particularly when it comes to child exploitation or
2160 criminal activity.

2161 9.5. Whilst this term applies to this specific definition, the notion of considering a child/young person within
2162 a specific context is also important. What life is like for e.g. day/part time/38 weeks student outside the
2163 school, college, children’s/care home gates, within their family home when they visit (children attending
2164 residential education), within the family (day students) and within the community (extracurricular off
2165 site activities, events, groups and clubs) are key considerations when the DSL is looking at any
2166 concerns.

2167

Bullying

2168 9.6. Our approach to bullying is set out in a separate **0.21. Anti – bullying policy and procedure**
2169 acknowledges that to allow or condone bullying may lead to consideration under child protection
2170 procedures. Bullying is a safeguarding matter that if left unresolved can become a child protection
2171 matter. Our settings take seriously any bullying concerns and both investigate and take action to protect
2172 Individuals where appropriate.

2173

Peer on peer (child on child) abuse

- 2174 9.7. Boarding schools, residential special schools, residential colleges and children’s homes and care
 2175 homes for young adults attending education (FE colleges) have additional factors to consider with
 2176 regard to safeguarding. Schools and colleges that provide such residential accommodation and/or
 2177 are registered as children’s homes should be alert to signs of abuse in such settings (for example,
 2178 inappropriate pupil or student relationships and the potential for peer on peer abuse, particularly in
 2179 schools and colleges where there are significantly more girls than boys or vice versa) and work closely
 2180 with the host local authority and, where relevant, any local authorities that have placed their children
 2181 there. All residential setting within the Organisation children’s service will continuously maintain their
 2182 communication with the internal and external Education providers to ensure the additional factors are
 2183 being considered and any concerns shared in a timely manner and with the right people.
- 2184 9.8. All staff should be aware that children can abuse other children (often referred to as peer on peer
 2185 abuse) and that it can happen both inside and outside of school/college/children’s/care home and
 2186 online. It is important that all staff recognise the indicators and signs of peer on peer abuse and know
 2187 how to identify it and respond to reports. In some schools, colleges, children’s / care homes site –
 2188 based or regional members of therapy teams might need to be involved and support the SLT to identify
 2189 the most effective ways of communication with the child/young person who may have potentially been
 2190 the victim of Peer on Peer abuse and who instigated it.
- 2191 9.9. It must be recognised that children and young people would require varied approaches and
 2192 communication mechanisms to be present and available so they can report abuse. Children must be
 2193 regularly reassured that their concern/reports will be treated seriously every time they report it.
- 2194 9.10. Children needs to be told what will happen from the moment their concern is shared, so the lack of
 2195 knowledge of what may happen next will not prevent them from sharing their concern/s in the future.
 2196 Children need to know that that their concerns will be investigated and dealt with. Child’s/young
 2197 person’s preference in terms of how feedback should be provided must be taken into consideration so
 2198 this can be planed for in advance.
- 2199 9.11. The communication with each child throughout the process of Peer on peer abuse investigation must
 2200 be regular, proportionate and take place using suitable communication.
- 2201 9.12. In [Ofsted review of sexual abuse in schools and colleges](#), young people stated that some of them didn’t
 2202 receive timely and appropriate support from the school/college, hence the communication and support
 2203 must become one of the critical points of a significant priority to those responding to and those
 2204 managing peer on peer abuse cases including those of a sexual nature. Other consideration for all
 2205 providers were:
- 2206 • to assume it is happening here and plan accordingly
 - 2207 • work on and strengthen the whole school, college, children’s/care home approach to
 2208 developing a safeguarding culture
 - 2209 • to ensure staff model respectful behaviour
 - 2210 • to ensure children and young people are clear about acceptable and unacceptable behaviour
 - 2211 • to ensure children/young people are confident to ask for help
 - 2212 • to ensure carefully planned and implemented RSHE curriculum
 - 2213 • to ensure the behavioural approach with sanctions & interventions for poor behaviour
 - 2214 • to have mechanisms to support students who need it in the way they need it
 - 2215 • to ensure staff have access to suitable training & that there are clear expectation for staff and
 2216 Managers
 - 2217 • to ensure pupil’s voice in heard and responded to

- 2218 • to ensure DSLs have some protected time to engage with local safeguarding partners and
2219 LADOs, so those relationships can be strengthened
- 2220 • to ensure staff follow the guidance in Keeping Children Safe in Education
2221
- 2222 9.13. All staff should understand, that even if there are no reports in their schools or colleges it does not
2223 mean it is not happening, it may be the case that it is just not being reported. As such it is important if
2224 staff have any concerns regarding peer on peer abuse they should speak to their DSL (or deputy).
- 2225 9.14. The Organisation has zero - tolerance approach to any type of abuse including sexual violence and
2226 harassment. Staff must NOT take the view that it doesn't not happen in their setting. It is essential that
2227 all staff understand the importance of challenging inappropriate behaviours between peers, many of
2228 which are listed below, that are actually abusive in nature. Downplaying certain behaviours, for
2229 example dismissing sexual harassment as "just banter", "just having a laugh", "part of growing up" or
2230 "boys being boys" can lead to a culture of unacceptable behaviours, an unsafe environment for
2231 children and in worst case scenarios a culture that normalises abuse leading to children accepting it
2232 as normal and not coming forward to report it.
- 2233 9.15. The Organisation recognises that it is more likely that girls will be victims and boys' perpetrators, but
2234 that all peer on peer abuse is unacceptable and will be taken seriously. It is essential that all victims
2235 are reassured that they are being taken seriously and that they will be supported and kept safe.
- 2236 9.16. Peer on peer abuse is most likely to include, but may not be limited to:
2237
- 2238 • bullying (including cyberbullying, prejudice-based and discriminatory bullying);
 - 2239 • abuse in intimate personal relationships between peers
 - 2240 • physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical
2241 harm (this may include an online element which facilitates, threatens and/or encourages physical
2242 abuse)
 - 2243 • sexual violence, such as rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault; (this may include an online
2244 element which facilitates, threatens and/or encourages sexual violence). For further information
2245 about sexual violence see [Annex B](#).
 - 2246 • sexual harassment, such as sexual comments, remarks, jokes and online sexual harassment, which
2247 may be standalone or part of a broader pattern of abuse; For further information about sexual
2248 harassment see [Annex B](#).
 - 2249 • causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent, such as forcing someone to strip,
2250 touch themselves sexually, or to engage in sexual activity with a third party
 - 2251 • consensual and non-consensual sharing of nudes and semi nudes images and or videos (also
2252 known as sexting or youth produced sexual imagery). For more information about this read UKCIS
2253 guidance: [Sharing nudes and semi-nudes advice for education settings](#).
 - 2254 • Upskirting (For further information about upskirting see Annex B) which typically involves taking a
2255 picture under a person's clothing without their permission, with the intention of viewing their genitals
2256 or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm; and
- 2257 9.17. initiation/hazing type violence and rituals (this could include activities involving harassment, abuse or
2258 humiliation used as a way of initiating a person into a group and may also include an online element)
- 2259 9.18. Staff must be clear as to the school/college's/home's procedures with regards to peer on peer abuse
2260 and the important role they have to play in preventing it and responding where they believe a child
2261 may be at risk from it.
- 2262 9.19. All Individuals will be provided with safeguarding information in a format which is appropriate for their
2263 understanding and communication. This may take the form of posters or a leaflet/booklet.

2264 9.20. All contact behaviours that have a sexual nature to them such as pushing or rubbing against, grabbing
 2265 bottoms, breasts or genitals, pinching or flicking bras, lifting skirts or pulling down trousers will be
 2266 challenged by staff and appropriate levels of action, which may include disciplinary action will be taken.
 2267 This is to ensure children/young people and staff are clear that these behaviours will not be tolerated
 2268 or acceptable. However, it is critical to state that some children with cognitive impairment may not be
 2269 able to fully understand how children on the receiving end of such behaviour may feel, therefore staff
 2270 will work with each of the children affected by the situation in order to enhance their understanding of
 2271 the seriousness of their behaviour, so any behaviour of such nature in the future can be prevented.

2272 **Serious violence**

2273 9.21. All staff should be aware of the indicators, which may signal children are at risk from, or are involved
 2274 with serious violent crime. These may include increased absence from school, a change in friendships
 2275 or relationships with older individuals or groups, a significant decline in performance, signs of self-
 2276 harm or a significant change in wellbeing, or signs of assault or unexplained injuries. Unexplained gifts
 2277 or new possessions could also indicate that children have been approached by, or are involved with,
 2278 individuals associated with criminal networks or gangs and may be at risk of criminal exploitation.

2279 9.22. All staff should be aware of the range of risk factors which increase the likelihood of involvement in
 2280 serious violence, such as being male, having been frequently absent or permanently excluded from
 2281 school, having experienced child maltreatment and having been involved in offending, such as theft or
 2282 robbery. Advice for schools and colleges is provided in the Home Office's Preventing youth violence
 2283 and gang involvement and its [Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines](#)
 2284 [guidance](#).

2285 9.23. Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children can occur between two children of **any age**
 2286 **and sex from primary to secondary stage and into colleges. It can also occur online.** It can also occur
 2287 through a group of children sexually assaulting or sexually harassing a single child or group of children.

2288 9.24. Children who are victims of sexual violence and sexual harassment will likely find the experience
 2289 stressful and distressing. This will, in all likelihood, adversely affect their educational attainment and
 2290 will be exacerbated if the alleged perpetrator(s) attends the same school or college or lives in the same
 2291 children's/care home. Sexual violence and sexual harassment exist on a continuum and may overlap,
 2292 they can occur online and face to face (both physically and verbally) and are never acceptable. All staff
 2293 working with children are advised to maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here'.

2294 9.25. It is essential that all victims are reassured that they are being taken seriously and that they will be
 2295 supported and kept safe. **A victim should never be given the impression that they are creating a**
 2296 **problem by reporting sexual violence or sexual harassment.** Nor should a victim ever be made to feel
 2297 ashamed for making a report.

2298 9.26. Reports of sexual violence and sexual harassment are extremely complex to manage. It is essential
 2299 that victims are protected, offered appropriate support and every effort is made to ensure their
 2300 education is not disrupted. It is also important that other children, adult students and school and
 2301 college staff are supported and protected as appropriate.

2302 9.27. There is support available for schools and colleges. Paragraph 52 and Annex A in the [Sexual](#)
 2303 [Violence and Sexual Harassment Between Children in Schools and Colleges](#) advice provides detailed
 2304 information and links to resources.

2305 9.28. Staff should be aware that some groups are potentially more at risk. Evidence shows girls, children
 2306 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and LGBT children are at greater risk.

2307 9.29. Staff should be aware of the importance of:

- 2308 • challenging inappropriate behaviours;
- 2309 • making clear that sexual violence and sexual harassment is not acceptable, will never be
 2310 tolerated and is not an inevitable part of growing up;

- 2311 • not tolerating or dismissing sexual violence or sexual harassment as “banter”, “part of
2312 growing up”, “just having a laugh” or “boys being boys”; and
- 2313 • challenging physical behaviours (potentially criminal in nature), such as grabbing bottoms,
2314 breasts and genitalia, pulling down trousers, flicking bras and lifting up skirts. Dismissing or
2315 tolerating such behaviours risks normalising them.
- 2316 9.30. Children’s sexual behaviour exists on a wide continuum, from normal and developmentally expected
2317 to inappropriate, problematic, abusive and violent. Problematic, abusive and violent sexual behaviour
2318 is developmentally inappropriate and may cause developmental damage. An umbrella term for these
2319 types of behaviour are often referred to as “**harmful sexual behaviour**”. The term has been widely
2320 adopted in child protection. Harmful sexual behaviour can occur online and/or offline and can also
2321 occur simultaneously between the two. Harmful sexual behaviour should be considered in a child
2322 protection context.
- 2323 9.31. Situations where children/young people are forced or coerced into sexual activity by peers or
2324 associates can be related with gang / serious youth violence activity but that is not always the case.
2325 Peer influence or peer pressure is a major factor in the decisions made by young people to join
2326 particular groups. Many young people see it as a “way out” from their day to day life and feel a strong
2327 bond with their peers, one which they may be lacking at home. Examples of peer-on-peer abuse
2328 including sexualised online bullying include:
- 2329 • **Racist and Religious Bullying** - a range of hurtful behaviour, both physical and psychological, that
2330 makes a person feel unwelcome, marginalised, excluded, powerless or worthless because of their
2331 colour, ethnicity, culture, faith community, national origin or national status.
- 2332 • **Sexual, Sexist Bullying** - any behaviour, whether physical or non-physical, where sexuality or gender
2333 is used as a weapon by boys or girls, this may also include any of the following:
- 2334 - spreading rumors about someone's alleged sex life
- 2335 - using offensive terms to describe a person
- 2336 - inappropriate touching or attempts to do so
- 2337 - non-consensual sharing of sexual images and videos
- 2338 - unwanted sexual comments and messages, including those on social media
- 2339 - any sexual exploitation, coercion and threats
- 2340 - sexual assault and rape
- 2341 • **Upskirting** - taking a picture under a person’s clothing without their permission and /or knowledge,
2342 with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks (with or without underwear) to obtain sexual
2343 gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm. It is a criminal offence. Anyone of
2344 any gender, can be a victim The Voyeurism Offences Act, which was commonly known as the
2345 Upskirting Bill, was introduced on 21 June 2018. It came into force on 12 April 2019.
- 2346 • **Transphobic bullying** - is based on fear, hatred, disbelief, or mistrust of people who are
2347 transgender, thought to be transgender, or whose gender expression doesn’t conform to traditional
2348 gender roles. Transphobia can prevent transgender and gender nonconforming people from living
2349 full lives free from harm.
- 2350 • **Homophobic Bullying** - targets someone because of their sexual orientation (or perceived sexual
2351 orientation);
- 2352 • **Disablist Bullying** - targets a young person solely based on their disability. This can include
2353 manipulative bullying where a perpetrator forces the victim to act in a certain way, or exploiting a
2354 certain aspect of the victim’s disability.

- 2355 • **Prejudice based and discriminatory bullying** - Prejudice is an unjustified or incorrect attitude (usually
2356 negative) towards an individual based solely on the individual's membership of a social group. For
2357 example, a person may hold prejudiced views towards a certain race or gender etc. (e.g.
2358 sexist). **Discrimination** is the behavior or actions, usually negative, towards an individual or group of
2359 people, especially on the basis of sex/race/social class.

- 2360 9.32. Definitions related to sexual violence and sexual harassment can be accessed via [KCSIE2021/Annex B](#)
2361 (pages 139 – 140) and more details about how to respond have been included in [KCSIE 2021 Part 5](#).
2362 [Child on child sexual violence and sexual harassment](#).

2363 What staff should do if they have concerns about the child/young person

- 2364 9.33. Staff working with children/young people are advised to maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here'
2365 where safeguarding is concerned. When concerned about the welfare of a child/young person, staff
2366 should always act in the best interests of the child/young person

- 2367 9.34. If staff have any concerns about a child's/young person welfare, they should act on them immediately
2368 by following this procedure and reporting their concern to the DSL/DSL Deputy.

2369 Opportunities to teach safeguarding

- 2370 9.35. Governing bodies and proprietors should ensure that, as part of the requirement for staff to undergo
2371 regular updated safeguarding training, including online safety and the requirement to ensure children
2372 are taught about safeguarding, including online safety, that safeguarding training for staff, including
2373 online safety training, is integrated, aligned and considered as part of the whole school or college
2374 safeguarding approach and wider staff training and curriculum planning.

- 2375 9.36. Whilst considering the above training requirements, governing bodies and proprietors should have
2376 regard to the [Teachers' Standards](#) which set out the expectation that all teachers manage behaviour
2377 effectively to ensure a good and safe educational environment and requires teachers to have a clear
2378 understanding of the needs of all pupils.

- 2379 9.37. Governing bodies and proprietors should ensure that children are taught about safeguarding,
2380 including online safety, and recognise that a one size fits all approach may not be appropriate for all
2381 children, and a more personalised or contextualised approach for more vulnerable children, victims of
2382 abuse and some SEND children might be needed.

- 2383 9.38. Schools should consider all of this as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum (colleges may
2384 cover relevant issues through tutorials). This may include covering relevant issues for schools through
2385 Relationships Education (for all primary pupils) and Relationships and Sex Education (for all secondary
2386 pupils) and Health Education (for all pupils in state-funded schools). The statutory guidance can be
2387 found here: [Statutory guidance: relationships education relationships and sex education \(RSE\) and
2388 health education](#).

- 2389 9.39. The Department has produced a one-stop page for teachers on GOV.UK, which can be accessed here:
2390 Teaching about relationships sex and health. This includes teacher training modules on the RSHE topics
2391 and non-statutory implementation guidance. The following resources may also help schools and
2392 colleges understand and teach about safeguarding:

- 2393 • DfE advice for schools: [teaching online safety in schools](#);
- 2394 • UK Council for Internet Safety (UKCIS)32 guidance: [Education for a connected world](#);
- 2395 • UKCIS guidance: [Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working
2396 with children and young people](#);
- 2397 • The UKCIS [external visitors guidance](#) will help schools and colleges to ensure the
2398 maximum impact of any online safety sessions delivered by external visitors;
- 2399 • National Crime Agency's CEOP education programme: [Thinkuknow](#);

- 2400
- Public Health England: [Rise Above](#)
- 2401 9.40. As schools and colleges increasingly work online, it is essential that children are safeguarded from
2402 potentially harmful and inappropriate online material. Whilst it is essential that governing bodies and
2403 proprietors ensure that appropriate filters and monitoring systems are in place, they should be careful
2404 that “over blocking” does not lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what children can be taught with
2405 regard to online teaching and safeguarding.

2406 Online safety

- 2407 9.41. It is essential that children are safeguarded from potentially harmful and inappropriate online material.
2408 An effective whole school and college approach to online safety empowers a school or college to
2409 protect and educate pupils, students, and staff in their use of technology and establishes mechanisms
2410 to identify, intervene in, and escalate any concerns where appropriate.

- 2411 9.42. The breadth of issues classified within online safety is considerable, but can be categorised into four
2412 areas of risk which we’ll refer to as 4Cs later on:

- 2413 • **content:** being exposed to illegal, inappropriate or harmful content, for example:
2414 pornography, fake news, racism, misogyny, self-harm, suicide, anti-Semitism,
2415 radicalisation and extremism.

- 2416 • **contact:** being subjected to harmful online interaction with other users; for example: peer
2417 to peer pressure, commercial advertising and adults posing as children or young adults
2418 with the intention to groom or exploit them for sexual, criminal, financial or other
2419 purposes’.

- 2420 • **conduct:** personal online behaviour that increases the likelihood of, or causes, harm; for
2421 example, making, sending and receiving explicit images (e.g consensual and non-
2422 consensual sharing of nudes and semi-nudes and/or pornography, sharing other
2423 explicit images and online bullying; and

- 2424 • **commerce** - risks such as online gambling, inappropriate advertising, phishing and or
2425 financial scams. If you feel your pupils, students or staff are at risk, please report it to the
2426 Anti-Phishing Working Group <https://apwg.org/>

- 2427 9.43. Schools and colleges should ensure online safety is a running and interrelated theme whilst devising
2428 and implementing policies and procedures. This will include considering how online safety is reflected
2429 as required in all relevant policies and considering online safety whilst planning the curriculum, any
2430 teacher training, the role and responsibilities of the DSL and any parental engagement.

2431 Online safety policy

- 2432 9.44. Online safety and the school or college’s approach to it should be reflected in the child protection policy.
2433 Considering the 4Cs (above) will provide the basis of an effective online policy. The school or college
2434 should have a clear policy on the use of mobile and smart technology. Amongst other things this will
2435 reflect the fact many children have unlimited and unrestricted access to the internet via mobile phone
2436 networks (i.e. 3G, 4G and 5G). This access means some children, whilst at school or college, sexually
2437 harass their peers via their mobile and smart technology, share indecent images: consensually and
2438 non-consensually (often via large chat groups), and view and share pornography and other harmful
2439 content. Schools and colleges should carefully consider how this is managed on their premises and
2440 reflect in their mobile and smart technology policy and their child protection policy.

- 2441 9.45. Information and support available to schools and colleges to keep children safe online can be found
2442 in [KCSIE 2021 Annex D](#).

2443 Remote Learning

2444 9.46. Where children are being asked to learn online at home the Department has provided advice to support
2445 schools and colleges do so safely: [Schools Covid-19 operational guidance](#) (this covers Remote
2446 education) and [safeguarding and remote education](#). The NSPCC and PSHE Association also provide
2447 helpful advice:

- 2448 • NSPCC Learning - [Undertaking remote teaching safely during school closures](#)
- 2449 • PSHE - [PSHE Association coronavirus hub](#)

2450 **Filters and monitoring**

2451 9.47. Whilst considering their responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and provide
2452 them with a safe environment in which to learn, governing bodies and proprietors should be doing all
2453 that they reasonably can to limit children's exposure to the above risks from the school's or college's IT
2454 system. As part of this process, governing bodies and proprietors should ensure their school or college
2455 has appropriate filters and monitoring systems in place. Governing bodies and proprietors should
2456 consider the age range of their children, the number of children, how often they access the IT system
2457 and the proportionality of costs vs risks. Schools will work with the internal Cambian/Care tech IT team
2458 and seek advice and support required.

2459 9.48. The appropriateness of any filters and monitoring systems are a matter for individual schools and
2460 colleges and will be informed in part, by the risk assessment required by the [Prevent Duty](#). The UK
2461 Safer Internet Centre has published guidance as to what "appropriate" filtering and monitoring might
2462 look like: UK Safer Internet Centre: [appropriate filtering and monitoring](#).

2463 **Information security and access management**

2464 9.49. Education settings are directly responsible for ensuring they have the appropriate level of security
2465 protection procedures in place, in order to safeguard their systems, staff and learners and review the
2466 effectiveness of these procedures periodically to keep up with evolving cyber-crime technologies.
2467 Guidance on e-security is available from the National Education Network. In addition, broader
2468 guidance on cyber security including considerations for governors and trustees can be found at
2469 NCSC.GOV.UK.

2470 **Reviewing online safety**

2471 9.50. Technology, and risks and harms related to it evolve and changes rapidly. Schools and colleges should
2472 consider carrying out an annual review of their approach to online safety, supported by an annual risk
2473 assessment that considers and reflects the risks their children face. A free online safety self-review tool
2474 for schools can be found via the [360 safe website](#).

2475 9.51. UKCIS has published [Online safety in schools and colleges: Questions from the governing board](#). The
2476 questions can be used to gain a basic understanding of the current approach to keeping children safe
2477 online; learn how to improve this approach where appropriate; and find out about tools which can be
2478 used to improve the approach. It has also published an Online Safety Audit Tool which helps mentors
2479 of trainee teachers and newly qualified teachers induct mentees and provide ongoing support,
2480 development and monitoring.

2481 **Information and support**

2482 9.52. There is a wealth of additional information available to support schools, colleges and parents to keep
2483 children safe online. A sample is provided at [Annex D](#) (page 152 – 154).

2484 **Cyberbullying**

2485 9.53. Central to Anti-bullying policy is the principle that 'bullying is always unacceptable' and that 'all
2486 children/young people have a right not to be bullied'. School/colleges also recognises that it must take
2487 note of bullying perpetrated outside school/college which spills over into the school/college; therefore
2488 once aware services will respond to any cyber-bullying we become aware of carried out by
2489 children/young people when they are away from the site.

2490 9.54. Cyber-bullying is defined as ‘an aggressive, intentional act carried out by a group or individual using
2491 electronic forms of contact repeatedly over time against a victim who cannot easily defend
2492 himself/herself.’

2493 • By cyber-bullying, we mean bullying by electronic media:

2494 • Bullying by texts or messages or calls on mobile ‘phones

2495 • The use of mobile ‘phone cameras to cause distress, fear or humiliation

2496 • Posting threatening, abusive, defamatory or humiliating material on websites, to include blogs,
2497 personal websites, social networking sites

2498 • Using e-mail to message others

2499 • Hijacking/cloning e-mail accounts

2500 • Making threatening, abusive, defamatory or humiliating remarks in on-line forums

2501 9.55. Cyber-bullying may be at a level where it is criminal in character. It is unlawful to disseminate
2502 defamatory information in any media including internet sites.

2503 9.56. Section 127 of the Communications Act 2003 makes it an offence to send, by public means of a public
2504 electronic communications network, a message or other matter that is grossly offensive or one of an
2505 indecent, obscene or menacing character.

2506 9.57. The Protection from Harassment Act 1997 makes it an offence to knowingly pursue any course of
2507 conduct amounting to harassment.

2508 9.58. If services become aware of any incidents of cyberbullying, they will need to consider each case
2509 individually as to any criminal act that may have been committed. The services will pass on information
2510 to the police if it feels that it is appropriate or is required to do so.

2511 **Gaming – raising awareness**

2512 9.59. Online gaming is an activity in which the majority of children and young people and many adults get
2513 involved. The services will raise awareness by talking to children/young people/key workers/staff and
2514 also where appropriate parents/carers involved about the games their children play and help them
2515 identify whether they are appropriate.

2516 **Nudes/semi nudes images or videos**

2517 9.60. Sexting is when someone shares sexual, naked or semi-naked images or videos of themselves or
2518 others, or sends sexually explicit messages. They can be sent using mobiles, tablets, smartphones,
2519 laptops - any device that enables the sharing of media and messages. Sexting may also be called:
2520 trading nudes, dirties, pic for pic.

2521 9.61. Sexting can be seen as harmless, but creating or sharing explicit images of a child is illegal, even if the
2522 person doing it is a child. A young person is breaking the law if they:

2523 • take an explicit photo or video of themselves or a friend

2524 • share an explicit image or video of a child, even if it’s shared between children of the same age

2525 • possess, download or store an explicit image or video of a child, even if the child gave their
2526 permission for it to be created.

2527 9.62. However, if a young person is found creating or sharing images, the police can choose to record that
2528 a crime has been committed but that taking formal action isn’t in the public interest. There are many
2529 reasons why a young person may want to send a naked or semi-naked picture, video or message to
2530 someone else:

- 2531 • joining in because they think that ‘everyone is doing it’
- 2532 • boosting their self-esteem
- 2533 • flirting with others and testing their sexual identity
- 2534 • exploring their sexual feelings
- 2535 • to get attention and connect with new people on social media
- 2536 • they may find it difficult to say no if somebody asks them for an explicit image, especially if the
- 2537 person asking is persistent

2538 9.63. The risks of sexting are that the young person has no control over the images and how these are
 2539 shared, and the subsequent risks of blackmail, bullying and harm. In response to this Cambian Group
 2540 will provide education and guidance to prevent individuals from becoming victims of such situations
 2541 by encouraging them to think about the risk of sexting and understand how to seek help when
 2542 approached to take part in sexting. More information can be found on: [Keeping-children-safe/online-](#)
 2543 [safety/sexting-sending-nudes](#).

2544 **Online reputation**

2545 9.64. Online reputation is the opinion others get of a person when they encounter them on-line. It is formed
 2546 by posts, photos that have been uploaded and comments made by others on people’s profiles. It is
 2547 important that children/young people and staff are aware that anything that is posted could influence
 2548 their future professional reputation. The majority of organisations and work establishments now check
 2549 digital footprint before considering applications for positions or places on courses.

2550 **Grooming**

2551 9.65. On-line grooming is the process by which one person with an inappropriate sexual interest in
 2552 children/young people will approach a child/young person on-line, with the intention of developing a
 2553 relationship with that child/young person, to be able to meet them in person and intentionally cause
 2554 harm.

2555 9.66. The services will build awareness amongst children/young people, parents/carers and staff about
 2556 ensuring that the child/young person:

- 2557 • Only has friends on-line that they know in real life
- 2558 • Is aware that if they communicate with somebody that they have met on-line, that relationship
- 2559 should stay on-line.

2560 9.67. Where appropriate that the services will support parents/carers to:

- 2561 • Recognise the signs of grooming
- 2562 • Have regular conversations with their children/young people about on-line activity and how to stay
- 2563 safe on-line

2564 9.68. Where appropriate the services will raise awareness by:

- 2565 • Regular communication with the families
- 2566 • Schools/colleges will include awareness around grooming as part of their curriculum
- 2567 • Identifying with the families and children/young people how they can be safeguarded against
- 2568 grooming.

2569 **Violence against women and girls (VAWG)**

2570 9.69. Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a hate crime and a violation of the Human Rights of
2571 women and girls. The government has a strategy looking at specific issues that women and girls face.

2572 9.70. It is also one of the most oppressive forms of gender inequality and stands as a fundamental barrier
2573 to equal participation of women and men in social, economic, and political spheres. Such violence
2574 impedes gender equality and the achievement of a range of development outcomes. VAWG is a
2575 complex and multifaceted problem that cannot effectively be addressed from a single vantage point.
2576 The prevention of and response to such violence require coordinated action across multiple sectors.
2577

2578 **Female genital mutilation (FGM)**

2579 9.71. FGM comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other
2580 injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons, hence interferes with the natural function
2581 of girls' and women's bodies. It has no health benefits and harms girls and women in many ways.

2582 9.72. The age at which girls undergo FGM varies enormously according to the community in which they live.
2583 The procedure may be carried out when the girl is new-born, during childhood or adolescence, just
2584 before marriage or during the first pregnancy. However, the majority of cases of FGM are thought to
2585 take place between the ages of 5 to 8 years and therefore girls within that age bracket are at a higher
2586 risk.

2587 9.73. In 2003 FGM became a criminal offence for UK nationals or permanent UK residents to take their child
2588 abroad to have female genital mutilation. Anyone found guilty of the offence faces a maximum penalty
2589 of 14 years in prison. It is mandatory for teachers to report known cases of FGM to the police.

2590 **Forced marriage**

2591 9.74. In the case of children and young people: 'a forced marriage is a marriage in which one or both
2592 spouses cannot consent to the marriage and duress is involved. Duress can include physical,
2593 psychological, financial, sexual and emotional pressure.' In developing countries approx. 11% of girls
2594 are married before the age of 15. One in 3 victims of forced marriage in the UK are under 18 years old.

2595 9.75. It is important that all members of staff recognise the presenting symptoms, know how to respond if
2596 there are concerns and where to turn for advice.

2597 9.76. Advice and help can be obtained nationally through the **Forced Marriage Unit on +44 (0) 20 7008 0151**
2598 and locally through the local police safeguarding team or children's social care.

2599 9.77. While all members of staff (education, care, clinical) have important responsibilities with regard to
2600 children, young people or adults who may be at risk of forced marriage, managers and leaders should
2601 not undertake roles in this regard that are most appropriately discharged by other children's services
2602 professionals such as police officers or social workers.

2603 **Breast ironing**

2604 9.78. Breast ironing, also known as breast flattening, is the pounding and massaging of a pubescent girl's
2605 breasts, using hard or heated objects, to try to make them stop developing or disappear. It is typically
2606 carried out by the girl's mother who will say she is trying to protect the girl from sexual harassment and
2607 rape, to prevent early pregnancy that would tarnish the family name, or to allow the girl to pursue
2608 education rather than be forced into early marriage. It is mostly practiced in parts of Cameroon, where
2609 boys and men may think that girls whose breasts have begun to grow are ready for sex. Some reports
2610 suggest that it has spread to the Cameroonian diaspora, for example to Britain. The most widely used
2611 implement for breast ironing is a wooden pestle normally used for pounding tubers.

2612 9.79. Any suspected cases of breast ironing **MUST** be reported immediately under this Child Protection and
2613 Safeguarding policy and the Individual offered medical help.

2614 **Teenage relationship abuse**

2615 9.80. Research has shown that teenagers don't readily understand what constitutes abusive behaviour such
2616 as controlling behaviours, which can escalate to physical abuse, e.g. checking someone's phone,
2617 telling them what to wear, who they can/can't see or speak to and that this abuse is prevalent within
2618 teen relationships.

2619 9.81. Further research shows that teenagers don't understand what consent means within their
2620 relationships. They often hold the common misconception that rape can only be committed by a
2621 stranger down a dark alley and don't understand that it could happen within their own relationships.
2622 This can lead to these abusive behaviours feeling 'normal' and therefore unchallenged as they are not
2623 recognised as being 'abusive'.

2624 9.82. Vulnerable Individuals may struggle to understand such concepts and the potential consequences of
2625 their own, their peers or others behaviour towards them. Therefore significant effort will be made to
2626 raise awareness of it and respond effectively to such situations.

2627 9.83. In response to this Cambian Group will provide education and guidance to prevent teenagers from
2628 becoming victims and perpetrators of abusive relationships - encouraging them to rethink their views
2629 of violence, abuse and controlling behaviours, and understand what consent means within
2630 relationships.

2631 Honour-based violence

2632 9.84. It is often linked to family members or acquaintances who mistakenly believe someone has brought
2633 shame to their family or community by doing something that is not in keeping with the traditional beliefs
2634 of their culture. However, abuse committed in the context of preserving "honour" often involves a wider
2635 network of family or community pressure and can include multiple perpetrators. It is important to be
2636 aware of this dynamic and additional risk factors when deciding what form of safeguarding action to
2637 take" for example, honour-based violence might be committed against individuals who:

- 2638 • become involved with a boyfriend or girlfriend from a different culture or religion
- 2639 • want to get out of an arranged marriage
- 2640 • want to get out of a forced marriage
- 2641 • wear clothes or take part in activities that might not be considered traditional within a particular
2642 culture.

2643 9.85. Girls and women are the most common victims of honour-based violence however it can also affect
2644 men and boys. Crimes of 'honour' do not always include violence. Crimes committed in the name of
2645 'honour' might include: domestic abuse, threats of violence, assault, sexual or psychological abuse,
2646 forced marriage, being held against their will or taken somewhere they don't want to go.

2647 9.86. If staff believe that the Individual is at risk from honour-based violence the DSL will follow the usual
2648 safeguarding referral process. However, if it is clear that a crime has been committed or the Individual
2649 is at immediate risk the police will be contacted in the first place, this is a mandatory duty placed on
2650 teachers. It is important that if honour-based violence is known or suspected, communities and family
2651 members must NOT be contacted prior to referral to the police or social care as this could increase the
2652 risk to the individual.

2653 Preventing extremism and radicalisation

2654 9.87. All staff are fully aware of their duty in assessing the risk of Individuals being drawn into terrorism
2655 including support for terrorism ideology and extremist ideas. In accordance with our **026. Preventing**
2656 **Extremism and Radicalisation policy** and **0.27 E-safety policy** we all need to be vigilant in ensuring the
2657 safety from extremist and terrorist material when accessing the internet. We take into account **Insert**
2658 Local Authority Safeguarding Children's Board arrangements to fulfil its Prevent duties.

2659 9.88. Children are vulnerable to extremist ideology and radicalisation. Similar to protecting children from
2660 other forms of harms and abuse, protecting children from this risk should be a part of a schools' or
2661 colleges' safeguarding approach.

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- **Extremism** is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.
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- **Radicalisation** refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.
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- **Terrorism** is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat **must** be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

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9.89. There is no single way of identifying whether a child is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. Background factors combined with specific influences such as family and friends may contribute to a child's vulnerability. Similarly, radicalisation can occur through many different methods (such as social media or the internet) and settings (such as within the home).

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9.90. However, it is possible to protect vulnerable people from extremist ideology and intervene to prevent those at risk of radicalisation being radicalised. As with other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour, which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff should use their judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include making a Prevent referral.

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9.91. The school's or college's DSL (and any deputies) should be aware of local procedures for making a Prevent referral

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9.92. All schools and colleges are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the CTSA 2015), in the exercise of their functions, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism". This duty is known as **the Prevent duty**.

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9.93. [An online general awareness training module on Channel is available](#). The module is suitable for school staff and other front-line workers. It provides an introduction to the topics covered by this advice, including how to identify factors that can make people vulnerable to radicalisation, and case studies illustrating the types of intervention that may be appropriate, in addition to Channel.

2689 Prevent Duty

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9.94. The Prevent duty should be seen as part of schools' and colleges' wider safeguarding obligations. DSLs and other senior leaders in schools should familiarise themselves with the revised [Prevent duty guidance: for England and Wales](#), especially paragraphs 57-76, which are specifically concerned with schools (and also covers childcare). DSLs and other senior leaders in colleges should familiarise themselves with the [Prevent duty guidance: for further education institutions in England and Wales](#). The guidance is set out in terms of four general themes: risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training, and IT policies.

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9.95. Local authorities will be expected to ensure appropriate frontline staff, including those of it's contractors, have a good understanding of Prevent are trained to recognise vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism and are aware of available programmes to deal with this issue.

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9.96. As the independent body responsible for standards and quality improvement for further education, the Education and Training Foundation will work with the sector to ensure that appropriate training is available. This will include and draw from training provided through the network of Prevent co-ordinators.

2704 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)

2705 9.97. This section of the policy must be read in conjunction with our 0.29 Child Sexual Exploitation policy.

2706 9.98. Both CSE and CCE are forms of abuse that occur where an individual or group takes advantage of an
 2707 imbalance in power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into taking part in sexual or criminal
 2708 activity, in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or for the financial advantage or
 2709 increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator and/or through violence or the threat of violence. CSE
 2710 and CCE can affect children, both male and female and can include children who have been moved
 2711 (commonly referred to as trafficking) for the purpose of exploitation.

2712

Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)

2713 9.99. Some specific forms of CCE can include children being forced or manipulated into transporting drugs
 2714 or money through county lines, working in cannabis factories, shoplifting or pickpocketing. They can
 2715 also be forced or manipulated into committing vehicle crime or threatening/committing serious
 2716 violence to others. Children can become trapped by this type of exploitation as perpetrators can
 2717 threaten victims (and their families) with violence, or entrap and coerce them into debt. They may be
 2718 coerced into carrying weapons such as knives or begin to carry a knife for a sense of protection from
 2719 harm from others. As children involved in criminal exploitation often commit crimes themselves, their
 2720 vulnerability as victims is not always recognised by adults and professionals, (particularly older
 2721 children), and they are not treated as victims despite the harm they have experienced. They may still
 2722 have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears to be something they have agreed or
 2723 consented to.

2724 9.100. It is important to note that the experience of girls who are criminally exploited can be very different to
 2725 that of boys. The indicators may not be the same, however professionals should be aware that girls
 2726 are at risk of criminal exploitation too. It is also important to note that both boys and girls being
 2727 criminally exploited may be at higher risk of sexual exploitation.

2728

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

2729 9.101. CSE is a form of child sexual abuse. Sexual abuse may involve physical contact, including assault by
 2730 penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing,
 2731 rubbing, and touching outside clothing. It may include noncontact activities, such as involving children
 2732 in the production of sexual images, forcing children to look at sexual images or watch sexual activities,
 2733 encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways or grooming a child in preparation for
 2734 abuse including via the internet.

2735 9.102. CSE can occur over time or be a one-off occurrence, and may happen without the child's immediate
 2736 knowledge e.g. through others sharing videos or images of them on social media.

2737 9.103. CSE can affect any child, who has been coerced into engaging in sexual activities. This includes 16 and
 2738 17 year olds who can legally consent to have sex. Some children may not realise they are being
 2739 exploited e.g. they believe they are in a genuine romantic relationship

2740 9.104. Children with learning difficulties can be particularly vulnerable to exploitation as can children from
 2741 particular groups, e.g. looked after children, young carers, children who have a history of physical,
 2742 sexual emotional abuse or neglect or mental health problems; children who use drugs or alcohol,
 2743 children who go missing from home or school, children involved in crime, children with parents/carers
 2744 who have mental health problems, learning difficulties/other issues, children who associate with other
 2745 children involved in exploitation. However, it is important to recognise that any child can be targeted.

2746 9.105. Whilst age may be the most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors
 2747 including gender, sexual identity, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or
 2748 other resources. In some cases, the abuse will be in exchange for something the victim needs or wants
 2749 and/or will be to the financial benefit or other advantage (such as increased status) of the perpetrator
 2750 or facilitator.

2751 9.106. The abuse can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, males or females, and children (under the age
 2752 of 18 years, including 16 and 17 year olds who can legally consent to have sex) or adults. It is critical to
 2753 know that children/young people may also be exploited by other children/young people, who
 2754 themselves may be experiencing exploitation – where this is the case, it is important that the
 2755 child/young person perpetrator is also recognised as a victim.

2756 9.107. The abuse can be a one-off occurrence or a series of incidents over time, and range from opportunistic
2757 to complex organised abuse. It can involve force and/or enticement-based methods of compliance
2758 and may, or may not, be accompanied by violence or threats of violence. Victims can be exploited even
2759 when activity appears consensual and it should be noted exploitation as well as being physical can be
2760 facilitated and/or take place online. More information include definitions and indicators are included
2761 in - [KCSIE2021 - Part One](#). Some of the following can be indicators of both child criminal and sexual
2762 exploitation where children:

- 2763 • appear with unexplained gifts or new professions;
- 2764 • associate with other young people involved in exploitation;
- 2765 • suffer from changes in emotional well-being;
- 2766 • misuse drugs and alcohol;
- 2767 • go missing for periods of time or regularly or come home late; and
- 2768 • regularly miss school or education or do not take part in education.

2769 9.108. Some additional specific indicators that may be present in CSE and children who:

- 2770 • Children who have older boyfriends or girlfriends; and
- 2771 • Children who suffer from sexually transmitted infections, display sexual behaviours beyond
2772 expected sexual development or or become pregnant.

2773 9.109. Further information on signs of a child's involvement in sexual exploitation is available in Home Office
2774 guidance: Child sexual exploitation: guide for practitioners.

2775 9.110. As an organisation we do recognise that the same level of exploitation may take place involving
2776 vulnerable young people/adults at risk above the age of 18. An adult at risk is any person who is aged
2777 18 years or over and at risk of abuse or neglect because of their needs for care and/or support (The
2778 Care Act 2014). As we do provide services for vulnerable young people/adults at risk, therefore it is
2779 expected that the above statement will equally apply to those who are 18+ across England and Wales.

2780 9.111. Children under the age of criminal responsibility (under the age of 10), or young people who have
2781 increased vulnerability due to push and pull factors who are manipulated, coerced or forced into
2782 criminal activity provide opportunity for criminals to distance themselves from crime.

2783 County Lines

2784 9.112. County lines is a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting
2785 illegal drugs using dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of "deal line". This activity can happen
2786 locally as well as across the UK - no specified distance of travel is required. Children and vulnerable
2787 adults are exploited to move, store and sell drugs and money. Offenders will often use coercion,
2788 intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons to ensure compliance of victims.
2789 Children can be targeted and recruited. Exploitation is an integral part of the county lines, children may
2790 become victims through: coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual) and weapons.

2791 9.113. Children can be targeted and recruited into county lines in a number of locations including schools,
2792 further and higher educational institutions, pupil referral units, special educational needs schools,
2793 children's homes and care homes. Children are often recruited to move drugs and money between
2794 locations and are known to be exposed to techniques such as 'plugging', where drugs are concealed
2795 internally to avoid detection. Children can easily become trapped by this type of exploitation as county
2796 lines gangs create drug debts and can threaten serious violence and kidnap towards victims (and their
2797 families) if they attempt to leave the county lines network.

2798 9.114. Children are also increasingly being targeted and recruited online using social media. Children can
2799 easily become trapped by this type of exploitation as county lines gangs can manufacture drug debts
2800 which need to be worked off or threaten serious violence and kidnap towards victims (and their
2801 families) if they attempt to leave the county lines network. These children and young people are at
2802 serious risk of criminalisation, sexual exploitation and exposure to violence. This is facilitated by a group
2803 who may not necessarily be affiliated to a gang, but who have developed networks across
2804 geographical boundaries to access and exploit existing drugs markets in these areas.

2805 9.115. The group, or individuals exploited by them, travel regularly between the urban hub and the rural
2806 marketplace, to replenish stock and deliver cash. This movement is not unique to county lines drug
2807 supply but is generally more frequent and in smaller deal amounts compared to most other drug
2808 supply methods.

2809 9.116. A number of the indicators for CSE and CCE as detailed above may be applicable to where children
2810 are involved in county lines. Some additional specific indicators that may be present where a child is
2811 criminally exploited through involvement in county lines are children who:

- 2812 • go missing and are subsequently found in areas away from their home;
- 2813 • have been the victim or perpetrator of serious violence (e.g. knife crime);
- 2814 • are involved in receiving requests for drugs via a phone line, moving drugs, handing over and
2815 collecting money for drugs;
- 2816 • are exposed to techniques such as 'plugging', where drugs are concealed internally to avoid
2817 detection;
- 2818 • are found in accommodation that they have no connection with, often called a 'trap house or
2819 cuckooing' or hotel room where there is drug activity;
- 2820 • owe a 'debt bond' to their exploiters;
- 2821 • have their bank accounts used to facilitate drug dealing.

2822 9.117. If a child is suspected to be at risk of or involved in county lines, a safeguarding referral should be
2823 considered alongside consideration of availability of local services/third sector providers who offer
2824 support to victims of county lines exploitation.

2825 Cuckooing

2826 9.118. This is the exploitation of young people that might be vulnerable is a common feature in the facilitation
2827 of county lines drugs supply, whether for the storage or supply of drugs, the movement of cash, or to
2828 secure the use of dwellings held by vulnerable people in the rural marketplace - commonly referred to
2829 as cuckooing.

2830 9.119. Cuckooing is a form of crime in which drug dealers take over the home of a vulnerable person in order
2831 to use it as a base for drug dealing. As of the 2010s, cuckooing is becoming an increasingly common
2832 problem in the South of England. The crime is named for the cuckoo's practice of taking over other
2833 birds' nests for its young.

2834 9.120. The group is inclined to use intimidation, violence and weapons, including knives, corrosives and
2835 firearms.

2836 9.121. Additional to the list under Serious Violent Crime section, other indicators that a child may be criminally
2837 exploited include:

- 2838 ▪ Increase in missing episodes (Education and/or Care) – particular key as children/young people
2839 can be missing for days and drug run in other counties
- 2840 ▪ Having unexplained amounts of money, new high cost items and multiple mobile phones
- 2841 ▪ Increased social media and phone/text use, almost always secretly

2883 9.130. Every precaution is taken through the use of risk assessments and thorough planning and supervision
2884 to ensure that children, young people and young adults are safe both at school, college, home, and
2885 on outings. If a child, young person or young adult goes missing from our Location it is considered a
2886 potential indicator of abuse or neglect.

2887 9.131. Our staff members must follow our **0.23. Missing from Care and Education policy** in the event of
2888 someone going missing. All homes/schools/colleges must inform the LA of any student who fails to
2889 attend school regularly or has been absent without the school's permission for a continuous period of
2890 10 days or more or as such intervals agreed with the Local Authority. It is essential that all staff are
2891 alert to signs such as travelling to conflict zones, FGM and forced marriage.

2892 9.132. Coercion and manipulation often increase a young person's vulnerability to exploitation, pushing them
2893 towards going missing and becoming involved in criminal activities. Some individuals may be pulled
2894 towards exploitation through the promise of money, gifts, affection and status. However, they may be
2895 then be forced to work for these people as they are coerced into believing that they are indebted to
2896 them.

2897 **Domestic abuse**

2898 9.133. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 received Royal Assent on 29 April 2021. The Act introduces the first ever
2899 statutory definition of domestic abuse and recognises the impact of domestic abuse on children, as
2900 victims in their own right, if they see, hear or experience the effects of abuse. The statutory definition of
2901 domestic abuse, based on the previous cross-government definition, ensures that different types of
2902 relationships are captured, including ex-partners and family members. The definition captures a range
2903 of different abusive behaviours, including physical, emotional and economic abuse and coercive and
2904 controlling behaviour. Both the person who is carrying out the behaviour and the person to whom the
2905 behaviour is directed towards must be aged 16 or over and they must be "personally connected" (as
2906 defined in section 2 of the 2021 Act).

2907 9.134. Types of domestic abuse include intimate partner violence, abuse by family members, teenage
2908 relationship abuse and child/adolescent to parent violence and abuse. Anyone can be a victim of
2909 domestic abuse, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sexuality or background
2910 and domestic abuse can take place inside or outside of the home. The government will issue statutory
2911 guidance to provide further information for those working with domestic abuse victims and
2912 perpetrators, including the impact on children.

2913 9.135. All children can witness and be adversely affected by domestic abuse in the context of their home life
2914 where domestic abuse occurs between family members. Experiencing domestic abuse and/or violence
2915 can have a serious, long lasting emotional and psychological impact on children. In some cases, a
2916 child may blame themselves for the abuse or may have had to leave the family home as a result.

2917 9.136. Young people can also experience domestic abuse within their own intimate relationships. This form
2918 of peer on peer abuse is sometimes referred to as 'teenage relationship abuse'. Depending on the age
2919 of the young people, this may not be recognised in law under the statutory definition of 'domestic
2920 abuse' (if one or both parties are under 16). However, as with any child under 18, where there are
2921 concerns about safety or welfare, child safeguarding procedures should be followed and both young
2922 victims and young perpetrators should be offered support. The Act's provisions, including the new
2923 definition, will be commenced over the coming months.

2924 9.137. [Operation Encompass](#) operates in all police forces across England. It helps police and schools work
2925 together to provide emotional and practical help to children. The system ensures that when police are
2926 called to an incident of domestic abuse, where there are children in the household who have
2927 experienced the domestic incident, the police will inform the key adult (usually the DSL) in school before
2928 the child or children arrive at school the following day. This ensures that the school has up to date
2929 relevant information about the child's circumstances and can enable immediate support to be put in
2930 place, according to the child's needs. Operation Encompass does not replace statutory safeguarding
2931 procedures. Where appropriate, the police and/or schools should make a referral to children's social
2932 care if they are concerned about a child's welfare. More information about the scheme and how
2933 schools can become involved is available on the Operation Encompass website.

2934 9.138. Refuge runs the National Domestic Abuse Helpline, which can be called free of charge and in
 2935 confidence, 24 hours a day on 0808 2000 247. Its website provides guidance and support for potential
 2936 victims, as well as those who are worried about friends and loved ones. It also has a form through
 2937 which a safe time from the team for a call can be booked. Additional advice on identifying children
 2938 who are affected by domestic abuse and how they can be helped is available at:

- 2939 • [NSPCC- UK domestic-abuse Signs Symptoms Effects](#)
- 2940 • [Refuge what is domestic violence/effects of domestic violence on children](#)
- 2941 • [Saflives: young people and domestic abuse.](#)
- 2942 • [Domestic abuse: specialist sources of support - GOV.UK](#) (www.gov.uk) (includes
 2943 information for adult victims, young people facing abuse in their own relationships and
 2944 parents experiencing child to parent violence/abuse)
- 2945 • Home : [Operation Encompass](#) (includes information for schools on the impact of
 2946 domestic abuse on children)

2947 **Serious Violent Crime**

2948 9.139. All staff should be aware of indicators, which may signal that children are at risk from, or are involved
 2949 with serious violent crime. These may include:

- 2950 • increased absence from school with a significant decline in performance,
- 2951 • a change in friendships or relationships with older individuals or group,
- 2952 • signs of self-harm or a significant change in well-being, or signs of assault or unexplained injuries,
- 2953 • unexplained gifts or new possessions could also indicate that children have been approached by,
 2954 or are involved with individuals associated with criminal networks or gangs.

2955 9.140. All staff should be aware of the associated risks and understand the measures in place to measure
 2956 these. Advice for schools and colleges is provided in the Home Office’s Preventing youth violence and
 2957 gang involvement and its [criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: County Lines guidance](#)
 2958 [- September 2018](#).

2959 **Mental Health**

2960 9.141. Schools, colleges and homes have an important role to play in supporting the mental health and
 2961 wellbeing of young people. All staff should be aware that mental health problems can, in some cases,
 2962 be an indicator that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation.

2963 9.142. Schools/colleges and homes need to ensure they have clear systems and processes in place for
 2964 identifying possible mental health problems, including routes to escalate and clear referral and
 2965 accountability systems.

2966 9.143. The Department is providing funding to support costs of a significant training program for senior mental
 2967 health leads and the national rollout of the [Link Program](#). Training for senior mental health leads, will
 2968 be available to all state-funded schools and colleges by 2025, to help introduce or develop their whole
 2969 school or college approach to mental health.

2970 9.144. Only appropriately trained professionals should attempt to make a diagnosis of a mental health
 2971 problem. Staff however, are well placed to observe children day-to-day and identify those whose
 2972 behaviour suggests that they may be experiencing a mental health problem or be at risk of developing
 2973 one. If staff suspect this might be the case they should report their concerns to a senior leader with in
 2974 the school and if possible bring their concerns to a member of the clinical team.

2975 9.145. Where children have suffered abuse and neglect, or other potentially traumatic adverse childhood
 2976 experiences, this can have a lasting impact throughout childhood, adolescence and into adulthood. It
 2977 is key that staff receive appropriate education and training so that they are aware of how these
 2978 children’s experiences, can impact on their mental health, behaviour and education.

2979 9.146. If staff have a mental health concern about a child that is also a safeguarding concern, immediate
 2980 action should be taken. Staff should follow their child protection policy and speak immediately to the
 2981 DSL or a deputy.

2982 9.147. Schools and colleges can access a range of advice to help them identify children in need of extra
 2983 mental health support, this includes working with external agencies. More information can be found
 2984 in the [mental health and behaviour in schools guidance](#), colleges may also wish to follow this guidance
 2985 as best practice. Public Health England has produced a range of resources to support secondary school
 2986 teachers to promote positive health, wellbeing and resilience among children.

2987 9.148. The DfE has published advice and guidance on [Preventing and Tackling Bullying](#) (which may also be
 2988 useful for colleges). The [Promoting and supporting mental health and wellbeing in Schools](#) sets out
 2989 how schools and colleges can help prevent mental health problems by promoting resilience as part of
 2990 an integrated, whole school/college approach to social and emotional wellbeing, which is tailored to
 2991 the needs of their pupils.

2992 9.149. In addition, Public Health England has produced a range of resources to support secondary schools to
 2993 promote positive health, wellbeing and resilience among children including its guidance Promoting
 2994 children and young people’s emotional health and wellbeing. Its resources include social media,
 2995 forming positive relationships, smoking and alcohol. See [Rise Above](#) for links to all materials and lesson
 2996 plans. The Department has also published, [‘Every interaction matters’](#), a pre-recorded webinar which
 2997 provides staff with a simple framework for promoting wellbeing, resilience, and mental health. This sits
 2998 alongside our [Wellbeing for education recovery program](#) content, which covers issues such as
 2999 bereavement, loss, anxiety, stress and trauma.

3000 **Human trafficking**

3001 9.150. Human trafficking is defined by the UNHCR in respect of children/young people/young adults as a
 3002 process that is a combination of:

- 3003 - Movement (including within the UK);
- 3004 - Control, through harm / threat of harm or fraud
- 3005 - For the purpose of exploitation

3006 9.151. Traffickers and slave drivers trick, force and/or persuade individuals to leave their homes. Grooming
 3007 methods are used to gain the trust of a person first, e.g. the promise of a better life, which results in a
 3008 life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.

3009 9.152. Any individual transported for exploitative reasons is considered to be a trafficking victim. There is
 3010 significant evidence that children/young people/young adults (both of UK and other citizenship) are
 3011 being trafficked internally within the UK and this is regarded as a more common form of trafficking in
 3012 the UK.

3013 9.153. There are a number of indicators which suggest that a child/young person/young adult may have
 3014 been trafficked into the UK, and may still be controlled by the traffickers or receiving adults. These are
 3015 as follows:

- 3016 - Shows signs of physical or sexual abuse, and/or has contracted a sexually transmitted infection or
 3017 has an unwanted pregnancy
- 3018 - Has a history with missing links and unexplained moves
- 3019 - Is required to earn a minimum amount of money every day
- 3020 - Works in various locations

- 3021 - Has limited freedom of movement
- 3022 - Appears to be missing for periods
- 3023 - Is known to beg for money
- 3024 - Is being cared for by adult/s who are not their parents and the quality of the relationship between
- 3025 the child and their adult carers is not good
- 3026 - Is one among a number of unrelated children found at one address
- 3027 - Has not been registered with or attended a GP practice
- 3028 - Is excessively afraid of being deported.
- 3029 9.154. For those children/young people/young adults who are internally trafficked within the UK indicators
- 3030 include:
- 3031 - Physical symptoms (bruising indicating either physical or sexual assault)
- 3032 - Prevalence of a sexually transmitted infection or unwanted pregnancy
- 3033 - Reports from reliable sources suggesting the likelihood of involvement in
- 3034 - Sexual exploitation / the child has been seen in places known to be used for sexual exploitation
- 3035 - Evidence of drug, alcohol or substance misuse
- 3036 - Being in the community in clothing unusual for a child i.e. inappropriate for age, or borrowing
- 3037 clothing from older people
- 3038 - Relationship with a significantly older partner
- 3039 - Accounts of social activities, expensive clothes, mobile phones or other possessions with no
- 3040 plausible explanation of the source of necessary funding
- 3041 - Persistently missing, staying out overnight or returning late with no plausible explanation
- 3042 - Returning after having been missing, looking well cared for despite having not been at home
- 3043 - Having keys to premises other than those known about
- 3044 - Low self- image, low self-esteem, self-harming behaviour including cutting, overdosing, eating
- 3045 disorder, promiscuity
- 3046 - Truancy / disengagement with education
- 3047 - Entering or leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults
- 3048 - Going missing and being found in areas where the child/young person/young adult has no known
- 3049 links; and/or
- 3050 - Possible inappropriate use of the internet and forming on-line relationships, particularly with
- 3051 adults/other adults.
- 3052 9.155. These behaviours themselves do not indicate that an Individual is being trafficked, but should be
- 3053 considered as indicators that this may be the case.

3054 **Modern slavery and the National Referral Mechanism**

- 3055 9.156. Modern slavery encompasses human trafficking and slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory
- 3056 labour. Exploitation can take many forms, including: sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery,
- 3057 servitude, forced criminality and the removal of organs.

3058 9.157. When considering modern slavery, there is a perception that this is taking place overseas. The
3059 government estimates that tens of thousands of slaves are in the UK today.

3060 9.158. Young people are being forced to work in restaurants, nail bars, car washes and harvesting fruit,
3061 vegetables or other foods have all been slaves 'hiding in plain sight' within the U.K and rescued from
3062 slavery. Other forms of slavery such as sex slaves or household slaves are more hidden but have also
3063 been rescued within the UK.

3064 9.159. If staff believe that a child/young person/young adult is being trafficked or is a slave, this must be
3065 reported to the DSL/RM/Head of Service for referral to be considered to local Safeguarding Authority.

3066 9.160. Further information on the signs that someone may be a victim of modern slavery, the support available
3067 to victims and how to refer them to the NRM is available in the Modern Slavery Statutory Guidance.
3068 Modern slavery: how to identify and support victims - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

3069 **Cybercrime**

3070 9.161. Cybercrime is criminal activity committed using computers and/or the internet. It is broadly categorised
3071 as either 'cyber-enabled' (crimes that can happen off-line but are enabled at scale and at speed on-
3072 line) or 'cyber dependent' (crimes that can be committed only by using a computer). Cyber-dependent
3073 crimes include:

3074 • unauthorised access to computers (illegal 'hacking'), for example accessing a school's
3075 computer network to look for test paper answers or change grades awarded;

3076 • denial of Service (Dos or DDoS) attacks or 'booting'. These are attempts to make a computer,
3077 network or website unavailable by overwhelming it with internet traffic from multiple sources;
3078 and

3079 • making, supplying or obtaining malware (malicious software) such as viruses, spyware,
3080 ransomware, botnets and Remote Access Trojans with the intent to commit further offence,
3081 including those above.

3082 9.162. Children with particular skill and interest in computing and technology may inadvertently or
3083 deliberately stray into cyber-dependent crime.

3084 9.163. If there are concerns about a child in this area, the DSL (or a deputy), should consider referring into
3085 the Cyber Choices programme. This is a nationwide police programme supported by the Home Office
3086 and led by the National Crime Agency, working with regional and local policing. It aims to intervene
3087 where young people are at risk of committing, or being drawn into, low level cyber-dependent
3088 offences and divert them to a more positive use of their skills and interests.

3089 9.164. Note that Cyber Choices does not currently cover 'cyber-enabled' crime such as fraud, purchasing of
3090 illegal drugs on-line and child sexual abuse and exploitation, nor other areas of concern such as on-
3091 line bullying or general on-line safety. Additional advice can be found at: [Cyber Choices](#), '[NPCC- When](#)
3092 [to call the Police](#)' and [National Cyber Security Centre - NCSC.GOV.UK](#)

3093 **Initiation/Hazing**

3094 9.165. Hazing is a form of initiation ceremony which is used to induct newcomers into an organisation such
3095 as a private school, sports team etc. There are a number of different forms, from relatively mild rituals
3096 to severe and sometimes violent ceremonies in gangs/criminal groups.

3097 9.166. The idea behind this practice is that it welcomes newcomers by subjecting them to a series of trials
3098 which promote a bond between them. After the hazing is over, the newcomers also have something
3099 in common with older members of the organisation, because they all experienced it as part of a rite of
3100 passage. Many rituals involve humiliation, embarrassment, abuse, and harassment.

3101 9.167. Cambian Group will provide education to prevent individuals from becoming victims of such behaviour
3102 and raise awareness of such within all services.
3103

3104 **Safeguarding issues relating to Individual children and young people needs**

3105 **Homelessness**

3106 9.168. As an organisation we recognise that being homeless or being at risk of becoming homeless presents
3107 a real risk to a child's/young person welfare. The impact of losing a place of safety and security can
3108 affect an Individual's behaviour and attachments. DSL will work with Local Authorities to raise/progress
3109 concerns at the earliest opportunity.

3110 9.169. In line with the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 they will also promote links into the Local Housing
3111 Authority for the parent/guardians in order to raise/progress concerns.

3112 9.170. In most cases school and college colleagues will be considering homelessness in the context of
3113 children who live with their families, and intervention will be on that basis. However, it should also be
3114 recognised in some cases 16 and 17 year olds could be living independently from their parents or
3115 guardians, for example through their exclusion from the family home, or other reasons. This will require
3116 a different level of intervention and support. Children's services will be the lead agency for these young
3117 people and the DSL (or a deputy) should ensure appropriate referrals are made based on the child's
3118 circumstances. The department and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government have
3119 published joint statutory guidance on the provision of accommodation for 16 and 17 year olds who may
3120 be homeless and/or require accommodation: [Homelessness Reduction Act: policy factsheets](#).

3121 9.171. Guidance on how local authorities should exercise their homelessness functions in accordance with
3122 the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 from 3 April 2018- [Homelessness code of guidance for local
3123 authorities](#).

3124 9.172. Children's services (Adult's services where the person is 18 +) will be the lead agency for these young
3125 people and the DSL should ensure appropriate referrals are made based on the Individual's
3126 circumstances.

3127 9.173. It is recognised that whilst referrals and/or discussion with the Local Housing Authority should be
3128 progressed as appropriate, this does not, and should not, replace a referral into the Local Safeguarding
3129 Authority where an Individual has been harmed or is at risk of harm.

3130 **Private Fostering**

3131 9.174. Private fostering is an arrangement by a child's parents for their child (under 16 or 18 if disabled) to be
3132 cared for by another adult who is not closely related and is not a legal guardian with parental
3133 responsibility for 28 days or more.

3134 9.175. It is not private fostering if the carer is a close relative to the child such as grandparent, brother, sister,
3135 uncle or aunt.

3136 9.176. The Law requires that the carers and parents must notify the Children's Services Department of any
3137 private fostering arrangement.

3138 9.177. If the school/college/children's home/care homes (16-18) becomes aware that a child/young person
3139 is being privately fostered they will inform the Children's Services Department and inform both the
3140 parents and carers that they have done so.

3141 **Child and the Court System**

3142 9.178. As an organisation we recognise that children/young people are sometimes required to give evidence
3143 in criminal courts, either for crimes committed against them or for crimes they have witnessed. We
3144 know that this can be a stressful experience and therefore services across the organisation will aim to
3145 support children through this process.

3146 9.179. Along with information, advice and guidance, services will use age-appropriate materials published
3147 by HM Courts and Tribunals Services (2017) [Going to court](#) explain to children/young people what it
3148 means to be a witness, how to give evidence and the special measures which are in place to assist
3149 such as using a live link/aids to communicate and video links.

3150 9.180. We recognise that making child arrangements via the family courts following separation can be
3151 stressful and entrench conflict in families. This can be very stressful for children. Services will support
3152 children/young people going through this process.

3153 9.181. Alongside information, advice and guidance services will use online materials published by The
3154 Ministry of Justice (2018) which offers children/young people information & advice on the dispute
3155 resolution service - [Get help with child arrangements](#). These materials will also be offered to parents
3156 and carers if appropriate.

3157 9.182. Ensure that children/young people are sufficiently supported where a parent has been sent to prison,
3158 adequate support includes protection from: stigma, isolation and poor mental health.

3159 **Fabricated or induced illnesses (FI)**

3160 9.183. Fabricated or induced illness (FI) is a rare form of child abuse. It occurs when a parent or carer, usually
3161 the child's biological mother, exaggerates or deliberately causes symptoms of illness in the child.

3162 9.184. FI is also known as "Munchausen's syndrome by proxy" (not to be confused with Munchausen's
3163 syndrome, where a person pretends to be ill or causes illness or injury to themselves).

3164 9.185. FI covers a wide range of symptoms and behaviours involving parents seeking healthcare for a child.
3165 This ranges from extreme neglect (failing to seek medical care) to induced illness.

3166 9.186. Behaviours in FI include a parent/carer who:

- 3167 - persuades healthcare professionals that their child is ill when they're perfectly healthy,
- 3168 - exaggerates or lies about their child's symptoms,
- 3169 - manipulates test results to suggest the presence of illness – for example, by putting glucose in urine
3170 samples to suggest the child has diabetes,
- 3171 - deliberately induces symptoms of illness – for example, by poisoning her child with unnecessary
3172 medication or other substances.

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