



# *Promised Land Academy*

*Reap the Rewards... Psalm 127*

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## **Safeguarding Policy**

**Incorporating our Child Protection, Safer Recruitment,  
Online (E-Safety) and 'Sexting' Policies**

**Updated September 2020**

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**SAFEGUARDING POLICY**  
**Incorporating our Child Protection Policy, Safer Recruitment Policy, Online Safety Policy and 'Sexting' Policy**

This document has been reviewed with reference to the documents *Keeping Children Safe in Education' (2020)*, *The Prevent Duty, Departmental advice for schools and childcare providers, July 2015*, *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018* and *The Children Act 2004*. These documents are kept on file in the school.

This procedure should be read alongside departmental advice: What to do if you're worried a child is being abused, DFE (March 2015), Information Sharing: Advice for Practitioners, DFE (July 2018), and non- statutory interim guidance on safeguarding in schools, college and other providers.

**This policy is written in line with our:**

- Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Online (E-Safety) Policy (*See Annex 3*)
- Data Protection Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Missing Children Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct (Behaviour) Policy
- Appointment of Staff and Safer Recruitment Policy

These are all available on request from the school office.

**SCHOOL STATEMENT**

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this policy as protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development; ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and acting to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

The terms 'child' and 'children' includes everyone under the age of 18.

The Trustees take seriously their responsibility to protect and safeguard the welfare of children and young people entrusted to the school's care. The Trustees will ensure that persons with leadership and management responsibilities at the school demonstrate good skills and knowledge appropriate to their role and fulfil their responsibilities effectively so that the independent school standards are met consistently; and actively promote the well-being of pupils according to section 10(2) of the Children Act 2004(a).

PromisedLand Academy is a Safeguarding School. We will invoke Child Protection Procedures where necessary.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs. S Coote. her role is to provide support and direction to staff members to carry out their safeguarding duties and to liaise closely with other

services such as children's social care, the local authority Designated Officer (DO), the DBS and the police when managing referrals. As well as working closely with the principal.

Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is Deimante Rezyiene. her role is to provide support to the Lead and be available if the Lead is unavailable.

Our Chair of Trustees is Mr. L Rose His role in Safeguarding is to take the lead in dealing with allegations of abuse made against the Principal.

Our Safeguarding Trustee is Mr. L Rose. role in Safeguarding is to take leadership responsibility for the school's safeguarding arrangements.

Our Principal is Mrs. S Coote. Her role in Safer Recruitment is to ensure that the school operates safe recruitment procedures and makes sure that all appropriate checks are carried out on staff and volunteers who work with the children.

All staff members in the school must read the content of the policy. The *Teacher Standards 2012* states that teachers, including head teachers, should safeguard children's wellbeing and maintain public trust in the teaching profession as part of their professional duties.

All staff must undertake a regular course on safeguarding and child protection that must be updated regularly. The School is committed to an on-going training programme on such matters. Yearly updates will be undertaken at the beginning of each school year.

All staff must staff read Part 1 and Annex A "Further Information", of Keeping Children Safe in Education. The school has systems in place to assist staff understand and discharge their role and responsibilities".

The Trustees recognise the need to build constructive links with childcare agencies, and will work with social care, the police, health services and other services to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

The Trustees are committed to:

- Listening to, relating effectively and valuing children and young people whilst ensuring their protection within school activities.
- Ensuring safeguarding is taught 'as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum,' including online safety
- Ensuring all staff have an awareness of safeguarding issues that can put children at risk of harm – behaviours linked to issues such as drug taking, alcohol abuse, deliberately missing education and sexting put children in danger
- Ensuring the DSL and staff are aware of and follow local safeguarding partnership arrangements so that the school contributes to multi-agency working in line with statutory guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children
- Employing the expertise of the staff when reviewing safeguarding policies and providing opportunities for staff to contribute to and shape safeguarding arrangements and the child protection policy.
- Encouraging and supporting parents/carers
- Ensuring that staff members are given support and training
- Having a system for dealing with concerns about possible abuse
- Maintaining good links with the statutory childcare authorities

Where a child is suffering significant harm, or is likely to do so, action will be taken to protect that child. Action will also be taken to promote the welfare of a child in need of additional support, even if they are not suffering harm or are at immediate risk.

Everyone who encounters children and their families has a role to play in safeguarding children. Anyone working in the school is particularly important as they are able to identify

concerns early and provide help for children, to prevent concerns from escalating; they form part of the wider safeguarding system for children. For a description of this system, see *Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2018*.

All staff members have a responsibility to provide a safe environment in which children can learn. They have a responsibility to identify children who may need extra help or who are suffering, vulnerable, or are likely to suffer, significant harm. Staff have a responsibility to review and monitor the list of these students on a regular basis and all staff members then have a responsibility to take appropriate action, working with other services as needed, including **Early Help**.

**Early Help** is used to describe the process of taking action early and as soon as possible to tackle problems emerging for children, young people and their families. Effective help can occur at any point in a child or young person's life. Staff should be able to identify the vulnerable children in the school who need who need this level of support. These children should be identified and monitored. Staff need to understand the difference between a safeguarding concern and a child in immediate danger or at significant risk of harm, as part of identifying vulnerable learners. The DSL will lead when early help is appropriate.

**Any** child benefit from early help, but all school and college staff should be particularly alert to the potential need for early help for a child who:

- Is disabled and has specific additional needs
- Has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory education, Health and Care Plan)
- Is a young carer
- Is showing signs of being drawn in to anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups
- Is frequently missing/goes missing from care or from home
- Is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking, or exploitation
- Is at risk of being radicalised or exploited
- Is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for the child, such as drug and alcohol misuse, adult mental health issues and domestic abuse
- Is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves; has returned home to their family from care and
- Is a privately fostered child

In addition to working with the Designated Safeguarding Lead staff, staff members should be aware that they might be asked to support social workers to take decisions about individual children.

All staff members should make themselves aware of the systems within the school that support safeguarding, which are explained in the staff induction. This includes the school's safeguarding and child protection policy; the staff code of conduct; and the designated safeguarding lead.

Staff members should be aware of the signs of abuse and neglect so that they are able to identify cases of children who may need help or protection. Knowing what to look for is vital to the early identification of abuse and neglect. If staff members are unsure, they should always speak to children's social care.

Staff members should be aware of any signs of extremist views of any kind in our school, whether from internal sources –students, staff or Trustees, or external sources - school community, external agencies or individuals. Our students see our school as a safe place where they can explore controversial issues safely and where our teachers encourage and facilitate this – we have a duty to ensure this happens.

Staff members are advised to maintain an attitude of ‘it could happen here’ where safeguarding is concerned. When concerned about the welfare of a child, staff members should always act in the interests of the child.

A child going missing from an education setting is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect. Staff members should follow the school’s procedures for dealing with children who go missing, particularly on repeat occasions. They should act to identify any risk of abuse and neglect, including sexual abuse or exploitation. More information can be found in this policy about children who run away or go missing from home or care.

If staff members have concerns about a child, they should raise these with the school’s Designated Safeguarding Lead, **immediately**. This also includes situations of abuse that may involve staff members. The safeguarding lead will usually decide whether to make a referral to children’s social care, although any staff member can refer their concerns to children’s social care directly. Where a child and family would benefit from co-ordinated support from more than one agency (for example education, health, housing, police) an inter-agency assessment will be conducted. These assessments, undertaken by a lead professional (a teacher, special educational needs co-ordinator, General Practitioner (GP), family support worker, and/or health visitor), will identify what help the child and family require to prevent needs escalating to a point where intervention would be needed via a statutory assessment under the Children Act 1989.

A concern is when you are troubled about a child’s welfare and you have reasonable cause to suspect a child is suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm. It involves the child’s safety and well-being.

**If, at any point, there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child a referral should be made to children’s social care immediately. Anybody can make a referral. If the child’s situation does not appear to be improving, the staff member with concerns should press for re-consideration. Concerns should always lead to help for the child at some point.**

It is important for children to receive the right help at the right time to address risks and prevent issues escalating. Research and Serious Case Reviews have repeatedly shown the dangers of failing to take effective action. Poor practice includes: failing to act on and refer the early signs of abuse and neglect, poor record keeping, failing to listen to the views of the child, failing to re-assess concerns when situations do not improve, sharing information too slowly and a lack of challenge to those who appear not to be taking action.

### **Contextual Safeguarding**

**All** staff should be aware that safeguarding incidents and /or behaviours can be associated with factors outside the school or college and/or can occur between children outside of these environments. **All** staff, but especially the designated safeguarding lead (and deputies) should consider whether children are at risk of abuse or exploitation in situations outside their families. Extra-familial harms take a variety of different forms and children can be vulnerable to multiple harms including (but not limited to) sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation, and serious youth violence.

Assessments of children should consider the wider environmental factors affecting the child’s life that may pose a threat to their safety and/or welfare. As much contextual information as

possible should be provided as part of the referral process. More information can be found at <https://contextualsafeguarding.org.uk/>

## **SAFER WORKING PRACTICES**

### **Online Safety**

Please refer to our online (e-Safety) policies. There is also a wealth of information, with links, to help schools and parents keep children safe online in KCSIE 2020 Annex C, which includes how to support keeping children safe online when they are learning at home.

The school has regard to the ***Guidance for Safer Working Practices 2015*** underpinning principles as follows:

- The welfare of the child is paramount
- Staff should understand their responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils
- Staff are responsible for their own actions and behaviour and should avoid any conduct which would lead any reasonable person to question their motivation and intentions
- Staff should work, and be seen to work, in an open and transparent way
- Staff should acknowledge that deliberately invented/malicious allegations are extremely rare and that all concerns should be reported and recorded
- Staff should discuss and/or take advice promptly from the headteacher if they have acted in a way which may give rise to concern
- Staff should apply the same professional standards regardless of culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious belief and sexual orientation
- Staff should not consume or be under the influence of alcohol or any substance, including prescribed medication, which may affect their ability to care for children
- Staff should be aware that breaches of the law and other professional guidelines could result in disciplinary action being taken against them, criminal action, and/or other proceedings including barring by the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) from working in regulated activity, or for acts of serious misconduct prohibition from teaching by the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA).
- Staff and managers should continually monitor and review practice to ensure this guidance is followed
- Staff should be aware of and understand their establishment's child protection policy, arrangements for managing allegations against staff, staff behaviour policy, whistle blowing procedure and their local authority safeguarding procedures.

Staff should make themselves familiar with the following school documents and policies:

- Staff Handbook
- Anti-Harassment and Bullying Policy
- Appointment of Staff Policy, incorporating Equal Opportunities in Employment Policy
- Code of Conduct Policy
- Grievance Procedure
- Management of Staff Absence Policy
- Staff Appraisal and Capability Policy
- Staff Discipline Policy



- Whistleblowing Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Fire Safety Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Food Hygiene Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Risk Assessment Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Complaints Procedure
- Confidentiality Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Exclusions Policy
- Late and Uncollected Children Policy
- Looked After Children
- Missing Child Policy
- Misuse of Substances and Drugs Policy
- Physical Interventions Policy (include the use of Reasonable Force)
- School Trips and Educational Visits Policy
- SEND Policy
- Sex and Relationship Policy

### **KEY TRAINING AREAS**

Timescale for training

Induction Training (mandatory)	Prior to starting at the school
Child Protection Awareness training for whole staff including Safeguarding (statutory)	Every two years with refresher training every other year
Designated Safeguarding Lead Training (statutory)	Every two years with refresher training every other year
Safer Recruitment Training (statutory)	Every two years
Training about preventing terrorism (statutory)	Annually
Training for School Governors (non-statutory)	Annually
Female Genital Mutilation	Every two years
Child Sexual Exploitation	Every two years
E-Safety	Annually
Mental health Awareness	Every two years

## **IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS:**

Safeguarding incidents could happen anywhere, and staff should be alert to possible concerns being raised in this school

Safeguarding concerns about adults in the school should be made to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or to the Principal/Head Teacher\*

Safeguarding concerns about independent school proprietors should go straight to the local authority Designated Officer - the DO

To contact the following staff members please call the school office in the first instance:

Mrs. S Coote - the Designated Safeguarding Lead Person for Child Protection

Emma Kofie - the Designated Deputy Lead Person for Child Protection

Mr. L Rose – The Chair of the Trustees

Mrs. S Coote - The Principal is the Safer Recruitment Officer

All staff members may raise concerns directly with Children's Social Care services

The school will work with the local authority Designated Officer (DO) as deemed appropriate. The DO provide advice and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations that have concerns about a person working or volunteering with children and young people who may have behaved inappropriately, or you have received information that may constitute an allegation.

For further advice or help contact:

- The NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000
  - The NSPCC whistle-blowing helpline: 0800 028 0285
- The Police: 101 to report crime and other concerns that do not require an emergency response; 999 when there is danger to life or when violence is being used or threatened

## **TIMESCALES**

An Initial Assessment should be initiated by the DSL or Deputy DSL within 24 hours of receipt of a referral and completed in a maximum of **10 working days**. However, this may depend on the case and the other agencies involved.

An initial assessment is deemed to be completed once the assessment has been discussed with the child and family (or caregivers) and the DSL or Deputy DSL has viewed and authorised the assessment.

The initial assessment period may be very brief if the criteria for initiating Local Authority involvement are met, i.e. it is suspected that the child is suffering, or is likely to suffer significant harm and a strategy discussion should take place.

Any extension to timescale should be authorised by the DSL or Deputy DSL, with reasons recorded and any delay must be consistent with the welfare of the child.

See *Appendix 4* Referral Flowchart

## **MULTI-AGENCY LEVELS OF NEED AND RESPONSE FRAMEWORK**

*[www.newham.gov.uk/triage](http://www.newham.gov.uk/triage)*

*[http://www.londoncp.co.uk/files/revised\\_guidance\\_thresholds.pdf](http://www.londoncp.co.uk/files/revised_guidance_thresholds.pdf)*

*<https://www.newham.gov.uk/Pages/Services/Child-protection>*

## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

The Trustees recognise that many children and young people today are the victims of neglect, and physical, sexual and emotional abuse, including extremism and radicalisation. Accordingly, the Trustees have adopted the policy contained in this document, (hereafter “the policy”). The policy sets out agreed guidelines relating to the following areas:

- The Prevent Duty
- Definitions of abuse
- Responding to allegations of abuse, including those made against teachers in the school.
- Appointing teachers/assistants
- Supervision of activities and practice issues
- Helping victims of abuse
- Working with offenders
- Safer Recruitment including the level of DBS checks that will be undertaken for volunteers and Trustees

### THE PREVENT DUTY

From Wednesday 1 July 2015, all schools and childcare providers must have due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn into terrorism.

The Governmental definition of extremism is:

***‘Vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs; and/or calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas’.***

Schools have a critical part to play to protect children in our care, we must be alert to any safeguarding and child protection issues in the child’s life at home or elsewhere.

As a school we are expected to demonstrate activity in the following areas:

- Assessing the risk of children being drawn into terrorism.
- Demonstrate that they are protecting children and young people from being drawn into terrorism by having robust safeguarding policies.
- Ensure that their safeguarding arrangements consider the policies and procedures of the local authority, the police and the health service.
- Make sure that staff have training that gives them the knowledge and confidence to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism, and to challenge extremist ideas which can be used to legitimise terrorism
- Expected to ensure children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet

The school holds a separate Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy regarding this.

The full Government Prevent Strategy can be viewed at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/97976/prevent-strategy-review.pdf)

The full Government Prevent Duty (2015) can be viewed at:  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/439598/prevent-duty-departmental-advice-v6.pdf)

### **The Role of the Curriculum** *(Taken from the Preventing Extremism and Radicalisation Policy)*

We will work to ensure that our pupils will be skilled and equipped to be resilient and resist involvement in extreme or radical activities. Therefore, we recognise the need to build resilience in our pupils to make them less vulnerable.

We will therefore provide a broad and balanced curriculum within which we aim to support pupils, Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development (SMSC). SMSC development is promoted through all our subjects, including the ethos of our school where development of positive attitudes and values is central to everything we do.

Values underpinning public life in the UK have been summarised as democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and the tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. It is important that our pupils understand this through different approaches using a balanced and broad curriculum. This supports our pupils to be responsible citizens and prepares for an adult life living and working in Britain which is diverse and changing.

Our goal is to build mutual respect and understanding and to promote the use of dialogue not violence as a form of conflict resolution. We will achieve this by using a curriculum that includes:

- Citizenship programmes
- Open discussion and debate
- Work on anti-violence and a restorative approach addressed throughout curriculum
- Focussed educational programmes

We will also work with local partners, families and communities in our efforts to ensure our school understands and embraces our local context and values in challenging extremist views and to assist in the broadening of our pupil's experiences and horizons. We will help support students who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a pupil is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences, we will ensure that that pupil is offered mentoring.

### **SIGNIFICANT HARM**

Some children are in need because they are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. The Children Act 1989 introduced the concept of significant harm as the threshold that justifies compulsory intervention in family life in the best interests of children. Decisions about significant harm should be informed by a careful assessment of the child's circumstances and discussion between statutory agencies and with the child and family.

## **INDICATORS OF ABUSE**

The following definitions of child abuse are taken from the document *'Keeping Children Safe in Education'* (2019).

### **Abuse**

A form of maltreatment of a child. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child by inflicting harm or by failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others. Abuse can take place wholly online, or technology may be used to facilitate offline abuse. They may be abused by an adult or adults or another child or children.

### **Physical Abuse**

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

### **Emotional Abuse**

The persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond a child's developmental capability as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, although it may occur alone.

### **Sexual Abuse**

Involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse. Sexual abuse can take place online, and technology can be used to facilitate offline abuse. Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children. The sexual abuse of children by other children is a specific safeguarding issue in education (*see paragraph 29, KCSIE 2020*).

### **Neglect**

The persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy, for example, because of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to: provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment); protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger; ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers); or ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

## **SPECIFIC SAFEGUARDING ISSUES**

### **Learners with SEN and Disabilities**

Learners with SEN and disabilities have additional safeguarding vulnerabilities:

- Disabled children are at significantly greater risk of physical, sexual and emotional abuse and neglect than non-disabled children
- Disabled children at greatest risk of abuse are those with behaviour/conduct disorders. Other high-risk groups include children with learning difficulties/disabilities, children with speech and language difficulties, children with health-related conditions and deaf children.
- Disabled children are more likely to be abused by someone in their family compared to non-disabled children. The majority of disabled children are abused by someone who is known to them.
- Bullying is a feature in the lives of many disabled children
- Disabled children are more likely to experience the negative aspects of social networking sites than non-disabled children
- Disabled children (and severely disabled children even more so) may disclose less frequently and delay disclosure more often compared to typically developing children. Disabled children are most likely to turn to a trusted adult they know well for help such as family, friend or teacher

Disabled children are at greater risk of abuse and significant barriers can exist to their safeguarding and wellbeing. Understanding a child's needs, building on their strengths, overcoming the barriers and developing innovative solutions for meeting the challenges will not only enhance the child's wellbeing and protection from abuse but will provide learning that may also be of benefit for non-disabled children. Disabled children have an equal right to protection from abuse.

### **Children Missing from Education - Policy on Responsibilities and Actions to be taken if the Whereabouts of a Child Is Unknown**

A child going missing from education is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect. School staff should follow the school's procedures for dealing with children that go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions, to help identify the risk of abuse and neglect, including sexual exploitation, and to help prevent the risks of their going missing in future.

The school has a ***Child Missing from Education*** policy, written in accordance with the *Children Missing Education Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities - September 2016*, which we will abide by concerning this area.

**The school has in place appropriate safeguarding policies, procedures and responses for children who go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions.**

In the case of a child being withdrawn from the school and their whereabouts being unknown, the school will endeavour in the first place to make contact with the parents or guardians.

If no communication is received within a week, the school will contact the LEA to enquire whether they have any information regarding the child. If the LEA do not have any facts about the whereabouts of the child, we will consult with the LEA about the next step which may involve handing the case over to the local Children's Services.

If this is the case, a note will be made in the Admissions Register stating that the child's whereabouts is unknown and that they have been referred to the LEA. This will be updated if any relevant information is received.

### **Child sexual exploitation and Child criminal Exploitation**

Both CSE and CCE are forms of abuse and both occur where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance in power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into sexual or criminal activity. Whilst age may be most obvious, this power imbalance can also be due to a range of other factors including gender, sexual identity, cognitive ability, physical strength, status, and access to economic or other resources. In some cases, the abuse will be in exchange for something the victim needs or wants and /or will be to the financial benefit or other advantage (such as increased status) of the perpetrator or facilitator. The abuse can be perpetrated by individuals or groups, male or females, and children or adults. The abuse can be a one-off occurrence or a series of incidents over time and range from opportunistic to complex organised abuse. It can involve force and /or enticement-based methods of compliance and many, or may not, be accompanied by violence or threats of violence. Victims can be exploited even when activity appears consensual and it should be noted exploitation as well as being physical can be facilitated and/or take place online. More information include definitions and indicators are included in Annex KCSIE 2020.

The school holds the following document on file if ever the need arise for such information: "Child Sexual Exploitation definition and Guided Feb 2017" and KCSIE (annex A).

### **Peer-on-Peer Abuse**

Peer-on-peer abuse:

- features physical, emotional, sexual and financial abuse of young people by their peers,
- can impact any young person, although the characteristics/experiences of some can be exploited by their peers, or missed by services, making them more vulnerable to abuse than others
- is influenced by the nature of the environments in which young people spend their time - home, school, peer group and community - and is built upon notions of power and consent. Power imbalances related to gender, social status within a group, intellectual ability, economic wealth, social marginalisation etc., can all be used to exert power over a peer.
- can affect any child/young person, sometimes vulnerable children are targeted. For example:
  - Those living with domestic abuse or intra-familial abuse in their histories
  - Young people in care
  - Those who have experienced bereavement through the loss of a parent, sibling or friend
  - Black and minority ethnic children are under identified as victims but are over identified as perpetrators
  - Those with SEND
- hinges upon young people's experiences of power, and ultimately the notion of consent
- concepts of abuse are built upon notions of 'power' and therefore 'consent', not to be confused with the age of consent to sexual activity:



- young people over the age of consent (16 and 17-year olds) can be abused by their peers
- Many young people who abuse their peers are themselves below the age of consent
- abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as "banter" or "part of growing up"
- both girls and boys experience peer-on-peer abuse however they are likely to experience it differently i.e. girls being sexually touched/assaulted or boys being subject to homophobic taunts/initiation/hazing type (rituals and other activities involving harassment, abuse or humiliation used as a way of initiating a person into a group) violence
- involves someone who abuses a 'vulnerability' or power imbalance to harm another and have the opportunity or be in an environment where this is possible.
- While perpetrators of peer-on-peer abuse pose a risk to others they are often victims of abuse themselves.

*Above information is based on information in Practitioner Briefing: What is peer on peer abuse? MsUnderstood Partnership (2015)*

### **Forms of Peer-on Peers Abuse**

This can include (but is not limited to) bullying (including cyberbullying); sexual violence and sexual harassment; physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm; sexting and initiating/hazing type violence and rituals.

### **Actions the school will take**

The school deals with a wide continuum of children's behaviour on a day to day basis and most cases will be dealt with via school-based processes. These are outlined in the following policies:

- Behaviour & Anti-Bullying Policy
- Online (E-Safety) Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Relationships and Sex Education Policy

The school will also act to minimise the risk of peer-on-peer abuse by ensuring the establishment provides a safe environment, promotes positive standards of behaviour, has effective systems in place where children can raise concerns and provides safeguarding through the curriculum via PSHE and other curriculum opportunities. This may include targeted work with children identified as vulnerable or being at risk and developing risk assessment and targeted work with those identified as being a potential risk to others.

### **Action on serious concerns**

The school recognises that children may abuse their peers physically, sexually and emotionally; this will not be tolerated or passed off as 'banter' or 'part of growing up'. The school will take this as seriously as abuse perpetrated by an adult and address it through the same processes as any safeguarding issue. We also recognise that children who abuse others are also likely to have considerable welfare and safeguarding issues themselves.

Peer to peer abuse may be a one-off serious incident or an accumulation of incidents. Staff may be able to easily identify some behaviour/s as abusive however in some circumstances it may be less clear. In all cases the member of staff should discuss the concerns and seek advice from the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

When an allegation is made by a student against another student, members of staff should consider if the issues raised indicate that the child and /or alleged perpetrator may have emerging needs, complex/serious needs or child protection concerns.

**Any suspicion or allegations that a child has been sexually abused or is likely to sexually abuse another child (or adult) should be referred immediately the DSL, who will refer to the local authority Designated Officer (DO) or the Police, straightaway.** However, staff may refer directly to the DO or police, but please inform the DSL if you do so.

All allegations should be discussed with the local authority Designated Officer (DO) on **the day** the allegation is made known to the school and advice sought from the DO.

Particular considerations for cases where peer on peer abuse is a factor include:

- What is the nature, extent, and context of the behaviour including verbal, physical, sexting and/or online abuse? Was there coercion, physical aggression, bullying, bribery or attempts to ensure secrecy? What was the duration and frequency? Were other children and /or adults involved?
- What is the child's age, development, capacity to understand and make decisions (including anything that might have had an impact on this i.e. coercion), and family and social circumstances?
- What are the relative chronological and developmental age of the two children and are there any differentials in power or authority?
- Is the behaviour age appropriate or not? Does it involve inappropriate sexual knowledge or motivation?
- Are there any risks to the child themselves and others i.e. other children in school, in the child's household, extended family, peer group, or wider social network?

The school will use resources on such issues to address these matters in PSHE.

Resources on peer-on-peer pressure can be found at:

<http://www.msunderstood.org.uk/assets/templates/msunderstood/style/documents/MSUPB01.pdf>

### **Child on Child Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment**

All staff should be aware of indicators, which may signal that children are at risk from, or are involved with serious violent crime. These may include increased absence from school, a change in friendships or relationships with older individuals or groups, a significant change in wellbeing, or signs of assault or unexplained injuries. Unexplained gifts or new possessions could also indicate that children have been approached by, or are involved with, individuals associated with criminal networks or gangs.

All staff should be aware of the associated risk and understand the measures in place to manage these. Advice for schools and colleges is provided in the Home Office's preventing youth violence and gang involvement and its Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines guidance.

Sexual violence and sexual harassment can occur between two children of any age and sex. It can also occur through a group of children sexually assaulting or sexually harassing a single child or group of children. Children who are victims of sexual violence and sexual harassment will likely find the experience stressful and distressing. This will, in all likelihood, adversely affect their educational attainment. Sexual violence and sexual harassment exist on a continuum and may overlap, they can occur online and offline (both physical and verbal) and are never acceptable. It is important that **all** victims are taken seriously and offered appropriate support. Staff should be

aware that some groups are potentially more at risk. Evidence shows girls, children with SEND and LGBT children are at greater risk.

Staff should be aware of the importance of:

- making clear that sexual violence and sexual harassment is not acceptable, will never be tolerated and is not an inevitable part of growing up;
- not tolerating or dismissing sexual violence or sexual harassment as “banter”, “part of growing up”, “just having a laugh” or “boys being boys”; and
- challenging behaviours (potentially criminal in nature), such as grabbing bottoms, breasts and genitalia, flicking bras and lifting up skirts. Dismissing or tolerating such behaviours risks normalising them.

## **Sexual Violence**

It is important that school staff are aware of sexual violence and the fact children can, and sometimes do, abuse their peers in this way. When referring to sexual violence we are referring to sexual offences under the Sexual Offences Act 2003 105 as described below:

**Rape:** A person (A) commits an offence of rape if: he intentionally penetrates the vagina, anus or mouth of another person (B) with his penis, B does not consent to the penetration and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.

**Assault by Penetration:** A person (A) commits an offence if: s/he intentionally penetrates the vagina or anus of another person (B) with a part of her/his body or anything else, the penetration is sexual, B does not consent to the penetration and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.

**Sexual Assault:** A person (A) commits an offence of sexual assault if: s/he intentionally touches another person (B), the touching is sexual, B does not consent to the touching and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.

## **Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment is ‘unwanted conduct of a sexual nature’ that can occur online and offline. When we reference sexual harassment, we do so in the context of child on child sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is likely to: violate a child’s dignity, and/or make them feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated and/or create a hostile, offensive or sexualised environment.

Whilst not intended to be an exhaustive list, sexual harassment can include:

- sexual comments, such as: telling sexual stories, making lewd comments, making sexual remarks about clothes and appearance and calling someone sexualised names;
- sexual “jokes” or taunting;
- physical behaviour, such as: deliberately brushing against someone, interfering with someone’s clothes (the school will consider when any of this crosses a line into sexual violence - it is important to talk to and consider the experience of the victim) and displaying pictures, photos or drawings of a sexual nature; and
- online sexual harassment. This may be standalone, or part of a wider pattern of sexual harassment and/or sexual violence. It may include:
  - non-consensual sharing of sexual images and videos;
  - sexualised online bullying;

- unwanted sexual comments and messages, including, on social media; and
- sexual exploitation; coercion and threats

Robust guidance on this matter may be found in Keeping Children Safe in Education part 5, and in the DfE guidance *Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment between Children in Schools and Colleges*. This document covers:

- what sexual violence and harassment is
- schools' and colleges' legal responsibilities
- a whole school or college approach to safeguarding and child protection
- how to respond to reports of sexual violence and sexual harassment

### **Organised Abuse**

Organised abuse is sexual abuse where there is more than a single abuser and the adults concerned appear to act in concert to abuse children and/or where an adult uses an institutional framework or position of authority to recruit children for sexual abuse.

### **Female Genital Mutilation**

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs. It is illegal in the UK and a form of child abuse with long-lasting harmful consequences.

**Teachers have a specific legal duty to act** with regards to concerns about female genital mutilation (FGM) and must personally report to the police a disclosure that FGM has been carried out (in addition to liaising with the DSL. However, all staff should speak to the DSL where there are concerns.

The school will access the following documents if ever the need arises for such information, as referred to in Annex A of KCSIE 2020:

'Multi-Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation'

'FGM Mandatory Reporting Fact Sheet' and

'FGM - Mandatory Reporting of Female Genital Mutilation – procedural information',

The London Safeguarding Children Partnership information on 'Safeguarding Children at Risk of Abuse through Female Genital Mutilation' will also be taken into account:

[http://www.londoncp.co.uk/chapters/sq\\_ch\\_risk\\_fgm.html](http://www.londoncp.co.uk/chapters/sq_ch_risk_fgm.html)

### **Mental Health**

All staff should be aware that mental health problems can, in some cases, be an indicator that a child has suffered or is at risk of suffering abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Only appropriate trained professional should attempt to make a diagnosis of a mental health problem. Staff, however, are well placed to observe children day-to-day and identify those whose behavior suggests that they may be experiencing a mental health problem or be at risk to developing one.

Where children have suffered abuse and neglect, or other potentially traumatic adverse childhood experiences, this can have a lasting impact throughout childhood, adolescence and into

adulthood. It is key that staff are aware of how these children's experiences, can impact on their mental health, behavior and education.

If staff have a mental health concern about a child that is also a safeguarding concern, immediate action should be taken, following their child protection policy and speaking to the designated safeguarding lead or deputy.

See KCSIE 2020, paragraph 38 for advice and guidance on Preventing and Tackling Bullying, and Mental Health and Behavior in Schools, and links to other resources.

## **Radicalisation**

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups. 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. There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology. It can happen in many different ways and settings. Specific background factors may contribute to vulnerability, which are often combined with specific influences such as family, friends or online, and with specific needs for which an extremist or terrorist group may appear to provide an answer. The internet and the use of social media in particular has become a major factor in the radicalisation of young people.

As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff should be watchful for changes in children's behaviour, which could indicate that they may need help or protection. School staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately which may include making a referral to the Channel programme.

## **Honour-Based Abuse**

So-called 'honour-based' abuse (HBA) encompasses incidents or crimes which have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or the community, including female genital mutilation (FGM), forced marriage, and practices such as breast ironing. Abuse committed in the context of preserving "honour" often involves a wider network of family or community pressure and can include multiple perpetrators. It is important to be aware of this dynamic and additional risk factors when deciding what form of safeguarding action to take. All forms of HBA are abuse (regardless of the motivation) and should be handled and escalated as such. Professionals in all agencies, and individuals and groups in relevant communities, need to be alert to the possibility of a child being at risk of HBA, or already having suffered HBA.

## **Actions**

If staff have a concern regarding a child that might be at risk of HBA or who has suffered from HBA, they should speak to the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy). As appropriate, they will activate local safeguarding procedures, using existing national and local protocols for multi-agency liaison with police and children's social care. Where FGM has taken place, since 31 October 2015 there has been a mandatory reporting duty placed on teachers<sup>104</sup> that requires a different approach

Some common triggers for HBA include:

- Refusing an arranged marriage
- Having a relationship outside the approved group
- Loss of virginity
- Pregnancy
- Spending time without the supervision of a family member
- Reporting domestic violence

'Honour-based Abuse' is intended to 'protect or defend family honour' by preventing and punishing a person's violations of family or community 'norms'. A child who is at risk of honour-based abuse is at significant risk of physical harm (including being murdered) and/or neglect and may also suffer significant emotional harm through the threat of abuse or witnessing abuse directed towards a sibling or other family member.

According to the Metropolitan Police Service, an honour-based crime might be committed against someone who:

- becomes involved with a boyfriend or girlfriend from a different culture or religion;
- wants to get out of an arranged marriage;
- wants to get out of a forced marriage;
- Wears clothes or takes part in activities that might not be considered traditional within a particular culture.

The perceived immoral behaviour which could precipitate a murder includes:

- Inappropriate make-up or dress;
- The existence of a boyfriend;
- Kissing or intimacy in a public place;
- Pregnancy outside of marriage;
- Being a victim of rape;
- Inter-faith relationships.

Children sometimes truant from school to obtain relief from being policed at home by relatives. They can feel isolated from their family and social networks and become depressed, which can on some occasions lead to self-harm or suicide.

Families may feel shame long after the incident that brought about dishonour occurred, and therefore the risk of harm to a child can persist. This means that the young person's new boy/girlfriend, baby (if pregnancy caused the family to feel 'shame'), associates or siblings may be at risk of harm.

## **OTHER SAFEGUARDING ISSUES**

Staff need to be aware of the following specific issues. The school holds policies on those marked with an \*

Guidance and practical support on these specific safeguarding issues will be sought from expert and professional organisations, if and when needed, using the NSPCC and GOV.UK websites. Links to **Additional Advice and Support** may be found on pages 94-96 of KCSIE, which signpost schools towards further information on specific safeguarding issues.

- Bullying including cyberbullying - see 'Online (E-Safety) Policy'
- Domestic violence and abuse – *see the following sources for help identifying the signs of domestic abuse:*
  - NSPCC: UK domestic-abuse signs symptoms effects
  - Refuge: what is domestic violence/effects of domestic violence on children
  - SafeLives: young people and domestic abuse
- Drugs\*
- Fabricated or induced illness
- Faith abuse
- Forced marriage
- Gangs and youth violence
- Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls (VAWG)
- Hate – see Appendix I of our Anti-Bullying Policy
- Homelessness – the DSL should be aware of the contact details and referral routes of the Local Housing Authority to enable them to raise concerns. Referrals to the Local Housing Authority should not replace referrals to children's social care where a child is being harmed or at risk of harm. Schools should recognise that for 16- and 17-year-olds homelessness may not be family-based, and the DSL should ensure appropriate referrals to children's services are made where necessary. Advice on homelessness can be found in KCSIE 2020, page 86 or page 21 of Part 1.
- Children requiring mental health support (see KCSIE 2020, page 28)
- Children with special educational needs and disabilities (see KCSIE 2020, page 31)
- Children who need social worker (Child in Need and Child Protection Plans) (see KCSIE 2020, page 28)
- Looked after children and previously looked after children (see KCSIE 2020, page 29)
- Private fostering - staff and volunteers should remain alert to, and when it comes to their attention report to the LA, information which suggests a child is being privately fostered. They should then notify the LA to allow the LA to check the arrangements are safe.
- Sexting – see *Appendix 2* for our 'Youth-Produced Sexual Imagery Policy'

- Teenage relationship abuse
- Trafficking
- Upskirting – this typically involves taking a picture under a person’s clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm. It is now a criminal offence.

#### **Alternative Provision**

- If the school places a pupil with an alternative provision provider, they remain responsible for the safeguarding of that pupil and should be satisfied that the provider meets the needs of the pupil. The provider should provide written confirmation that appropriate safeguarding checks have been carried out on those working at the establishment.

#### **Adults Who Supervise Children on Work Experience**

- When organising work placements, the school will ensure that the placement provider has policies and procedures in place to safeguard pupils.

#### **Children staying with Host Families** (Homestay) – *See Annex E KCSIE 2020*

#### **Sharing Safeguarding/Child Protection Information with a New School or College**

When a pupil with child protection issues moves school, the DSL should consider whether it is appropriate to share any information with the new school or college in advance of a pupil leaving, in addition to the child protection file. The DfE gives the example of information that would allow the new school or college to continue supporting a victim of abuse and have the appropriate support in place for the pupil’s arrival.



## **RECOGNISING AND RESPONDING TO ABUSE**

The following signs may or may not be indications that abuse has taken place, but the possibility should be considered.

### **Physical Signs of Abuse**

- Any injuries not consistent with the explanation given for them.
- Injuries that occur to the body in places that are not normally exposed to falls, rough games, etc.
- Injuries which have not received medical attention
- Neglect – under nourishment, failure to grow, constant hunger, stealing or gorging food, untreated illnesses, inadequate care, etc.
- Reluctance to change for, or participate in games or swimming
- Repeated urinary infections or unexplained tummy pains
- Bruises, bites, burns, fractures etc. which do not have an accidental explanation
- Cuts/ scratches/ substance abuse

### **Indicators of Possible Sexual Abuse**

- Any allegations made by a child concerning sexual abuse
- Any allegations made by a child concerning female genital mutation
- Child with excessive preoccupation with sexual matters and detailed knowledge of adult sexual behaviour, or who regularly engages in age-inappropriate sexual play
- Sexual activity through words, play or drawing
- Child who is sexually provocative or seductive with adults
- Inappropriate bed-sharing arrangements at home
- Severe sleep disturbances with fears, phobias, vivid dreams or nightmares, sometimes with overt or veiled sexual connotations
- Eating disorders – anorexia, bulimia

### **Emotional Signs of Abuse**

- Changes or regression in mood or behaviour, particularly where a child withdraws or becomes clinging. Also, depression/ aggression, extreme anxiety
- Nervousness, frozen watchfulness
- Obsessions or phobias
- Sudden under-achievement or lack of concentration
- Inappropriate relationships with peers and/ or adults
- Attention-seeking behaviour
- Persistent tiredness
- Running away/ stealing/ lying

## **WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT THAT ABUSE MAY HAVE OCCURRED**

- 1 You must report concerns as soon as possible to Mrs. S Coote the Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSL), who is nominated by the Trustees to act on their behalf in referring allegations or suspicions of neglect or abuse to the statutory authorities. She may also be required by conditions of the School Insurance Policy to immediately inform the Insurance Company. In the absence of the DSL, the matter should be brought to the attention of Ms. E Kofie (hereafter the “Deputy DSL”). In all instances telephone

If the suspicions in any way involve the DSL or Deputy DSL, then the report should be made to the Safeguarding Governor who should contact the local authority Designated Officer (DO).

- 2 Staff should only involve those who need to be involved when a child tells them he/she is being abused or neglected. Suspicions will not be discussed with anyone other than those nominated above
- 3 Although members of the school are expected to use the procedure stated in step 1, it is, of course, the right of any individual as a citizen to make direct referrals to the child protection agencies or seek advice from a reputable safeguarding agency. Please inform the DSL immediately, if you do so. If, however, you feel that the DSL or Deputy DSL have not responded appropriately to your concerns, then it is open to you to contact the relevant organisation direct. We hope that by making this statement that we demonstrate the commitment of the school to effective child protection.

### **ALLEGATIONS OF PHYSICAL INJURY OR NEGLECT**

If a child has a physical injury or symptom of neglect, the DSL will:

- 1 Contact the local authority Designated Officer (DO) for advice in cases of deliberate injury or where concerned about the child's safety. The school in these circumstances should not inform the parents.
- 2 Where emergency medical attention is necessary it will be sought immediately. The DSL will inform the doctor of any suspicions of abuse.
- 3 In other circumstances speak with the parent/ carer and suggest that medical help/ attention be sought for the child. The doctor (or health visitor) will then initiate further action, if necessary.
- 4 If appropriate, the parent/ carer will be encouraged to seek help from the Local Authority.
- 5 Where the parent/ carer is unwilling to seek help, if appropriate, the DSL will offer to go with them. If they still fail to act, the DSL should, in cases of real concern, contact the local Safeguarding Children Partnership for advice.

### **ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE**

In the event of allegations or suspicions of sexual abuse, the DSL will:

- 1 Contact the Police Child Protection Team directly. The DSL will NOT speak to the parent (or anyone else).
- 2 If, for any reason, the DSL is unsure whether or not to follow the above, then advice from the local authority Designated Officer (DO) will be sought and followed.
- 3 Under no circumstances will the DSL attempt to carry out any investigation into the allegation or suspicions of sexual abuse. The role of the DSL is to collect and clarify the precise details of the allegation or suspicion and to provide this information to the DO, whose task it is to investigate the matter under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989.
- 4 Whilst allegations or suspicions of sexual abuse will normally be reported to the DSL, the absence of the DSL or Deputy DSL should not delay referral to the DO.
- 5 Exceptionally, should there be any disagreement between the person in receipt of the allegation or suspicion and the DSL or Deputy DSL as to the appropriateness of a referral

- to the DO, that person retains a responsibility as a member of the public to report serious matters to the DO, and should do so without hesitation
- 6 The Trustees will support the DSL or Deputy DSL in their role and accept that any information they may have in their possession will be shared in a strictly limited way on a need to know basis.

## **HOW TO RESPOND TO A CHILD WANTING TO TALK ABOUT ABUSE**

It is not easy to give precise guidance, but the following may help:

### **General Points**

- Show acceptance of what the child says (however unlikely the story may sound)
- Keep calm
- Look at the child directly
- Be honest
- Tell the child you will need to let someone else know – don't promise confidentiality
- Even when a child has broken a rule, they are not to blame for the abuse
- Be aware that the child may have been threatened or bribed not to tell
- Never push for information. If the child decides not to tell you after all, then accept that and let them know that you are always ready to listen

### **Helpful things you may say or show**

- "I believe you"
- Show acceptance of what the child says
- "Thank you for telling me"
- "It's not your fault"
- "I will help you"

### **Do not say**

- "Why didn't you tell anyone before"
- "I can't believe it!"
- "Are you sure this is true?"
- "Why? How? When? Who? Where?"
- Never make false promises
- Never make statements such as "I am shocked, don't tell anyone else"

### **Concluding**

- Again, reassure the child what you are going to do next and that you will let them know what happens (the DSL might have to consider referring to the Children, Schools and Families department or the Police to prevent a child or young person returning home if the school considers them to be seriously at risk of further abuse)
- Contact the person in the school responsible for coordinating child protection concerns or contact the Children, Schools and Families department / Police/ NSPCC
- Consider your own feelings and seek pastoral support if needed

## WHAT TO DO ONCE A CHILD HAS TALKED TO YOU ABOUT ABUSE

### The Procedure

- Make notes as soon as possible (preferably within one hour of the child talking to you), writing down exactly what the child said and when she/he said it, what you said in reply and what was happening immediately beforehand (e.g. a description of the activity). Record dates and times of these events and when you made the record. Keep all hand-written notes, even if subsequently typed. Such records should be kept safely for an indefinite period.  
Use the form "Responding to abuse – worker's action sheet"
- Report your discussion as soon as possible to the DSL. If the latter is implicated report to the Deputy DSL. If all are implicated, report to the Safeguarding Governor, who should contact the local authority Designated Officer (DO).
- You should not discuss your suspicions or allegations with anyone other than those nominated in the above point.
- Once a child has talked about abuse the DSL should consider whether or not it is safe for a child to return home to a potentially abusive situation. On rare occasions, it might be necessary to take immediate action to contact the DO and/ or Police to discuss putting into effect safety measures for the child so that they do not return home.

### WORKING WITH OFFENDERS

The Trustees in their commitment to the protection of all children will meet with the individual and discuss boundaries that the person will be expected to keep.

Offenders will be expected to sign a contract stipulating boundary and will involve the person's family and partner who will need to be informed.

### HELPING VICTIMS OF ABUSE – THE CHILD'S WISHES

As a Christian school, we are committed to supporting victims of abuse, and encouraging them in their faith.

The school will ensure the child's wishes or feelings are taken into account when determining what action to take and what services to provide to protect individual children through ensuring there are systems in place for children to express their views and give feedback. Staff members should not promise confidentiality to the child and always act in the **best interests** of the child.

## **ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUPERVISION OF GROUP/ CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**

### **Practical Issues**

- A register of children or young people attending the activity should be kept, and a register of helpers.
- A log of each activity, recording any unusual events with each teacher/assistant recording what they witnessed should be kept.
- Incidents such as fights and what action the teacher/assistant took should be recorded in the logbook.
- Accidents and injuries should be recorded in a separate accident book and parents and older children should be asked to sign this.
- No person under 16 years of age should be left in charge of any children of any age. Nor should children or young people attending school be left alone at any time.

### **Boundaries**

- All staff members should treat all children/young people with dignity and respect in attitude, language used and actions.
- Respect the privacy of children, avoid questionable activity.
- If you invite a child to your home, ensure this is with the knowledge of the Principal and that a parent is aware.
- Ensure that all transport arrangements have parental approval and are with the knowledge of the leadership.
- Only staff members assigned to a group should be allowed into rooms. Other adults should not have free access. Ensure you note anybody else who is there for a specific reason in the logbook.

### **OFF-SITE VISITS**

Appropriate risk assessments must be in place prior to any off-site visit taking place.

Any overnight visit will explicitly set out sleeping arrangements; the role and responsibility of each adult, whether employed or volunteers; on/off duty arrangements; clear expectations about boundaries and interactions with children/young people; and expectations around smoking/drinking by adult.

Safeguarding concerns or allegations will be responded to following the school safe-guarding procedures. The member of staff in charge of the visit will report any safeguarding concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead who will pass to the local authority Designated Officer (DO) if appropriate. In an emergency, the staff member in charge will contact the police and/or social care.

## **POLICY ON SUSPICIONS OR ALLEGATIONS OF CHILD ABUSE INVOLVING SCHOOL STAFF**

Staff, including volunteers, must be aware that they may be vulnerable to accusations of abuse and must, therefore, be sensitive to a child's reaction to physical contact and react appropriately. During their daily contact with the children, all staff must be aware of the following:

- It is the policy of PromisedLand Academy not to kiss the pupils.
- Staff should not touch a child in such a way or on parts of the body that might be considered indecent.
- Staff should avoid restraining children, except under certain circumstances when it is unavoidable (See Policy on Restraint).
- Staff should always maintain professional standards of behaviour and appropriate boundaries in relationships between themselves and the pupils, themselves and the parents.
- A member of staff, who feels that they may be at risk of being accused of behaving inappropriately, should request the presence of another member of staff.
- No form of corporal punishment should ever be used, nor its use ever threatened.
- When it is necessary to restrain a child to prevent injury to themselves, others or property, only the minimum force should be used and injury to the child concerned should be avoided. Any arm or hands should never be placed around a child's neck.

If there is an allegation or suspicion of misconduct about a member of staff, the Principal/Head Teacher\* must be informed immediately. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action

If the allegation or suspicion in any way involves the DSL or Deputy DSL, then the report should be made to the Safeguarding Trustee, 0207 473 3229, who should contact the local authority Designated Officer (DO) on (Tel. no.)\_ 020 3373 3803 or email [nick.pratt@newham.gov.uk](mailto:nick.pratt@newham.gov.uk) and give as much information as you can.

The school is required to inform the Disclosure and Barring Service as soon as investigations are completed, any person, whether employed, contracted, a volunteer, or a student, whose services are no longer used because he or she is considered unsuitable to work with children.

The address for referrals is DBS customer services, PO Box 3961, Royal Wootton Bassett SN4 4HF - Telephone 03000 200 190. Failure by the school to make such a report could constitute an offence, leading to the school being removed from the DfE's register of Independent Schools (legislation from The Education (Provision of Information by Independent Schools) (England) Regulations 2003. Compromise Agreements cannot apply in this connection.

The school will also make a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) if a person in regulated activity has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns or would have been had they not resigned.

Schools and colleges have a legal duty to refer to the DBS anyone who has harmed, or poses a risk of harm, to a child or vulnerable adult where:

- the harm test is satisfied in respect of that individual;
- the individual has received a caution or conviction for a relevant offence, or if there is reason to believe that the individual has committed a listed relevant offence; and

- the individual has been removed from working (paid or unpaid) in regulated activity or would have been removed had they not left.

A person satisfies the harm test if they may harm a child or vulnerable adult or put them at risk of harm. It is something a person may do to cause harm or pose a risk of harm to a child or vulnerable adult. (See <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-barring-referrals-to-the-dbs#what-is-the-harm-test>).

The Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA) will also be informed if staff are sacked due to safeguarding issues <https://teacherservices.education.gov.uk/>

Regard must be given to the section 'Allegations of Abuse Made Against Teachers and Other Staff', in the document 'Keeping Children Safe in Education', which is on file in the school. This should be used in respect of all cases in which it is alleged that a teacher or member of staff (including supply staff and volunteers) in a school or college that provides education for children under 18 years of age has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child
- Possibly committed a criminal offense against or related to a child; or
- Behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she **may** pose a risk of harm to children
- Behaved or may have behaved in a way that indicates he or she may not be suitable to work with children

This is due to the principle of transferrable risk where an individual is involved in an incident outside of school which did not involve children but could have impact on their suitability to work with children. For example, domestic violence at home – even if no children were involved, could a child trigger the same reaction, and thereby be put at risk.

## **ALLEGATIONS AGAINST PUPILS**

The School's policies on behaviour, bullying, discipline and sanctions should be read in conjunction with this policy and will also apply to this situation. Bullying should be treated as a child protection concern when there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. A pupil against whom an allegation of abuse has been made may be suspended from the School during the investigation if it is considered to be in the interests of a child who might otherwise be at risk, in the interests of the pupils at large or to allow the investigation to proceed more effectively.

## **POLICY FOR CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER**

The school recognises that children looked after/ children in care are one of the most vulnerable groups of children so need more frequent observational assessment to meet their needs. All staff will be made aware of anyone in the school who is looked after so that the child can be supported adequately. On admission, it will be established who has parental responsibility so that statutory requirements are met.

The Governing body will ensure that staff have the skills, knowledge and understanding to keep looked after children or previously looked after children safe. Appropriate staff will have the

information they need in relation to a child's looked after legal status (whether they are looked after under voluntary arrangements with consent of parents or on an interim or full care order) and contact arrangements with birth parents or those with parental responsibility. Information about the child's care arrangements and the levels of authority delegated to the carer by the authority looking after him/her will be available for all staff involved, including the designated safeguarding lead having details of the child's social worker.

When dealing with looked after children and previously looked after children, the school will work together with all agencies involved and take prompt action when necessary to safeguard these children, who are a particularly vulnerable group.

The school holds a policy for Children Looked After on file.

### **CARE LEAVERS**

*A **care leaver** is defined as a person aged 25 or under, who has been looked after by a local authority for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14; and who was looked after by the local authority at school-leaving age or after that date.*

If the need arises, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will liaise as necessary with the local authority Personal Advisor appointed to guide and support the care leaver, regarding any issues of concern affecting the care leaver.

### **PHYSICAL INTERVENTION POLICY AND USE OF REASONABLE FORCE**

The school holds a Physical Intervention Policy, which includes the use of reasonable force.

### **PHOTOGRAPHY AND IMAGES**

To protect children, we will:

- Seek parental consent for photographs to be taken or published (for example, on our website or in newspapers or publications)
- Only use school equipment
- Only take photos and videos of children to celebrate achievement
- Use only the child's first name with an image
- Ensure that children are appropriately dressed
- Encourage children to tell us if they are worried about any photographs that are taken of them.

The school will issue a statement that where parents are taking photographs of children related to school events these are to be for personal use only (these are not to be shared on social media for example).

### **SAFER RECRUITMENT**

The school will follow the procedures as laid out in the school's 'Appointment of Staff and Safer Recruitment Policy'. A brief summary follows.

Before employing a teacher, the school will take all reasonable steps to establish whether the individual is subject to a teacher prohibition order and, if so, prevent their employment.

The school will verify a candidate's identity, preferably from current photographic ID and proof of address except where, for exceptional reasons, none is available



Enhanced DBS checks will be undertaken for all staff, including volunteers who are carrying out relevant, unsupervised activities with the students, and all Trustees. When responding to questions from the school about their criminal record, staff do not need to provide details about any protected cautions or protected convictions.

Those in regulated activity will need an enhanced DBS certificate with barred list check (See *point 26*). A **supervised** volunteer who regularly teaches or looks after children **is not in regulated activity**.

A separate barred list check (List 99 check) will be obtained if an individual will start work in regulated activity before the DBS certificate is available

A Prohibition from Teaching Check will be completed for *everyone* engaged in 'teaching work', (see *point 27*) whether a qualified teacher or not; and recorded on the Single Central Record, to ensure they are not prohibited from teaching, using **Teacher Services** (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/teacher-status-checks-information-for-employers>).

Even people with QTS, **MUST** have this prohibition check entered into the Single Central Record. The Teacher Service's system will be used to verify any award of QTS and the completion of an induction/probation.

All leaders and managers, including Trustees are now required to have a **section 128 Management Check** – This will be included on the school's SCR showing that checks have been according to section 128. This will also be done using Teacher Services (as point 7).

Note: Section 128 directions will show on an enhanced DBS check with barred list information, provided that '**children's workforce independent schools**' is specified in the parameters of the check.

In the case of a foreign national, the appropriate overseas body from their country will be contacted for a criminal record check or police clearance. Where this proves unobtainable the Embassy of that country will be contacted to request information on any criminal records that person has. If this proves ineffectual then at least two-character references will be taken from citizens residing in that country who know the person well, but this should be a final resort. They must declare if they know of any criminal records held, their relationship with the applicant and their professional capacity, if any. All steps taken must be well documented.

Ideally, all foreign nationals should obtain a criminal record check or police clearance before applying for a position with the school.

The applicant's right to work in the UK will be checked and evidence kept on record.

As part of our Safeguarding Policy employment will not be offered without the applicant supplying evidence of a full employment history, including information on any gaps

Two professional references will be requested, for all staff, including volunteers, which go back 5 years, from senior persons and not just colleagues; character and/or pastoral references will only be requested where appropriate or relevant. Where possible, references will be obtained prior to interviews to allow any concerns to be explored with the referee and discussed with the candidate.

The criteria for NOT appointing children's workers are:

- Previous offences against children

- If the Trustees have reservations about an individual's behaviour, lifestyle, attitudes and spiritual commitment.
- If the Trustees have any reasons to doubt a worker's suitability for the job.

All new staff will be expected to read the school Code of Conduct Policy and all policies concerning Child Protection and Safeguarding as part of their Induction Process, including the behaviour policy, the safeguarding response to children who go missing from education, and the identity of the DSL and Deputy DSL.

All new staff will need to complete a Basic Awareness Course on Safeguarding and Child Protection, renewable every three years.

The school will keep this information on all staff members as to whether or not the following checks have been carried out or certificates obtained, and the date on which the checks were completed, in a single central record.

Staff are to be informed at interview that the school may review the DBS automatic updates yearly, with prior consent from staff, or ask for a signed declaration regarding any convictions, cautions, reprimands or warnings which have been recorded on a police central record, (includes 'spent' and 'unspent' convictions) or if any information is held locally by police forces that are grounds to be considered relevant, since their last declaration. This includes any information that may be held on the DBS's children and adults barred list.

If an applicant's criminal record check reveals details of past cautions and/or convictions the following procedures will be followed:

- If the certificate simply confirms what the applicant has already disclosed, and we have already taken this information into account when making the offer of employment, we will confirm the offer of employment.
- If our decision to recruit an applicant depends upon approval from a senior staff member, we shall ensure that the decision maker has all the relevant information to hand in order to make a fair and balanced decision. This may include the applicant's initial disclosure, a disclosure statement and any other relevant information they may have provided in the interim that may inform a risk assessment.
- If the certificate reveals information that we were not expecting or that the applicant had not previously disclosed, further consideration may be necessary. *See Appointment of Staff and Safer Recruitment Policy*

At least one person conducting an interview will have completed safer recruitment training.

Should the school take on Trainee/Student Teachers written confirmation will be obtained from the provider that it has carried out all pre-appointment checks that the school would otherwise be required to perform.

## **Disqualification**

Under section 76(3) schools are prohibited from employing a disqualified person in connection with relevant childcare provision in the settings set out in the relevant offences and orders section of the *Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006*, unless the individual in question has been granted a waiver by Ofsted for the role they wish to undertake. An employer commits an offence if they contravene section 76(3), except if they prove that they did not know, and had no reasonable grounds for believing, that the person they employed was disqualified.

### ***Disqualification by Association***

Disqualification by Association applies if a person is living in the same household where another person who is disqualified lives or is employed (disqualification 'by association') as specified in regulation 9 of the 2018 regulations. Under the 2018 regulations, schools are no longer required to establish whether a member of staff providing, or employed to work in childcare, is disqualified by association.

### **EXTERNAL VISITORS/CONTRIBUTORS/SPEAKERS**

Visitors with a professional role, such as the school nurse, social worker, educational psychologist or members of the Police will have had the appropriate vetting checks undertaken by their own organisation. Any professionals visiting the school should provide evidence of their professional role and employment details (an identity badge for example). If felt necessary, the school will contact the relevant organisation to verify the individual's identity.

The school has a separate policy for visiting speakers

### **AGENCY STAFF**

The school will check that any agency staff member attending the school is the same person that the agency has provided the vetting checks for.

If staff supplied by an employment business have lived outside the UK, the employment business must have made additional checks for the appropriate countries, and the school will get written confirmation to that effect from the employment business.

## **SAFETY MATTERS**

. The school's arrangements to fulfil other safeguarding and welfare responsibilities are as follows:

- Ensure high standards of provision and care for children and learners
- Actively promote equality and diversity
- Tackle bullying and discrimination immediately
- Actively promote British values
- Prevent radicalisation and extremism
- Ensure that all persons know how to complain and understand the process for doing so
- Ensure that children and learners are protected and feel safe.
- Challenge any discriminatory behaviour and give help and support to children about how to treat others with respect
- Consistently promote positive behaviour
- Ensure that all children and learners can identify a trusted adult with whom they can communicate about any concerns, and know that these adults will listen to them and take their concerns seriously
- Ensure that written records are made in a timely way and held securely where adults working with children or learners are concerned about their safety or welfare. Those records will be shared appropriately and, where necessary, with consent.
- Make clear risk assessments
- Oversee the safe use of technology by ensuring that our policies and procedures are adhered to
- Use an Acceptable Use Agreement
- Carefully select and vet staff and volunteers working with children and learners according to statutory requirements.
- Check all staff using Enhanced DBS checks
- Ensure that all staff have regular Child Protection and Safeguarding Training
- Ensure that the Designated Safeguarding Leads undertake training at two-yearly intervals, and in addition receive an update at least yearly
- Ensure that the Deputy DSL is trained to the same standards as the DSL.
- Ensure training allows the DSL to “recognise the additional risks that children with SEN and disabilities (SEND) face online, for example, from online bullying, grooming and radicalisation and are confident they have the capability to support SEND children to stay safe online”.
- Ensure that the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Deputy DSL have job descriptions, where their roles are explicit, with clear cover arrangements. DSLs will be drawn from the senior leadership team and will be the persons carrying out the day-to-day work of safeguarding and child protection. Their responsibilities will not be delegated to others. See *Appendix 1*.
- Keep the Single Central Record up to date
- Regularly review safeguarding policies and procedures to keep all children and learners safe
- Ensure the school holds more than one emergency contact number for each pupil.

Policy Adopted by Trustees on: 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019

Policy Last Reviewed on: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2020

Policy Due for Review on: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021

Signed: Mr. L Rose \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair)

## **ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SCHOOL DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD**

### *Roles and Responsibilities taken from Annex B KCSIE 2020*

The School Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is the first point of contact for any member of the school staff who has a concern about the safety and well-being of a student. The DSL and Deputy DSL are most likely to have a complete safeguarding picture and will be the most appropriate individuals to advise on any safeguarding concerns.

The DSL does not need to be a member of the teaching staff but should be a recognised member of the Senior Management Team with the required status and authority to carry out the requirements of the role. Their appointment will be decided by the governing board or proprietor.

Depending on the size and requirements of the school a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead should be available. The Deputy is the first point of contact in the absence of the DSL to avoid any unnecessary delays in responding to a student's needs.

The DSL and Deputy DSL are required to undertake child protection training every two years and should supplement this training by attending workshops where available, at least annually. This training should also help the DSL and Deputy DSL recognise the additional risks that children with SEN and disabilities (SEND) face online, for example, from online bullying, grooming and radicalisation and are confident they have the capability to support SEND children to stay safe online.

### **Requirements:**

- To have the skills and ability to identify signs of abuse.
- To know how to refer concerns to the appropriate investigating agencies.
- Maintain detailed and accurate written records of child protection concerns and ensure they are kept securely.
- Offer support, advice and give a level of expertise to all members of the school staff team.
- Ensure that all staff have access to and understand the school Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Procedures.
- To be able to provide basic awareness/child protection training as part of the induction for all new staff in the school and be part of any other relevant training.
- Be responsible with the Head Teacher for the annual review and update of the School Safeguarding Policy and the presentation of this to the Governing Body.
- Ensure that a copy of the School Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is available for any parents who request to see it.
- Ensure that the Principal and Chair of Trustees are updated on a regular basis about all issues and child protection investigations.
- Ensure that relevant safeguarding files are copied and forwarded appropriately when a child/young person transfers to another school.
- Be part of the team who review and monitor any causes of concern relating to students which are raised in school

## Appendix 1

- Ensure that the Principal and Trustees are updated on a regular basis about all issues and child protection investigations.
- Ensure that relevant safeguarding files are copied and forwarded appropriately when a child/young person transfers to another school.
- Be part of the team who review and monitor any causes of concern relating to students which are raised in school.

Role and Responsibilities:

Taken from Annex B KCSIE 2020

### **Manage referrals**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is expected to:

- refer cases of suspected abuse to the local authority children's social care as required;
- support staff who make referrals to local authority children's social care;
- refer cases to the Channel programme where there is a radicalisation concern as required;
- support staff who make referrals to the Channel programme;
- refer cases where a person is dismissed or left due to risk/harm to a child to the Disclosure and Barring Service as required; and
- refer cases where a crime may have been committed to the Police as required.

Work with others

The Designated Safeguarding Lead is expected to:

- act as a point of contact with the three safeguarding partners;
- liaise with the headteacher or principal to inform him or her of issues- especially ongoing enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police investigations;
- as required, liaise with the "case manager" (as per Part four) and the designated officer(s) at the local authority for child protection concerns in cases which concern a staff member;
- liaise with staff (especially pastoral support staff, school nurses, IT Technicians, and SENCOs, or the named person with oversight for SEN in a college and Senior Mental Health Leads) on matters of safety and safeguarding (including online and digital safety) and when deciding whether to make a referral by liaising with relevant agencies; and
- act as a source of support, advice and expertise for all staff.

### **Training**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (and any deputies) should undergo training to provide them with the knowledge and skills required to carry out the role. This training should be

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updated at least every two years. The Designated Safeguarding Lead should undertake Prevent awareness training. Training should provide designated safeguarding leads with a good understanding of their own role, and the processes, procedures and responsibilities of other agencies, particularly children's social care, so they:

- understand the assessment process for providing early help and statutory intervention, including local criteria for action and local authority children's social care referral arrangements.
- have a working knowledge of how local authorities conduct a child protection case conference and a child protection review conference and be able to attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so;
- ensure each member of staff has access to, and understands, the school's or college's child protection policy and procedures, especially new and part time staff;
- are alert to the specific needs of children in need, those with special educational needs and young carers;
- understand relevant data protection legislation and regulations, especially the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation.
- understand the importance of information sharing, both within the school and college, and with the three safeguarding partners, other agencies, organisations and practitioners;
- are able to keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of concerns and referrals;
- understand and support the school or college with regards to the requirements of the Prevent duty and are able to provide advice and support to staff on protecting children from the risk of radicalisation.
- are able to understand the unique risks associated with online safety and be confident that they have the relevant knowledge and up to date capability required to keep children safe whilst they are online at school or college;
- can recognise the additional risks that children with SEN and disabilities (SEND) face online, for example, from online bullying, grooming and radicalisation and are confident they have the capability to support SEND children to stay safe online.
- obtain access to resources and attend any relevant or refresher training courses; and
- encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings, among all staff, in any measures the school or college may put in place to protect them.

In addition to the formal training set out above, their knowledge and skills should be refreshed (this might be via e-bulletins, meeting other designated safeguarding leads, or simply taking time to read and digest safeguarding developments) at regular intervals, as required, and at least annually, to allow them to understand and keep up with any developments relevant to their role.

### **Raise Awareness**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead should:

- ensure the school's or college's child protection policies are known, understood and used appropriately.

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- ensure the school's or college's child protection policy is reviewed annually (as a minimum) and the procedures and implementation are updated and reviewed regularly, and work with governing bodies or proprietors regarding this;
- ensure the child protection policy is available publicly and parents are aware of the fact that referrals about suspected abuse or neglect may be made and the role of the school or college in this; and
- link with the safeguarding partner arrangements to make sure staff are aware of any training opportunities and the latest local policies on local safeguarding arrangements.
- help promote educational outcomes by sharing the information about the welfare, safeguarding and child protection issues that children, including children with a social worker, are experiencing, or have experienced, with teachers and school and college leadership staff. Their role could include ensuring that the school or college, and their staff, know who these children are, understand their academic progress and attainment and maintain a culture of high aspirations for this cohort; supporting teaching staff to identify the challenges that children in this group might face and the additional academic support and adjustments that they could make to best support these children.

### **Child protection file**

Where children leave the school or college (including for in-year transfers) the designated safeguarding lead should ensure their child protection file is transferred to the new school or college as soon as possible. This should be transferred separately from the main pupil file, ensuring secure transit, and confirmation of receipt should be obtained. Receiving schools and colleges should ensure key staff such as designated safeguarding leads and SENCOs or the named person with oversight for SEN in colleges, are aware as required.

In addition to the child protection file, the designated safeguarding lead should also consider if it would be appropriate to share any information with the new school or college in advance of a child leaving. For example, information that would allow the new school or college to continue supporting victims of abuse and have that support in place for when the child arrives.

### **Availability**

During term time the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or a deputy) should always be available (during school or college hours) for staff in the school or college to discuss any safeguarding concerns. Whilst generally speaking the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or deputy) would be expected to be available in person, it is a matter for individual schools and colleges, working with the designated safeguarding lead, to define what "available" means and whether in exceptional circumstances availability via phone and or Skype or other such media is acceptable.

It is a matter for individual schools and colleges and the Designated Safeguarding Lead to arrange adequate and appropriate cover arrangements for any out of hours/out of term activities.



## **YOUTH-PRODUCED SEXUAL IMAGERY POLICY**

### **Also known as 'Sexting'**

This policy is linked to the school's Safeguarding and Child Protection policies.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Youth-produced sexual imagery is imagery that is being created by under 18s themselves and involves 'sexual imaging', still photographs, 'sexting', video, and streaming. Sexual content is different to indecent - indecent is subjective and has no specific definition in UK law. 'Sexual imaging' is one of several 'risk-taking' behaviours associated with the use of digital devices, social media or the internet. It is accepted that young people experiment and challenge boundaries and therefore the risks associated with 'online' activity can never be completely eliminated. However, PromisedLand Academy takes a pro-active approach in its ICT and Enrichment programmes to help students to understand, assess, manage and avoid the risks associated with 'online activity'. The school recognises its duty of care to its young people who do find themselves involved in such activity as well as its responsibility to report such behaviours where legal or safeguarding boundaries are crossed.

There are a number of definitions of 'sexual imaging' and 'sexting' but for the purposes of this policy sexual imaging is simply defined as images or videos generated by children under the age of 18, or of children under the age of 18 that are of a sexual nature or are indecent.

These images are shared between young people and/or adults via a mobile phone, handheld device, computer, 'tablet' or website with people they may not even know.

There are many different types of sexual imaging (see Supplement 2) and it is likely that no two cases will be the same. It is necessary to carefully consider each case on its own merit. However, it is important that PromisedLand Academy applies a consistent approach when dealing with an incident to help protect young people and the school, and the response should always be guided by the 'principle of proportionality'. The primary concern should always be the welfare and protection of the young people involved. For this reason, the Designated Safeguarding Lead (or Headteacher in the absence of the DSL) needs to be informed of any 'sexual imaging' incidents. The range of contributory factors in each case also needs to be considered in order to determine an appropriate and proportionate response. All colleagues are expected to be aware of this policy.

### **THE LAW**

*Making, possessing, and distributing any imagery of someone under 18 which is indecent is illegal. This includes imagery of taken by someone of themselves if they are under 18.*

Indecent is not definitively defined in law, but images are likely to be considered indecent if they depict:

- a naked young person
- a topless girl
- an image which displays genitals, and
- sex acts including masturbation.
- indecent images may also include overtly sexual images of young people in their underwear

These laws weren't created to criminalise young people but to protect them. Although sharing sexual images of themselves is illegal and risky, it is often the result of curiosity and exploration. Young people need education, support, and safeguarding, not criminalisation.

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The National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) is clear that "youth-produced sexual imagery should be primarily treated as a safeguarding issue."

Schools may respond to incidents without involving the police. (However, in some circumstances, the police must always be involved.) Images may be deleted, and incident managed in school by using a risk-based approach.

### **STEPS TO TAKE IN THE CASE OF AN INCIDENT**

#### **STEP 1 - DISCLOSURE BY A STUDENT**

Sexual imaging disclosures should follow the normal safeguarding practices and protocols (see Safeguarding Policy).

A student is likely to be very distressed especially if the image has been circulated widely and if they don't know who has shared it, seen it or where it has ended up. They will need pastoral support during the disclosure and after the event. They may even need immediate protection or a referral to police or social services; parents should be informed as soon as possible (police advice permitting).

The following questions will help decide upon the best course of action:

- Is the student disclosing about themselves receiving an image, sending an image or sharing an image?
- What sort of image is it? Is it potentially illegal or is it inappropriate?
- Are the school child protection and safeguarding policies and practices being followed?
- For this reason, a member of the Safeguarding team should be involved as soon as possible.
- How widely has the image been shared and is the device in their possession?
- Is it a school device or a personal device?
- Does the student need immediate support and/or protection?
- Are there other students and/or young people involved?
- Do they know where the image has ended up?

#### **Assessing the risks once the images have been shared**

- Has it been shared with the knowledge of the young person?
- Are adults involved in the sharing?
- Was there pressure to make the image?
- What is the impact on those involved?
- Does the child or children have additional vulnerabilities?
- Has the child taken part in producing sexual imagery before?

#### **STEP 2 - SEARCHING A DEVICE – WHAT ARE THE RULES?**

Please refer to the school's Search and Confiscation Policy which is based on the most current legislation: The 2011 Education Act.

The policy allows for a device to be examined, confiscated and securely stored if there is reason to believe it contains indecent images or extreme pornography. When searching a mobile device, the following conditions should apply:

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- The action is in accordance with the school's policies regarding Safeguarding and Searching and Confiscation.
- The search is conducted either by the head teacher or a person authorised by them (or Deputy Head or Designated Safeguarding Lead) and one other person
- A member of the safeguarding team should normally be present
- The search should normally be conducted by a member of the same gender as the person being searched. However, if the image being searched for is likely to be of a different gender to the person 'in possession' then the device should only be viewed by a member of the same gender as the person whose image it is.

If any illegal images of a young person are found the Safeguarding Team will discuss this with the Police (see Appendices 1, 2 and 3).

The Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) advise that as a general rule it will almost always be proportionate to refer any incident involving 'aggravated' sharing of images to the Police, whereas purely 'experimental' conduct may be proportionately dealt with without such referral, most particularly if it involves the young person sharing images of themselves.

'Experimental conduct' commonly refers to that shared between two individuals (e.g. girlfriend and boyfriend) with no intention to publish the images further (see Supplement 2). Coercion is not a feature of such conduct, neither are requests for images sent from one person to multiple other young persons.

Any conduct involving, or possibly involving, the knowledge or participation of adults should always be referred to the police.

If an 'experimental' incident is not referred to the Police, the reasons for this should be recorded in the school's 'Safeguarding Incidents Log'.

Always put the young person first. Do not search the device if this will cause additional stress to the student/person whose image has been distributed. Instead rely on the description by the young person, secure the advice and contact the Police.

### **Never:**

- Search a mobile device even in response to an allegation or disclosure if this is likely to cause additional stress to the student/young person UNLESS there is clear evidence to suggest not to do so would impede a police inquiry.
- View the image unless it is unavoidable. Instead, respond to what you have been told the image contains.
- Copy, print or share any material for evidence (it is illegal)
- Move any material from one storage device to another
- Discuss with parents, unless there is an issue where that's not possible

### **Always:**

- Refer to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, who is able to take any necessary strategic decisions.
- If it is felt necessary to view the image, discuss with the Principal or DSL first, and view with another member of staff present
- Record the fact that the images were viewed along with reasons and who was present. Sign and date.
- Record the incident. The Safeguarding Team employ a systematic approach to the recording of all safeguarding issues
- Act in accordance with school safeguarding search and confiscation policies and procedures

## Appendix 2

- Contact social care or the police if there is any concern that the young person is at risk of harm

If there is an indecent image of a child on a website or a social networking site then the Safeguarding Team will report the image to the site hosting it. Under normal circumstances the team would follow the reporting procedures on the respective website; however, in the case of a sexual imaging incident involving a child or young person where it may be felt that they may be at risk of abuse then the team will report the incident directly to CEOP: [www.ceop.police.uk/ceop-report](http://www.ceop.police.uk/ceop-report), so that law enforcement can make an assessment, expedite the case with the relevant provider and ensure that appropriate action is taken to safeguard the child.

Once the DSL has enough information, the decision should be made whether to deal with the matter in school or refer it to the police/social care. All information and decision-making should be recorded in line with school policy. If the incident has been dealt with in school, a further review should be held to assess risks.

### **The DSL should always refer to the police or social care if incident involves:**

- an adult
- coercion, blackmail, or grooming
- concerns about capacity to consent, [e.g., SEN]
- images show atypical sexual behaviour for the child's developmental stage
- violent acts are depicted
- image shows sex acts and includes a child under 13
- a young person at risk of immediate harm as a result of the disclosure (for example, self-harm or suicide)

### **STEP 3 - WHAT TO DO AND NOT DO WITH THE IMAGE**

If the image has been shared across a personal mobile device:

#### ***Always***

- Confiscate and secure the device(s). Close down or switch the device off as soon as possible. This may prevent anyone removing evidence 'remotely'.

#### ***Never***

- View the image unless there is a clear reason to do so or view it without an additional adult present (this additional person does not need to view the image and certainly should not do so if they are of a different gender to the person whose image has been shared). The viewing of an image should only be done to establish that there has been an incident which requires further action.
- Send, share or save the image anywhere (**this is illegal**)
- Allow students to do any of the above

If the image has been shared across a school network, a website or a social network:

#### ***Always***

- Block the network to all users and isolate the image

#### ***Never***

- Send or print the image
- Move the material from one place to another
- View the image outside of the protocols in the school's safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures.

## Appendix 2

### **Deleting images (from devices and social media)**

If the school decides that involving other agencies is not necessary, consideration should be given to deleting the images.

It is recommended that pupils are asked to delete the images themselves and confirm they have done so. This should be recorded, signed, and dated.

Any refusal to delete the images should be treated seriously, reminding the pupil that possession is unlawful.

### **STEP 4 - WHO SHOULD DEAL WITH THE INCIDENT?**

Often, the first port of call for a student is a class teacher. Regardless of who the initial disclosure is made to, she/he must act in accordance with the school safeguarding and/or child protection policy, ensuring that a member of the Safeguarding Team and a senior member of staff are involved in dealing with the incident.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead should always record the incident. The Headteacher should also always be informed- usually by the DSL. There may be instances where the image needs to be viewed and this should be done in accordance with protocols and only if unavoidable.

### **STEP 5 - DECIDING ON A RESPONSE**

There may be many reasons why a student has engaged in sexual imaging – it may be a romantic/sexual exploration scenario, or it may be due to coercion.

It is important to remember that it won't always be appropriate to inform the police; this will depend on the nature of the incident (see Supplement 1 for definitions). However, as a school it is important that incidents are consistently recorded. It may also be necessary to assist the young person in removing the image from a website or elsewhere.

If indecent images of a young person are found:

- Act in accordance with the Safeguarding policy i.e. inform the Safeguarding Team
- Store the device securely
- The Safeguarding Team should carry out a risk assessment in relation to the young person (Use Appendices 2 and 3 for support)
- The Safeguarding Team will make a referral if needed
- The Safeguarding Team will contact the police (if appropriate). Referrals may be made to Social Care but where a crime may have thought to have taken place the police are the first port of call. Young persons who have engaged in 'experimental sexual imaging' which is contained between two persons will be referred to Social Care for support and guidance. Those who are felt to be victims of 'sexual imaging' will also be referred to Social Care at a point where the police feel that this will not impede an investigation.
- The young person's Supervisor will put the necessary safeguards in place for the student, e.g. they may need counselling support or immediate protection.
- Inform parents and/or carers about the incident and how it is being managed.

### **STEP 6 - CONTAINMENT AND PREVENTION**

The young persons involved in 'sexual imaging' may be left feeling sensitive and vulnerable for some time. They will require monitoring by and support from their Guidance/Pastoral teams.

## Appendix 2

Where cases of 'sexual imaging' become widespread or there is thought to be the possibility of contagion then the school will reinforce the need for safer 'online' behaviour using a variety of resources.

Other staff may need to be informed of incidents and should be prepared to act if the issue is continued or referred to by other students. The school, its students and parents should be on high alert, challenging behaviour and ensuring that the victim is well cared for and protected.

The students' parents should usually be told what has happened so that they can keep a watchful eye over the young person especially when they are online at home.

### **STEP 7 - REVIEW OUTCOMES AND PROCEDURES WITH THE AIM OF PREVENTING FUTURE INCIDENTS**

The frequency or severity of such incidents may be such that the school will need to review its approach. Where this is the case PromisedLand Academy will do the following:

- ensure that key policies e.g. Safeguarding, Anti- Bullying, Authorised User Policies are still relevant and can meet emerging issues.
- ensure that the school's infrastructure and technologies are robust enough to meet new challenges.
- ensure that both adults and young persons are alerted to the issues such as safety mechanisms, support mechanisms and the legal implications of such behaviour.
- use the Ofsted framework for Behaviour and Safety as a benchmark to test the strength of the school's approach.

Sexual imaging incidents relate to self-generated images on personally owned devices, generally outside of school. PromisedLand Academy will adopt preventative education strategies for its young people and put in place appropriate staff training to identify and manage incidents. The following are resources currently available:

- CEOP resources at [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk). There is a film called Exposed and accompanying lesson plans for 11-16-year olds.
- The children's charity Childnet [www.childnet-int.org](http://www.childnet-int.org) have developed a drama for secondary school-aged children on the issue of sexual imaging.
- The Southwest Grid for Learning have developed a resource for young people: 'So you got naked online' which supports them in knowing what to do if things have gone wrong online. This may be found at: <https://swgfl.org.uk/products-services/online-safety/resources/so-you-got-naked-online/>

## YOUTH-PRODUCED SEXUAL IMAGERY POLICY - SUPPLEMENT 1

### THE LEGAL POSITION

It is important to be aware that young people involved in sharing sexual videos and pictures may be committing a criminal offence. Specifically, crimes involving indecent photographs (including pseudo images) of a person under 18 years of age fall under Section 1 of the Protection of Children Act 1978 and Section 160 Criminal Justice Act 1988. Under this legislation it is a crime to:

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

While any decision to charge individuals for such offences is a matter for the Crown Prosecution

Service, it is unlikely to be considered in the public interest to prosecute children. However, children need to be aware that they may be breaking the law. Although unlikely to be prosecuted, children and young people who send or possess images may be visited by police and on some occasions media equipment could be removed. This is more likely if they have distributed images.

The decision to criminalise children and young people for sending these kinds of images is a little unclear and may depend on local strategies. However, the current Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) position is that: *'ACPO does not support the prosecution or criminalisation of children for taking indecent images of themselves and sharing them. Being prosecuted through the criminal justice system is likely to be upsetting and distressing for children especially if they are convicted and punished. The label of sex offender that would be applied to a child or young person convicted of such offences is regrettable, unjust and clearly detrimental to their future health and wellbeing.'*

However, there are cases in which children and young people have been convicted and sent to prison. The important thing to remember is that whilst, as a school, we will want to consider the implications of reporting an incident over to the police, it is not our responsibility to make decisions about the seriousness of the matter; that responsibility lies with the Police and the CPS hence the requirement for the school to refer.

In summary sexual imaging is classed as illegal as it constitutes sharing and/or possessing an indecent image of a child.

## YOUTH-PRODUCED SEXUAL IMAGERY POLICY - SUPPLEMENT 2

### DIFFERENT LEVELS OF SEXUAL IMAGING

The following is adapted from Wolak and Finkelhor 'Sexual imaging: A Typology'. March 2011

**Aggravated incidents** involving criminal or abusive elements beyond the creation, sending or possession of youth-produced sexual images

- **Adult offenders** develop relationships with and seduce underage teenagers, in criminal sex offences even without the added element of youth-produced images. Victims may be family friends, relatives, community members or contacted via the Internet. The youth produced sexual images generally, but not always, are solicited by the adult offenders.
- **Youth Only: Intent to Harm** cases that:
  - arise from interpersonal conflict such as break-ups and fights among friends
  - involve criminal or abusive conduct such as blackmail, threats or deception
  - involve criminal sexual abuse or exploitation by juvenile offenders.
- **Youth Only: Reckless Misuse** no intent to harm but images are taken or sent without the knowing or willing participation of the young person who is pictured. In these cases, pictures are taken or sent thoughtlessly or recklessly, and a victim may have been harmed as a result, but the culpability appears somewhat less than in the malicious episodes.

**Experimental incidents** involve the creation and sending of youth-produced sexual images, with no adult involvement, no apparent intent to harm or reckless misuse.

- **Romantic episodes** in which young people in ongoing relationships make images for themselves or each other, and images were not intended to be distributed beyond the pair.
- **Sexual Attention Seeking** in which images are made and sent between or among young people who were not known to be romantic partners, or where one youngster takes pictures and sends them to many others or posts them online, presumably to draw sexual attention.
- **Other:** cases that do not appear to have aggravating elements, like adult involvement, malicious motives or reckless misuse, but also do not fit into the Romantic or Attention Seeking sub-types. These involve either young people who take pictures of themselves for themselves (no evidence of any sending or sharing or intent to do so) or pre-adolescent children (age 9 or younger) who did not appear to have sexual motives.



## **ONLINE (E-SAFETY) POLICY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

At PromisedLand Academy, we understand the responsibility to educate our pupils on e-Safety Issues; teaching them the appropriate behaviours and critical thinking skills to enable them to remain both safe and legal when using the internet and related technologies, in and beyond the context of the classroom.

Online safety is a key part of safeguarding so that young people do not see the internet as a separate part of their lives. The school will ensure that online safety is delivered as part of the curriculum on a regular basis.

Internet, mobile and digital technologies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is seen as an essential resource to support learning and teaching, as well as playing an important role in the everyday lives of children, young people and adults. Consequently, schools need to build in the use of these technologies in order to arm our young people with the skills to access life-long learning and employment.

Internet, mobile and digital technologies cover a wide range of resources including; web-based and mobile learning. It is also important to recognise the constant and fast paced evolution of internet, mobile and digital technologies within our society as a whole. Currently the technologies children and young people are using both inside and outside of the classroom include:

- Websites
- Apps
- E-mail, Instant Messaging and chat rooms
- Social Media, including Facebook and Twitter
- Mobile/ Smart phones with text, video and/ or web functionality
- Other mobile devices including tablets and gaming devices
- Online Games
- Learning Platforms and Virtual Learning Environments
- Blogs and Wikis
- Podcasting
- Video sharing
- Downloading
- On demand TV and video, movies and radio / Smart TVs

Whilst exciting and beneficial both in and out of the context of education, much internet, mobile and digital technologies, particularly web-based resources, are not consistently policed. All users need to be aware of the range of risks associated with the use of these Internet technologies and that some have minimum age requirements (13 years in most cases).

## Appendix 3

Schools hold personal data on learners, staff and others to help them conduct their day-to-day activities. Some of this information is sensitive and could be used by another person or criminal organisation to cause harm or distress to an individual. The loss of sensitive information can result in media coverage, and potentially damage the reputation of the school. This can make it more difficult for your school to use technology to benefit learners.

Everybody in the school community has a shared responsibility to secure any sensitive information used in their day to day professional duties and even staff not directly involved in data handling should be made aware of the risks and threats and how to minimise them.

Both this policy and the Acceptable Use Agreement (for all staff, Trustees, regular visitors [for regulated activities] and pupils) are inclusive of both fixed and mobile internet; technologies provided by the school (such as PCs, laptops, mobile devices, webcams, whiteboards, voting systems, digital video equipment, etc.); and technologies owned by pupils and staff, but brought onto school premises (such as laptops, mobile phones and other mobile devices).

### **DATA PROTECTION**

PromisedLand Academy holds a separate Data Protection Policy, including GDPR

### **MONITORING**

ICT authorised staff may monitor, intercept, access, inspect, record and disclose telephone calls, e-mails, instant messaging, internet/intranet use and any other electronic communications (data, voice, video or image) involving its employees or contractors, without consent, to the extent permitted by law. This may be to confirm or obtain school business related information; to confirm or investigate compliance with school policies, standards and procedures; to ensure the effective operation of school ICT; for quality control or training purposes; to comply with a Subject Access Request under the Data Protection Act 2018, or to prevent or detect crime.

ICT authorised staff may, without prior notice, access the e-mail or voice-mail account where applicable, of someone who is absent to deal with any business-related issues retained on that account.

All monitoring, surveillance or investigative activities are conducted by ICT authorised staff and comply with the Data Protection Act 2018, the Human Rights Act 1998, the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) and the Lawful Business Practice Regulations 2000.

Please note that personal communications using School ICT may be unavoidably included in any business communications that are monitored, intercepted and/or recorded.

### **BREACHES**

A breach or suspected breach of policy by a school employee, contractor or pupil may result in the temporary or permanent withdrawal of school ICT hardware, software or services from the offending individual.

For staff any policy breach is grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with the school Disciplinary Procedure or, for Support Staff, in their Probationary Period as stated.

Policy breaches may also lead to criminal or civil proceedings.

The Information Commissioner's powers to issue monetary penalties came into force on 6 April 2010, allowing the Information Commissioner's office to serve notices requiring organisations to pay up to £500,000 for serious breaches of the Data Protection Act.

## Appendix 3

The data protection powers of the Information Commissioner's Office are to:

- Conduct assessments to check organisations are complying with the Act;
- Serve information notices requiring organisations to provide the Information Commissioner's Office with specified information within a certain time;
- Serve enforcement notices and 'stop now' orders where there has been a breach of the Act, requiring organisations to take (or refrain from taking) specified steps to ensure they comply with the law;
- Prosecute those who commit criminal offences under the Act;
- Conduct audits to assess whether organisations' processing of personal data follows good practice,
- Report to Parliament on data protection issues of concern

For pupils, reference will be made to the school's behaviour policy.

### **INCIDENT REPORTING**

Any security breaches or attempts, loss of equipment and any unauthorised use or suspected misuse of internet, mobile and digital technologies must be immediately reported to the school's relevant responsible person. Additionally, all security breaches, lost/stolen equipment or data (including remote access ID and PINs), virus notifications, unsolicited emails, misuse or unauthorised use of ICT and all other policy non-compliance must be reported to the relevant responsible person. The relevant responsible individuals in the school are as follows: Mrs. S Coote or Mr. L Rose

Please refer to the relevant section on Incident Reporting, e-Safety Incident Log & Infringements.

### **COMPUTER VIRUSES**

- All files downloaded from the Internet, received via e-mail or on removable media such as a memory stick must be checked for any viruses using school provided anti-virus software before being used.
- Never interfere with any anti-virus software installed on school ICT equipment.
- If your machine is not routinely connected to the school network, you must make provision for regular virus updates through your IT team.
- If you suspect there may be a virus on any school ICT equipment, stop using the equipment and contact your ICT support provider immediately. The ICT support provider will advise you what actions to take and be responsible for advising others that need to know.

### **DATA SECURITY**

The accessing and appropriate use of school data is something that the school takes very seriously.

### **Security of Confidential / Personal Data - Electronic and Paper**

It is critical that the school considers the safety of confidential / personal data removed from a school site (electronic and paper).

## Appendix 3

- We will ensure that **ALL** staff are aware of how to handle sensitive or personal information.
- Storage devices such USB sticks are best encrypted in their entirety.
- Backup media must always be kept secure.

### SECURITY

- It is the responsibility of everyone to keep passwords secure
- Staff are aware of their responsibility when accessing school data
- Staff have been issued with the relevant guidance documents and the Policy for ICT Acceptable Use
- Staff keep all school related data secure. This includes all personal, sensitive, confidential or classified data
- Staff should avoid leaving any portable or mobile ICT equipment or removable storage media in unattended vehicles. Where this is not possible, keep it locked out of sight
- It is the responsibility of individual staff to ensure the security of any personal, sensitive, confidential and classified information contained in documents copied, scanned or printed. This is particularly important when shared copiers (multi-function print, scan and copiers) are used

### PROTECTIVE MARKING OF OFFICIAL INFORMATION

Staff must be trained to understand that they are personally responsible for securely handling any information that is entrusted to them, in line with local business processes.

- There is no requirement to mark routine OFFICIAL information.
- Optional descriptors can be used to distinguish specific type of information.
- Use of descriptors is at an organisation's discretion.
- Existing information does not need to be remarked.

In such cases where there is a clear and justifiable requirement to reinforce the 'need to know', assets should be conspicuously marked: '**OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE**'

### RELEVANT RESPONSIBLE PERSONS

Senior members of staff should be familiar with information risks and the school's response. Sometimes called a SIRO, there should be a member of the senior leadership team who has the following responsibilities:

- they lead on the information risk policy and risk assessment
- they advise school staff on appropriate use of school technology
- they act as an advocate for information risk management

The Office of Public Sector Information has produced [Managing Information Risk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/services/publications/information-risk.pdf), [http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/services/publications/information-risk.pdf] to support relevant responsible staff members in their role.

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The SIRO in this school is Mrs. S Coote

### **INFORMATION ASSET OWNER (IAO)**

Any information that is sensitive needs to be protected. This will include the personal data of learners and staff; such as assessment records, medical information and special educational needs data. A responsible member of staff should be able to identify across the school:

- what information is held, and for what purposes
- what information needs to be protected, how information will be amended or added to over time
- who has access to the data and why
- how information is retained and disposed of

As a result, this manager can manage and address risks to the information and make sure that information handling complies with legal requirements. In a Secondary School, there may be several individuals, whose roles involve such responsibility.

However, it should be clear to all staff that the handling of secured data is everyone's responsibility – whether they are an employee, consultant, software provider or managed service provider. Failing to apply appropriate controls to secure data could amount to gross misconduct or even legal action.

The IAO in this school is Mrs. S Coote

### **DISPOSAL OF REDUNDANT ICT EQUIPMENT POLICY**

- All redundant ICT equipment will be disposed of through an authorised agency. This should include a written receipt for the item including an acceptance of responsibility for the destruction of any personal data
- All redundant ICT equipment that may have held personal data will have the storage media overwritten multiple times to ensure the data is irretrievably destroyed. Or if the storage media has failed it will be physically destroyed. We will only use authorised companies who will supply a written guarantee that this will happen
- Disposal of any ICT equipment will conform to:

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2006

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 2007

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/waste/32084.aspx>

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/uksi\\_20063289\\_en.pdf](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/uksi_20063289_en.pdf)

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/pdf/uksi\\_20073454\\_en.pdf?lang=e](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/pdf/uksi_20073454_en.pdf?lang=e)

Data Protection Act 2018

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/education/>

Electricity at Work Regulations 1989

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si1989/Uksi\\_19890635\\_en\\_1.htm](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si1989/Uksi_19890635_en_1.htm)

- The school will maintain a comprehensive inventory of all its ICT equipment including a record of disposal
- The school's disposal record will include:

## Appendix 3

- Date item disposed of
- Authorisation for disposal, including:
  - verification of software licensing
  - any personal data\* likely to be held on the storage media?
- How it was disposed of e.g. waste, gift, sale
- Name of person & / or organisation who received the disposed item

\* if personal data is likely to be held the storage media will be over written multiple times to ensure the data is irretrievably destroyed.

- Any redundant ICT equipment being considered for sale / gift will have been subject to a recent electrical safety check and hold a valid PAT certificate

Further information available at:

### **Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations**

#### **Environment Agency web site**

Introduction

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/waste/32084.aspx>

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2006

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/uksi\\_20063289\\_en.pdf](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/uksi_20063289_en.pdf)

The Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (Amendment) Regulations 2007

[http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/pdf/uksi\\_20073454\\_en.pdf?lang=e](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/pdf/uksi_20073454_en.pdf?lang=e)

#### **Information Commissioner Website**

<https://ico.org.uk/>

#### **Data Protection Act – data protection guide**

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/education/>

### **EMAIL**

The use of e-mail within most schools is an essential means of communication for both staff and pupils. In the context of school, e-mail should not be considered private. Educationally, e-mail can offer significant benefits including; direct written contact between schools on different projects, be they staff based or pupil based, within school or international. We recognise that pupils need to understand how to style an e-mail in relation to their age and how to behave responsible online.

#### **MANAGING E-MAIL**

- Staff & Trustees should use their school email for all professional communication.
- It is the responsibility of each account holder to keep the password secure. For the safety and security of users and recipients, all mail is filtered and logged; if necessary, e-mail histories can be traced. The school email account should be the account that is used for all school business

## Appendix 3

- Under no circumstances should staff contact pupils, parents or conduct any school business using personal e-mail addresses
- The school requires a standard disclaimer to be attached to all e-mail correspondence, stating that, 'the views expressed are not necessarily those of the school'. The responsibility for adding this disclaimer lies with the account holder
- All e-mails should be written and checked carefully before sending, in the same way as a letter written on school headed paper
- Staff sending e-mails to external organisations, parents or pupils are advised to cc. the Principal
- Pupils may only use school approved accounts on the school system and only under direct teacher supervision for educational purposes
- E-mails created or received as part of your school job will be subject to disclosure in response to a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You must therefore actively manage your e-mail account as follows:
  - Delete all e-mails of short-term value
  - Organise e-mail into folders and carry out frequent housekeeping on all folders and archives
- All pupil e-mail users are expected to adhere to the generally accepted rules of responsible online behaviour particularly in relation to the use of appropriate language and not revealing any personal details about themselves or others in e-mail communication, or arrange to meet anyone without specific permission, virus checking attachments
- Pupils must immediately tell a teacher/ trusted adult if they receive an offensive or upsetting e-mail
- Staff must inform (the e-Safety coordinator or Principal) if they receive an offensive e-mail
- Pupils are introduced to e-mail as part of the Computing Programme of Study
- In whatever way you access your school e-mail (whether directly, through webmail when away from the office or on non-school hardware) all the school e-mail policies apply

### **SENDING E-MAILS**

- Use your own school e-mail account so that you are clearly identified as the originator of a message
- Keep the number and relevance of e-mail recipients, particularly those being copied, to the minimum necessary and appropriate
- Do not send or forward attachments unnecessarily. Whenever possible, send the location path to the shared drive rather than sending attachments
- School e-mail is not to be used for personal advertising

## RECEIVING E-MAILS

- Check your e-mail regularly
- Activate your 'out-of-office' notification when away for extended periods
- Never open attachments from an untrusted source; consult your network manager first
- Do not use the e-mail systems to store attachments. Detach and save business related work to the appropriate shared drive/folder
- The automatic forwarding and deletion of e-mails is not allowed

## E-MAILING PERSONAL, SENSITIVE, CONFIDENTIAL OR CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Where your conclusion is that e-mail must be used to transmit such data obtain express consent from your Principal to provide the information by e-mail and exercise caution when sending the e-mail and always follow these checks before releasing the e-mail:

- Encrypt and password protect.
- Verify the details, including accurate e-mail address, of any intended recipient of the information
- Verify (by phoning) the details of a requestor before responding to e-mail requests for information
- Do not copy or forward the e-mail to any more recipients than is necessary
- Do not send the information to any person whose details you have been unable to separately verify (usually by phone)
- Send the information as an encrypted document **attached** to an e-mail
- Provide the encryption key or password by a **separate** contact with the recipient(s)
- Do not identify such information in the subject line of any e-mail
- Request confirmation of safe receipt

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES: PUPILS WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

The school endeavours to create a consistent message with parents for all pupils and this in turn should aid establishment and future development of the schools' e-Safety rules.

However, staff should be aware that some pupils may require additional teaching including reminders, prompts and further explanation to reinforce their existing knowledge and understanding of e-Safety issues.

Where a pupil has poor social understanding, careful consideration should be given to group interactions when raising awareness of e-Safety. Internet activities should be planned and well managed for these children and young people.



### **E-SAFETY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

As e-Safety is an important aspect of strategic leadership within the school, the Principal and Trustees have ultimate responsibility to ensure that the policy and practices are embedded and monitored.

The named e-Safety Safeguarding Officer in this school is Mrs. S Coote who has been designated this role as a member of the senior leadership team. All members of the school community have been made aware of who holds this post.

It is the role of the e-Safety Safeguarding Officer to keep abreast of current issues and guidance through organisations such as the LEA, CEOP (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) and Childnet.

Senior Management and Trustees are updated by the e-Safety Safeguarding Officer and all Trustees understand the issues and strategies at our school in relation to local and national guidelines and advice.

This policy, supported by the school's acceptable use agreements for staff, Trustees, visitors and pupils, is to protect the interests and safety of the whole school community. It is linked to the following mandatory school policies: child protection, health and safety, home-school agreements, and behaviour/pupil discipline (including the anti-bullying) policy and PSHE.

### **E-SAFETY IN THE CURRICULUM**

ICT and online resources are increasingly used across the curriculum. We believe it is essential for e-Safety guidance to be given to the pupils on a regular and meaningful basis. E-Safety is embedded within our curriculum and we continually look for new opportunities to promote e-Safety.

- The school provides opportunities within a range of curriculum areas to teach about e-Safety
- Educating pupils about the online risks that they may encounter outside school is done informally when opportunities arise and as part of the e-Safety curriculum
- Pupils are aware of the relevant legislation when using the internet such as data protection and intellectual property which may limit what they want to do but also serves to protect them
- Pupils are taught about copyright, respecting other people's information, safe use of images and other important areas through discussion, modeling and appropriate activities
- Pupils are aware of the impact of Cyberbullying and know how to seek help if they are affected by any form of online bullying. Pupils are also aware of where to seek advice or help if they experience problems when using the internet and related technologies; i.e. parent/ carer, teacher/ trusted staff member, or an organisation such as Cybermentors, Childline or CEOP report abuse button

### **E-SAFETY SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOR STAFF**

- New staff receive information on the school's acceptable use policy as part of their induction
- All staff have been made aware of their individual responsibilities relating to the safeguarding of children within the context of e-Safety and know what to do in the

## Appendix 3

event of misuse of technology by any member of the school community (see e-Safety Co-ordinator)

- All staff are encouraged to incorporate e-Safety activities and awareness within their curriculum areas and ensure they are adequately informed with up-to-date areas of concern.

### **MANAGING THE SCHOOL E-SAFETY MESSAGES**

- We endeavour to embed e-Safety messages across the curriculum whenever the internet and/or related technologies are used
- The e-Safety policy will be introduced to the pupils at the start of each school year
- E-Safety posters will be prominently displayed
- We will participate in Safer Internet Day every February.

### **INCIDENT REPORTING, E-SAFETY & INFRINGEMENTS**

#### **INCIDENT REPORTING**

Any security breaches or attempts, loss of equipment and any unauthorised use or suspected misuse of ICT must be immediately reported to the school's relevant responsible person or e-Safety Co-ordinator. Additionally, all security breaches, lost/stolen equipment or data (including remote access ID and PINs), virus notifications, unsolicited emails, misuse or unauthorised use of ICT and all other policy non-compliance must be reported to the Information Asset Owner.

#### **E-SAFETY INCIDENT LOG**

Some incidents may need to be recorded if they relate to a bullying, extremism or racist incident.

### **MISUSE AND INFRINGEMENTS**

#### **COMPLAINTS**

Complaints and/ or issues relating to e-Safety should be made to the e-Safety Safeguarding Officer or Principal.

All incidents should be logged.

#### **INAPPROPRIATE MATERIAL**

- All users are aware of the procedures for reporting accidental access to inappropriate materials. The breach must be immediately reported to the e-Safety Safeguarding Officer

## Appendix 3

- Deliberate access to inappropriate materials by any user will lead to the incident being logged by the relevant responsible person, and an investigation by the Principal. Depending on the seriousness of the offence, sanctions could include immediate suspension, possibly leading to dismissal and involvement of police for very serious offences

**Hertfordshire Flowcharts for Managing an e-Safety Incident** may be found at:

<http://www.thegrid.org.uk/eservices/safety/incident.shtml>

### **INTERNET ACCESS**

The internet is an open worldwide communication medium, always available to everyone. Anyone can view information, send messages, discuss ideas and publish material which makes it both an invaluable resource for education, business and social interaction, as well as a potential risk to young and vulnerable people.

### **MANAGING THE INTERNET**

- The school provides pupils with supervised access to Internet resources (where reasonable) through the school's fixed and mobile internet connectivity
- Staff will preview any recommended sites, online services, software and apps before use
- If Internet research is set for homework, specific sites will be suggested that have previously been checked by the teacher. It is advised that parents recheck these sites and supervise this work. Parents will be advised to supervise any further research
- All users must **always** observe software copyright. It is illegal to copy or distribute school software or illegal software from other sources

### **INTERNET USE**

- You must not post personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information or disseminate such information in any way that may compromise the intended restricted audience
- Do not reveal names of colleagues, pupils, others or any other confidential information acquired through your job on any social networking site or other online application
- On-line gambling or gaming is not allowed

It is at the Principal's discretion as to what internet activities are permissible for staff and pupils and how this is disseminated.

### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

- However, the school will avoid internet filter 'over-block' as this may place 'unreasonable restrictions on what children can be taught'.
- PromisedLand Academy is aware of its responsibility when monitoring staff communication under current legislation and considers; Data Protection Act 2018,

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The Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000, Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, Human Rights Act 1998

- Staff and pupils are aware that school-based email and internet activity can be monitored and explored further if required
- The school does not allow pupils access to internet logs
- If staff or pupils discover an unsuitable site, the screen must be switched off/ closed and the incident reported immediately to the e-safety coordinator or teacher as appropriate
- It is the responsibility of the school, by delegation to the network manager, to ensure that anti-virus protection is installed and kept up-to-date on all school machines

Pupils and staff are not permitted to download programs or files on school-based technologies without seeking prior permission from ***the Principal***

### **MANAGING OTHER ONLINE TECHNOLOGIES**

Online technologies (including social networking sites, if used responsibly both outside and within an educational context) can provide easy to use, creative, collaborative and free facilities. However, it is important to recognise that there are issues regarding the appropriateness of some content, contact, culture and commercialism. To this end, we encourage our pupils to think carefully about the way that information can be added and removed by all users, including themselves, from these sites.

- At present, the school endeavors to deny access to social networking and online games websites to pupils within school
- Pupils are taught to avoid placing images of themselves (or details within images that could give background details) on such websites and to consider the appropriateness of any images they post due to the difficulty of removing an image once online
- Pupils are always reminded to avoid giving out personal details on websites which may identify them or where they are (full name, address, mobile/ home phone numbers, school details, IM/ email address, specific hobbies/ interests)
- Our pupils are advised to set and maintain their online profiles to maximum privacy and deny access to unknown individuals
- Pupils are encouraged to be wary about publishing specific and detailed private thoughts and information online
- Our pupils are asked to report any incidents of Cyberbullying to the school
- Services such as Facebook and Instagram have a 13+ age rating which should not be ignored <http://www.coppa.org/comply.htm>

### **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

We believe that it is essential for parents/carers to be fully involved with promoting e-Safety both in and outside of school and to be aware of their responsibilities. We regularly consult

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and discuss e-Safety with parents/ carers and seek to promote a wide understanding of the benefits of new technologies, together with the associated risks.

- Parents/carers are asked to read through and sign acceptable use agreements on behalf of their child on admission to the school
- Parents/carers are required to decide as to whether they consent to images of their child being taken and used in the public domain (e.g., on school website)
- Parents/carers are expected to sign an acceptable use agreement
- The school disseminates information to parents relating to e-Safety where appropriate in the form of:
  - Information evenings
  - Practical training sessions e.g. current e-Safety issues (Parent Orientation)
  - School website information
  - Newsletter items

### **PASSWORDS AND PASSWORD SECURITY**

#### **PASSWORDS**

- **Always use your own** personal passwords
- Make sure you enter your personal passwords every time you logon. Do not include passwords in any automated logon procedures
- Staff should change temporary passwords at first logon
- Change passwords whenever there is any indication of possible system or password compromise
- Do not record passwords or encryption keys on paper or in an unprotected file
- **Only disclose your personal password to authorised ICT support staff when necessary, and never to anyone else.** Ensure that all personal passwords that have been disclosed are changed once the requirement is finished
- **Never tell a child or colleague your password**
- **If you aware of a breach of security with your password or account inform Mrs. S Coote immediately**
- Passwords must contain a minimum of six characters and be difficult to guess
- Passwords should contain a mixture of upper and lowercase letters, numbers and symbols

**If you think your password may have been compromised or someone else has become aware of your password report this to your Principal**

#### **PASSWORD SECURITY**

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Password security is essential for staff, particularly as they can access and use pupil data. Staff are expected to have secure passwords which are not shared with anyone. The pupils are expected to keep their passwords private and not to share with others, particularly their friends. Staff and pupils are regularly reminded of the need for password security.

- All users read and sign an Acceptable Use Agreement to demonstrate that they have understood the school's Online (E-Safety) Policy and Data Security/Protection
- Pupils are not permitted to deliberately access on-line materials or files on the school network or local storage devices of their peers, teachers or others
- Due consideration should be given when logging into the school learning platform, virtual learning environment or other online application to the browser/cache options (shared or private computer)

### **ZOMBIE ACCOUNTS**

'Zombie accounts' refers to accounts belonging to users who have left the school and therefore no longer have authorised access to the school's systems. Such Zombie accounts when left active can cause a security threat by allowing unauthorised access.

- Ensure that all user accounts are disabled once the member of the school has left
- Prompt action on disabling accounts will prevent unauthorised access
- Regularly change generic passwords to avoid unauthorised access

### **PERSONAL OR SENSITIVE INFORMATION**

#### **PROTECTING PERSONAL, SENSITIVE, CONFIDENTIAL AND CLASSIFIED INFORMATION**

- Ensure that any school information accessed from your own PC or removable media equipment is kept secure and remove any portable media from computers when not attended.
- Ensure you lock your screen before moving away from your computer during your normal working day to prevent unauthorised access
- Ensure the accuracy of any personal, sensitive, confidential and classified information you disclose or share with others
- Ensure that personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information is not disclosed to any unauthorised person
- Ensure the security of any personal, sensitive, confidential and classified information contained in documents you copy, scan or print. This is particularly important when shared Copiers (multi-function print, scan and copiers) are used and when access is from a non-school environment
- Only download personal data from systems if expressly authorised to do so by your manager
- You must not post on the internet personal, sensitive, confidential, or classified information, or disseminate such information in any way that may compromise its intended restricted audience
- Keep your screen display out of direct view of any third parties when you are accessing personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information

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- Ensure hard copies of data are securely stored and disposed of after use in accordance with the document labeling

### **STORING/TRANSFERRING PERSONAL, SENSITIVE, CONFIDENTIAL OR CLASSIFIED INFORMATION USING REMOVABLE MEDIA**

- Ensure removable media is purchased with encryption
- Store all removable media securely
- Securely dispose of removable media that may hold personal data
- Encrypt all files containing personal, sensitive, confidential or classified data
- Ensure hard drives from machines no longer in service are removed and stored securely or wiped clean

Guidance on How to Encrypt Files can be found on the ICO website::

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/encryption-1-0.pdf>

### **SAFE USE OF IMAGES**

#### **TAKING OF IMAGES AND FILM**

The following applies to all parts of the school including the Early Years and Reception class.

Digital images are easy to capture, reproduce and publish and, therefore, misuse. We must remember that it is not always appropriate to take or store images of any member of the school community or public, without first seeking consent and considering the appropriateness.

- With the written consent of parents (on behalf of pupils) and staff, the school permits the appropriate taking of images by staff and pupils with school equipment
- Staff are not permitted to use personal digital equipment, such as mobile phones and cameras, to record images of pupils, this includes when on field trips. However, with the express permission of the Principal, images can be taken provided they are transferred immediately and solely to the school's network and deleted from the staff device
- Pupils are not permitted to use personal digital equipment, including mobile phones and cameras, to record images of pupils, staff and others without advance permission from the Principal

#### **CONSENT OF ADULTS WHO WORK AT THE SCHOOL**

- Permission to use images of all staff who work at the school is sought on induction and a copy is located in the personnel file

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### PUBLISHING PUPIL'S IMAGES AND WORK

On a child's entry to the school, all parents/carers will be asked to give permission to use their child's work/photos in the following ways:

- on the school web site
- in the school prospectus and other printed publications that the school may produce for promotional purposes
- recorded/ transmitted on a video or webcam
- in display material that may be used in the school's communal areas
- in display material that may be used in external areas, i.e. exhibition promoting the school

This consent form is considered valid for the entire period that the child attends this school unless there is a change in the child's circumstances where consent could be an issue, e.g. divorce of parents, custody issues, etc.

Parents or carers may withdraw permission, in writing, at any time. Consent must also be given in writing and will be kept on record by the school.

Pupils' names will not be published alongside their image and vice versa. E-mail and postal addresses of pupils will not be published. Pupils' full names will not be published.

Before posting student work on the Internet, a check needs to be made to ensure that permission has been given for work to be displayed.

### STORAGE OF IMAGES

- In line with GDPR images are used only with the written consent of parents/carers which is secured in the first instance on a child's entry to the school. Records are kept on file and consent can be changed by parents/carers at any time.
- Pupils and staff are not permitted to use personal portable media for storage of images (e.g., USB sticks) without the express permission of the Principal
- Rights of access to this material are restricted to the teaching staff and pupils within the confines of the school network or other online school resource
- **Kalspad** has the responsibility of deleting the images when they are no longer required, or when the pupil has left the school

### WEBCAMS AND CCTV

- We do not use publicly accessible webcams in school
- Misuse of the webcam by any member of the school community will result in sanctions (as listed under the 'inappropriate materials' section of this document)
  - Consent is sought from parents/carers and staff on joining the school, in the same way as for all images
- Webcams include any camera on an electronic device which can produce video. School policy should be followed regarding the use of such personal devices



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### **VIDEO CONFERENCING**

- All pupils are supervised by a member of staff when video conferencing
- Approval from the Principal is sought prior to all video conferences within school to end-points beyond the school
- The school conferencing equipment is not set to auto-answer and is only switched on for scheduled and approved conferences
- No part of any video conference is recorded in any medium without the written consent of those taking part

Additional points to consider:

- Participants in conferences offered by 3<sup>rd</sup> party organisations may not be DBS (previously CRB) checked
- Conference supervisors need to be familiar with how to use the video conferencing equipment, particularly how to end a call if at any point any person taking part becomes unhappy with the content of the conference

### **SCHOOL ICT EQUIPMENT INCLUDING PORTABLE & MOBILE ICT EQUIPMENT AND REMOVABLE MEDIA**

#### **SCHOOL ICT EQUIPMENT**

- As a user of the school ICT equipment, you are responsible for your activity
- I Do not allow your visitors to plug their ICT hardware into the school network points (unless special provision has been made). They should be directed to the wireless ICT facilities if available
- Ensure that all ICT equipment that you use is kept physically secure
- Do not attempt unauthorised access or make unauthorised modifications to computer equipment, programs, files or data. This is an offence under the Computer Misuse Act 1990
- Personal or sensitive data should not be stored on the local drives of desktop PC, laptop, USB memory stick or any other portable device. If it is necessary to do so the local drive must be encrypted
- It is your responsibility to ensure that any information accessed from your own PC or removable media equipment is kept secure, and that no personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information is disclosed to any unauthorised person
- All ICT equipment allocated to staff must be authorised by the Principal
  - maintaining control of the allocation
  - recovering and returning equipment when no longer needed

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### **PORTABLE & MOBILE ICT EQUIPMENT**

This section covers such items as laptops, mobile devices and removable data storage devices. Please refer to the relevant sections of this document when considering storing or transferring personal or sensitive data.

- All activities carried out on school systems and hardware will be monitored in accordance with the general policy
- Equipment must be kept physically secure in accordance with this policy to be covered for insurance purposes. When travelling by car, best practice is to place the laptop in the boot of your car before starting your journey
- Ensure portable and mobile ICT equipment is made available as necessary for anti-virus updates and software installations, patches or upgrades
- In areas where there are likely to be members of the general public, portable or mobile ICT equipment must not be left unattended and, wherever possible, must be kept out of sight
- Portable equipment must be transported in its protective case if supplied

### **MOBILE TECHNOLOGIES**

Many emerging technologies offer new opportunities for teaching and learning including a move towards personalised learning and 1:1 device ownership for children and young people. Mobile technologies such as Smartphones, Blackberries, iPads, games players, are generally very familiar to children outside of school. They often provide a collaborative, well-known device with possible internet access and thus open risk and misuse associated with communication and internet use. Emerging technologies will be examined for educational benefit and the risk assessed before use in school is allowed. Our school chooses to manage the use of these devices in the following ways so that users exploit them appropriately.

### ***PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES (INCLUDING PHONES)***

- The school allows staff to bring in personal mobile phones and devices for their own use. Under no circumstances does the school allow a member of staff to contact a pupil or parent/ carer using their personal device
- Pupils are allowed to bring personal mobile devices/phones to school but must not use them for personal purposes within lesson time. At all times the device must be switched onto silent
- The school is not responsible for the loss, damage or theft of any personal mobile device
- The sending of inappropriate text messages between any member of the school community is not allowed
- Permission must be sought before any image or sound recordings are made on

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these devices of any member of the school community

- Users bringing personal devices into school must ensure there is no inappropriate or illegal content on the device
- Never use a hand-held mobile phone whilst driving a vehicle

### TELEPHONE SERVICES

- You may make or receive personal telephone calls provided:
  1. They are infrequent, kept as brief as possible and do not cause annoyance to others
  2. They are not for profit or to premium rate services
  3. They conform to this and other relevant HCC and school policies.
- School telephones are provided specifically for school business purposes and personal usage is a privilege that will be withdrawn if abused
- Be aware that the laws of slander apply to telephone calls. Whilst a telephone call may seem to have a temporary and private existence it still qualifies as admissible evidence in slander law cases
- Ensure that your incoming telephone calls can **always** be handled

### REMOVABLE MEDIA

If storing or transferring personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information using Removable Media please refer to the section ‘

### STORING/TRANSFERRING PERSONAL, SENSITIVE, CONFIDENTIAL OR CLASSIFIED INFORMATION USING REMOVABLE MEDIA’

- Always consider if an alternative solution already exists
- Only use recommended removable media
- Encrypt and password protect
- Store all removable media securely

Removable media must be disposed of securely by your ICT support team

### SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook, Twitter and other forms of social media are increasingly becoming an important part of our daily lives.

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- Staff **are not** permitted to access their personal social media accounts using school equipment at **any time**
- Pupils are not permitted to access their social media accounts whilst at school
- Staff, Trustees, pupils, parents and carers are regularly provided with information on how to use social media responsibly and what to do if they are aware of inappropriate use by others
- Staff, Trustees, pupils, parents and carers are aware that the information, comments, images and video they post online can be viewed by others, copied and stay online forever
- Staff, Trustees pupils, parents and carers are aware that their online behaviour should always be compatible with UK law

### **SYSTEMS AND ACCESS**

- You are responsible for all activity on school systems carried out under any access/account rights assigned to you, whether accessed via school ICT equipment or your own PC
- Do not allow any unauthorised person to use school ICT facilities and services that have been provided to you
- Ensure you remove portable media from your computer when it is left unattended
- Use only your own personal logons, account IDs and passwords and do not allow them to be used by anyone else
- Keep your screen display out of direct view of any third parties when you are accessing personal, sensitive, confidential or classified information
- Ensure you lock your screen before moving away from your computer during your normal working day to protect any personal, sensitive, confidential or otherwise classified data and to prevent unauthorised access
- Ensure that you logoff from the PC completely when you are going to be away from the computer for a long period of time
- Do not introduce or propagate viruses
- It is imperative that you do not access, load, store, post or send from school ICT any material that is, or may be considered to be, illegal, offensive, libelous, pornographic, obscene, defamatory, intimidating, misleading or disruptive to the school or may bring the school or HCC into disrepute. This includes, but is not limited to, jokes, chain letters, files, emails, clips or images that are not part of the school's business activities; sexual comments or images, nudity, racial slurs, gender specific comments, or anything that would offend someone based on their age, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, national origin, or disability (in accordance with the Sex Discrimination Act, the Race Relations Act and the Disability Discrimination Act)
- Any information held on School systems, hardware or used in relation to School business may be subject to The Freedom of Information Act
- Where necessary, obtain permission from the owner or owning authority and pay any relevant fees before using, copying or distributing any material that is protected under

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the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1998

It is essential that any hard drives which may have held personal or confidential data are 'scrubbed' in way that means the data can no longer be read. It is not sufficient to simply delete the files or reformat the hard drive. Whoever you appoint to dispose of the equipment must provide a **written guarantee** that they will irretrievably destroy the data by multiple over writing the data.

### **WRITING AND REVIEWING THIS POLICY**

#### **STAFF AND PUPIL INVOLVEMENT IN POLICY CREATION**

Staff, Trustees and pupils have been involved in making/ reviewing the Policy for ICT Acceptable Use through meetings and lessons

#### **REVIEW PROCEDURE**

There will be on-going opportunities for staff to discuss with the e-Safety coordinator any e-Safety issue that concerns them

There will be on-going opportunities for staff to discuss with the AIO any issue of data security that concerns them

This policy will be reviewed every (24) months and consideration will be given to the implications for future whole school development planning

The policy will be amended if new technologies are adopted or Central Government change the orders or guidance in any way

This policy has been read, amended and approved by the staff, head teacher and Trustees

## **ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENTS**

***Student Acceptable Use Agreement / E-Safety Rules*** – Each student should receive a copy to read

***Primary Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement / e-Safety Rules*** – All parents/carers should read these with primary age children and sign to say they agree

***Senior Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement / e-Safety Rules*** – Students at this age can sign these for themselves

***Parent/Carer Acceptable Use Agreement / Code of Conduct*** – All parents/carers should read and sign this document

***Staff, Volunteer, Trustee and Visitor Acceptable Use Agreement / E-Safety / Code of Conduct*** – All staff, whether volunteers, trustees or governors, and visitors should read and sign this document

## **PromisedLand Academy**

### **Student Acceptable Use Agreement / E-Safety Rules**

#### **You should:**

- **Only access the internet under the direct supervision of a member of staff, and never access the internet when a member of staff is not present in the same room.**
- Only access sites which are appropriate for use in school. Personal websites (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, Tumblr) are **not** appropriate for use in school
- Be aware that your actions on the Internet can be seen by others
- Treat others as they would expect to be treated, e.g. show respect and be polite
- Be aware that information on an Internet website may be inaccurate or biased. Try to verify the information using other sources, if possible, before using it
- Respect copyright and trademarks. You must not copy text or pictures from the Internet and hand it in to your teacher as your own work
- Always tell your teacher or another adult if you ever see, hear or read anything which makes you feel uncomfortable while using the Internet or e-mail
- Always check with a supervisor before taking the following actions:
  - downloading files
  - completing questionnaires or subscription forms
  - opening e-mail attachments

#### **You must not:**

- Access chat rooms/personal websites
- Use or send bad, threatening or annoying language
- Post anonymous messages or forward chain letters
- Use school computers for gambling, political purposes or advertising.
- Interfere with another student's work
- Intentionally waste resources
- Access or send inappropriate materials such as pornographic, racist or offensive material
- Access games

#### **Please note:**

- You should always log out when your session has finished
- All computers will be closely monitored, and staff may review your files and communications to maintain system integrity
- All Internet activity should be appropriate to your education
- Failure to follow the code will result in loss of access and further disciplinary action may be taken if appropriate

## **PromisedLand Academy**

### **Primary Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement / e-Safety Rules**

- I will only use ICT in school for school purposes
- I will only use my class e-mail address or my own school e-mail address when e-mailing
- I will only open e-mail attachments from people I know, or who my teacher has approved
- I will not tell other people my ICT passwords
- I will only open/delete my own files
- I will make sure that all ICT contact with other children and adults is responsible, polite and sensible
- I will not look for, save or send anything that could be unpleasant or nasty. If I accidentally find anything like this, I will tell my teacher immediately
- I will not give out my own/others details such as name, phone number or home address. I will not arrange to meet someone or send my image unless this is part of a school project approved by my teacher and a responsible adult comes with me
- I will be responsible for my behaviour when using ICT because I know that these rules are to keep me safe
- I will support the school approach to online safety and not upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset any member of the school community
- I know that my use of ICT can be checked and my parent/carer contacted if a member of school staff is concerned about my safety
- I will not sign up for any online service unless this is an agreed part of a school project approved by my teacher
- I will not bring a Smart Watch to school because I am not allowed to wear one during the school day
- I will not sign up to online services until I am old enough

Signature .....(Parent /Carer) Date .....

Full Name ..... (Printed)



# Promised Land Academy

*Reap the Rewards... Psalm 127*

## **Senior Pupil Acceptable Use Agreement / e-Safety Rules**

- I will only use ICT systems in school, including the internet, e-mail, digital video, and mobile technologies for school purposes
- I will not download or install software on school technologies
- I will only log on to the school network, other systems and resources with my own username and password
- I will follow the school's ICT security system and not reveal my passwords to anyone and change them regularly.
- I will only use my school e-mail address
- I will make sure that all ICT communications with pupils, teachers or others is responsible and sensible
- I will be responsible for my behaviour when using the Internet. This includes resources I access and the language I use
- I will not browse, download, upload or forward material that could be considered offensive or illegal. If I accidentally come across any such material I will report it immediately to my teacher
- I will not give out any personal information such as name, phone number or address. I will not arrange to meet someone unless this is part of a school project approved by my teacher
- I am aware that when I take images of pupils and/ or staff that I must only store and use these for school purposes in line with school policy and must never distribute these outside the school network without the permission of all parties involved. This includes school breaks and all occasions when I am in school uniform or when otherwise representing the school
- I will ensure that my online activity, both in school and outside school, will not cause my school, the staff, pupils or others distress or bring the school community into disrepute, including through uploads of images, video, sounds or texts
- I will support the school approach to online safety and not upload or add any images, video, sounds or text that could upset any member of the school community
- I will respect the privacy and ownership of others' work on-line at all times
- I will not attempt to bypass the internet filtering system
- I understand that all my use of the Internet and other related technologies can be monitored and logged and can be made available to my teachers
- I understand that these rules are designed to keep me safe and that if they are not followed, school sanctions will be applied and my parent/ carer may be contacted
- I will not bring a Smart Watch to school because I am not permitted to wear one during the school day
- I will not sign up to online services until I am old enough to do so

Signature ..... Date .....

Full Name ..... (Printed)

# PromisedLand Academy

*Reap the Rewards... Psalm 127*

## Parent/Carer Acceptable Use Agreement / Code of Conduct

New technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people in today's society, both within schools and in their lives outside school. The internet and other digital information and communications technologies are powerful tools, which open new opportunities for everyone. These technologies can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of context to promote effective learning. Young people should always have an entitlement to safe internet access.

This Acceptable Use Policy is intended to ensure:

- that young people will be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other communications technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.
- that school ICT systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk.
- that parents and carers are aware of the importance of e-safety and are involved in the education and guidance of young people regarding their on-line behaviour.

PromisedLand Academy will do their best to ensure that students will have good access to ICT to enhance their learning and will, in return, expect the students to agree to be responsible users. A copy of the Student Acceptable Use Agreement is attached to this permission form, so that parents / carers will be aware of the school expectations of the young people in their care.

Parents are requested to sign the permission form below to show their support of the school in this important aspect of the school's work.

### Permission Form

Parent / Carers Name

Student Name

As the parent / carer of the above student, I give permission for my son / daughter to have access to the internet and to ICT systems at school.

We have discussed this document with..... (Child's name) know that my son / daughter has signed an Acceptable Use Agreement and we agree to follow the e-Safety rules and to support the safe use of ICT at PromisedLand Academy

We know he/she has received, or will receive, e-safety education to help them understand the importance of safe use of ICT – both in and out of school.

I understand that the school will take every reasonable precaution, including monitoring and filtering systems, to ensure that young people will be safe when they use the internet and ICT systems. I also understand that the school cannot ultimately be held responsible for the nature and content of materials accessed on the internet and using mobile technologies.

I understand that my son's / daughter's activity on the ICT systems will be monitored and that the school will contact me if they have concerns about any possible breaches of the Acceptable Use Policy.

I will encourage my child to adopt safe use of the internet and digital technologies at home and will inform the school if I have concerns over my child's e-safety.

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- I/we will support the school approach to online safety and not upload or add any text, image, sound or videos that could upset or offend any member of the school community or bring the school name into disrepute.
- I/we will ensure that my/our online activity will not cause the school, staff, pupils or others distress or bring the school community into disrepute.
- I/we will support the school's policy and help prevent my/our child/children from signing up to services such as Facebook, Snapchat and YouTube whilst they are underage (13+ years in most cases).
- I/we will close online accounts if I/we/teachers find that these accounts are active for our underage child/children.

I/we agree to follow this code of conduct and to support the safe and secure use of ICT throughout the school

Signature ..... Date .....  
Full Name ..... (Printed)  
Child's Name .....  
Relationship to child .....

Signature ..... Date .....  
Full Name ..... (Printed)  
Child's Name .....  
Relationship to child .....

Please return this agreement to the school.

Tick here if you would like a copy for your personal records

## *PromisedLand Academy*

*Reap the Rewards... Psalm 127*

### **Staff, Volunteer, Trustee and Visitor Acceptable Use Agreement / E-Safety / Code of Conduct**

#### **Introduction**

ICT (including data) and the related technologies such as e-mail, the internet and mobile devices are an expected part of our daily working life in school. This policy is designed to ensure that all staff are aware of their professional responsibilities when using any form of ICT. All staff are expected to sign this policy and adhere at all times to its contents. Any concerns or clarification should be discussed with PromisedLand Academy

#### **This Acceptable Use Policy is intended to ensure:**

- that staff and volunteers will be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other communications technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.
- that school systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems and users at risk.
- that staff are protected from potential risk in their use of technology in their everyday work.
- that staff and volunteers will have good access to digital technology to enhance their work, to enhance learning opportunities for students learning and will, in return, expect staff and volunteers to agree to be responsible users.

#### **Acceptable Use Policy Agreement**

I understand that I must use school systems in a responsible way, to ensure that there is no risk to my safety or to the safety and security of the systems and other users. I recognise the value of the use of digital technology for enhancing learning and will ensure that students receive opportunities to gain from the use of digital technology. I will, where possible, educate the young people in my care in the safe use of digital technology and embed online safety in my work with young people.

#### **For my professional and personal safety:**

- I will follow requirements for data protection as outlined in the Online Safety and Data Protection Policy.
- I understand that the school will monitor my use of the school digital technology and communications systems.
- I understand that the rules set out in this agreement also apply to use of these technologies (e.g. laptops, email, etc.) out of school, and to the transfer of personal data (digital or paper based) out of school. I understand that the school digital technology systems are primarily intended for educational use and that I will only use the systems for personal or recreational use within the policies and rules set down by the school.
- I will not disclose my username or password to anyone else, nor will I try to use any other person's username and password. I understand that I should not write down or store a password where it is possible that someone may steal it.
- I will immediately report any illegal, inappropriate or harmful material or incident, I become aware of, to the appropriate person.

## Appendix 3

### **I will be professional in my communications and actions when using school ICT systems:**

- I will not access, copy, remove or otherwise alter any other user's files, without their express permission.
- I will communicate with others in a professional manner, I will not use aggressive or inappropriate language and I appreciate that others may have different opinions.
- I will ensure that when I take and / or publish images of others I will do so with their permission and in accordance with the school's policy on the use of digital / video images. I will not use my personal equipment to record these images, unless I have permission to do so. Where these images are published (e.g. on the school website) it will not be possible to identify by name, or other personal information, those who are featured.
- Photographs must be kept securely and used appropriately, whether in school, taken off the school premises or accessed remotely
- Images of pupils and/ or staff will only be taken, stored and used for professional purposes in line with school policy and with written consent of the parent, carer or staff member
- Images will not be distributed outside the school network without the permission of the parent/ carer, member of staff or Principal
- I will support the school approach to online safety and not upload or add any images, video, sounds or text linked to or associated with the school or its community'
- I will only use social networking sites in school in accordance with the school's policies. I will only communicate with students / pupils and parents / carers using official school systems. Any such communication will be professional in tone and manner.
- I will not engage in any on-line activity that may compromise my professional responsibilities.

### **The school has the responsibility to provide safe and secure access to technologies and ensure the smooth running of the school:**

- When I use my mobile devices (laptops / tablets / mobile phones / USB devices etc.) in school, I will follow the rules set out in this agreement, in the same way as if I was using school equipment. I will also follow any additional rules set by the school about such use. I will ensure that any such devices are protected by up to date anti-virus software and are free from viruses. I will not give out my own personal details, such as mobile phone number, personal e-mail address, personal Twitter account, or any other social media link, to pupils
- I will not open any hyperlinks in emails or any attachments to emails, unless the source is known and trusted, or if I have any concerns about the validity of the email (due to the risk of the attachment containing viruses or other harmful programmes)
- I will ensure that my data is regularly backed up, in accordance with relevant school policies.
- I will not try to upload, download or access any materials which are illegal (child sexual abuse images, criminally racist material, adult pornography covered by the Obscene Publications Act) or inappropriate or may cause harm or distress to others. I will not try to use any programmes or software that might allow me to bypass the filtering / security systems in place to prevent access to such materials.
- I will not try (unless I have permission) to make large downloads or uploads that might take up internet capacity and prevent other users from being able to carry out their work.
- I will not install or attempt to install programmes of any type on a machine, or store programmes on a computer, nor will I try to alter computer settings, unless this is allowed in school policies I will not disable or cause any damage to school equipment, or the equipment belonging to others.

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- I will only transport, hold, disclose or share personal information about myself or others, as outlined in the School Personal Data Policy (or other relevant policy). Where digital personal data is transferred outside the secure local network, it must be encrypted. Paper based Protected and Restricted data must be held in lockable storage.
- I understand that data protection policy requires that any staff or student data to which I have access, will be kept private and confidential, except when it is deemed necessary that I am required by law or by school policy to disclose such information to an appropriate authority.
- I will immediately report any damage or faults involving equipment or software; however, this may have happened.

**When using the internet in my professional capacity or for school sanctioned personal use:**

- I will ensure that I have permission to use the original work of others in my own work
- Where work is protected by copyright, I will not download or distribute copies (including music and videos).

**I understand that I am responsible for my actions in and out of the school:**

- I understand that this Acceptable Use Policy applies not only to my work and use of school digital technology equipment in school, but also applies to my use of school systems and equipment off the premises and my use of personal equipment on the premises or in situations related to my employment by the school.
- I understand that if I fail to comply with this Acceptable Use Policy Agreement, I could be subject to disciplinary action. This could include a warning, a suspension, referral to trustees or the Local Authority and in the event of illegal activities the involvement of the police.

**User Signature**

I have read and understand the above and agree to use the school digital technology systems (both in and out of school) and my own devices (in school and when carrying out communications related to the school) within these guidelines and agree to the above Acceptable Use Agreement / E-Safety Rules.

Signature ..... Date .....

Full Name ..... (Printed)

Job title .....

## Appendix 3

### **HELP AND SUPPORT**

Our organisation has a legal obligation to protect sensitive information under the Data Protection Act 2018. For more information visit the website of the Information Commissioner's Office <https://ico.org.uk/>

The Information Management Toolkit for Schools is available at:

[https://cdn.ymaws.com/irms.site-ym.com/resource/collection/8BCEF755-0353-4F66-9877-CCDA4BFEEAC4/2016\\_IRMS\\_Toolkit\\_for\\_Schools\\_v5\\_Master.pdf](https://cdn.ymaws.com/irms.site-ym.com/resource/collection/8BCEF755-0353-4F66-9877-CCDA4BFEEAC4/2016_IRMS_Toolkit_for_Schools_v5_Master.pdf)

Safeguarding Children online – free expert advice: <http://www.getsafeonline.org>

Review Online (E-Safety) policy and practice at <https://360safe.org.uk/>

Data Protection Team – email: [information.governance@newham.gov.uk](mailto:information.governance@newham.gov.uk)

Cloud (Educational Apps) Software Services and the Data Protection Act – Departmental advice for local authorities, school leaders, school staff and governing bodies, October 2015 – this is an advice and information document issued by the Department for Education. The advice is non-statutory, and has been produced to help recipients understand some of the key principles and their obligations and duties in relation to the Data Protection Act 2018 (the DPA), particularly when considering moving some or all their software services to internet-based “cloud” service provision –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cloud-software-services-and-the-data-protection-act>

Resources to support schools with online safety:

- Education for a Connected World framework from the UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS)
- Guidance from the PSHE Association
- Be Internet Legends by Parent Zone and Google

Numerous organisations are listed in Annex C of KCSIE of KCSIE 2020, that can provide support concerning online safety.

For additional help, email [school.ictsupport@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:school.ictsupport@education.gsi.gov.uk)

## **CURRENT LEGISLATION**

### **ACTS RELATING TO MONITORING OF STAFF EMAIL**

The Act requires anyone who handles personal information to comply with important data protection principles when treating personal data relating to any living individual. The Act grants individual's rights of access to their personal data, compensation and prevention of processing. The **Data Protection Act 2018** implements the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in national law.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted>

### **The Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000**

<http://www.hmso.gov.uk/si/si2000/20002699.htm>

### **Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000**

Regulating the interception of communications and making it an offence to intercept or monitor communications without the consent of the parties involved in the communication. The RIP was enacted to comply with the Human Rights Act 1998. The Telecommunications (Lawful Business Practice) (Interception of Communications) Regulations 2000, however, permit a degree of monitoring and record keeping, for example, to ensure communications are relevant to school activity or to investigate or detect unauthorised use of the network. Nevertheless, any monitoring is subject to informed consent, which means steps must have been taken to ensure that everyone who may use the system is informed that communications may be monitored. Covert monitoring without informing users that surveillance is taking place risks breaching data protection and privacy legislation.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/23>

### **Human Rights Act 1998**

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1998/42>

## **OTHER ACTS RELATING TO ESAFETY**

### **Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006**

It is a criminal offence to threaten people because of their faith, or to stir up religious hatred by displaying, publishing or distributing written material which is threatening. Other laws already protect people from threats based on their race, nationality or ethnic background.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/1>

### **Sexual Offences Act 2003**

The new grooming offence is committed if you are over 18 and have communicated with a child under 16 at least twice (including by phone or using the Internet) it is an offence to meet them or travel to meet them anywhere in the world with the intention of committing a sexual offence. Causing a child under 16 to watch a sexual act is illegal, including looking at images such as videos, photos or webcams, for your own gratification. It is also an offence for a person in a position of trust to engage in sexual activity with any person under 18, with whom they are in a position of trust. Schools should already have a copy of *Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2018* document as part of their child protection packs.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/42>



## Appendix 3

### **Communications Act 2003 (section 127)**

Sending by means of the Internet a message or other matter that is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character; or sending a false message by means of or persistently making use of the Internet for causing annoyance, inconvenience or needless anxiety is guilty of an offence liable, on conviction, to imprisonment. This wording is important because an offence is complete as soon as the message has been sent: there is no need to prove any intent or purpose.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/21/section/127>

### **The Computer Misuse Act 1990 (sections 1 – 3)**

Regardless of an individual's motivation, the Act makes it a criminal offence to gain:

- access to computer files or software without permission (for example using another person's password to access files)
- unauthorised access, as above, to commit a further criminal act (such as fraud)
- impair the operation of a computer or program

UK citizens or residents may be extradited to another country if they are suspected of committing any of the above offences.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/18>

### **Malicious Communications Act 1988 (section 1)**

This legislation makes it a criminal offence to send an electronic message (e-mail) that conveys indecent, grossly offensive, threatening material or information that is false; or is of an indecent or grossly offensive nature if the purpose was to cause a recipient to suffer distress or anxiety.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1988/27>

### **Copyright, Design and Patents Act 1988**

Copyright is the right to prevent others from copying or using work without permission. Works such as text, music, sound, film and programs all qualify for copyright protection. The author of the work is usually the copyright owner, but if it was created during employment it belongs to the employer. Copyright infringement is to copy all or a substantial part of anyone's work without obtaining their author's permission. Usually a licence associated with the work will allow a user to copy or use it for limited purposes. It is advisable always to read the terms of a licence before you copy or use someone else's material. It is also illegal to adapt or use software without a licence or in ways prohibited by the terms of the software licence.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1988/48>

### **Public Order Act 1986 (sections 17 – 29)**

This Act makes it a criminal offence to stir up racial hatred by displaying, publishing or distributing written material which is threatening. Like the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006 it also makes the possession of inflammatory material with a view of releasing it a criminal offence.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1986/64>

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### **Protection of Children Act 1978 (Section 1)**

It is an offence to take, permit to be taken, make, possess, show, distribute or advertise indecent images of children in the United Kingdom. A child for these purposes is anyone under the age of 18. Viewing an indecent image of a child on your computer means that you have made a digital image. An image of a child also covers pseudo-photographs (digitally collated or otherwise). A person convicted of such an offence may face up to 10 years in prison.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1978/37>

### **Obscene Publications Act 1959 and 1964**

Publishing an “obscene” article is a criminal offence. Publishing includes electronic transmission.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Eliz2/7-8/66> and  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1964/74>

### **Protection from Harassment Act 1997**

A person must not pursue a course of conduct, which amounts to harassment of another, and which he knows or ought to know amounts to harassment of the other.

A person whose course of conduct causes another to fear, on at least two occasions, that violence will be used against him is guilty of an offence if he knows or ought to know that his course of conduct will cause the other so to fear on each of those occasions.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/40>

## **ACTS RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA**

### **Data Protection Act 2018**

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted>

### **The Freedom of Information Act 2000**

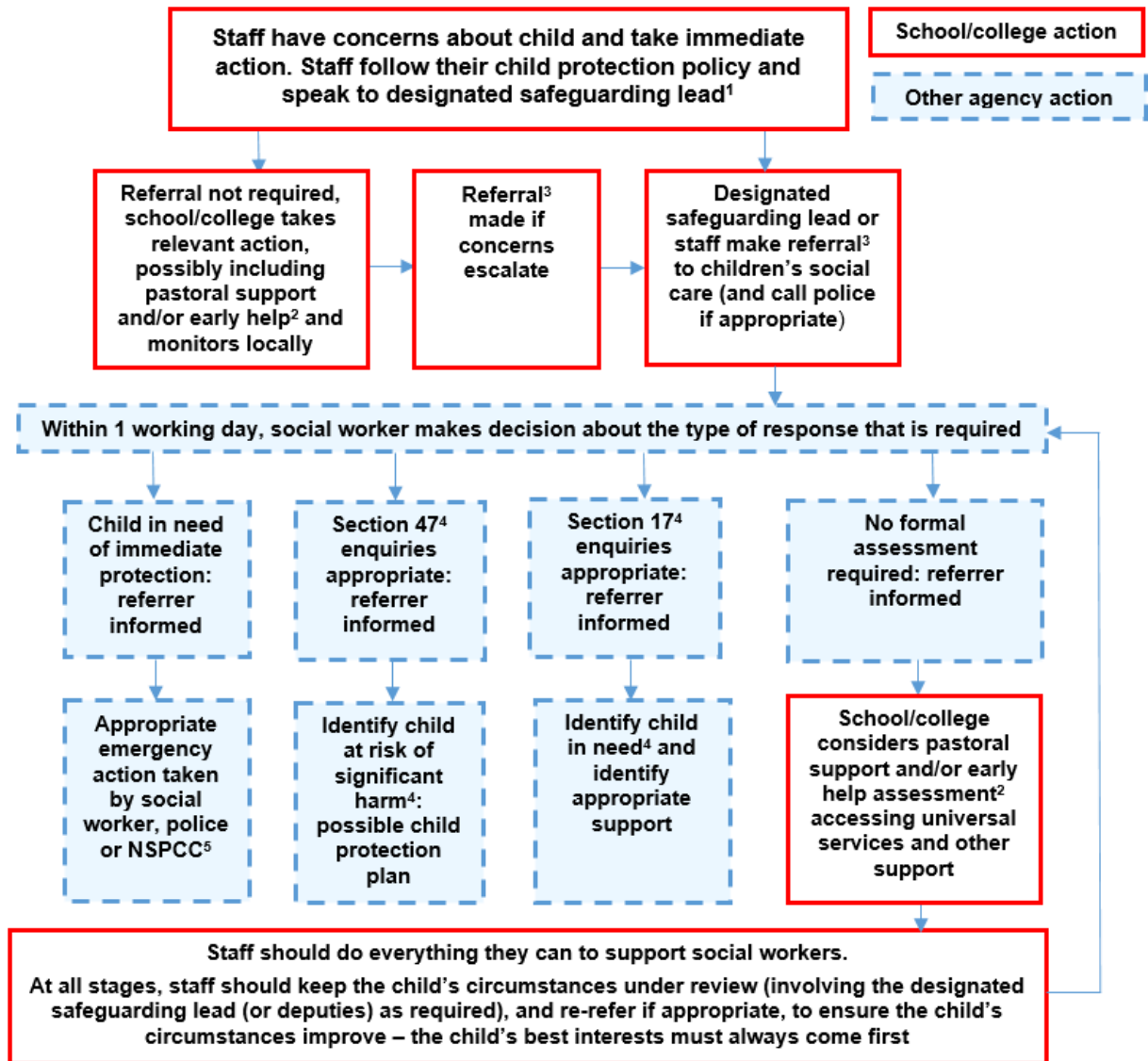
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36>

<https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/guide-to-freedom-of-information/>

## **COUNTER-TERRORISM AND SECURITY ACT 2015 (PREVENT), ANTI-RADICALISATION & COUNTER-EXTREMISM GUIDANCE**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/preventing-extremism-in-schools-and-childrens-services>

**Actions where there are concerns about a child**



<sup>1</sup>In cases which also involve a concern or an allegation of abuse against a staff member, see Part Four of this guidance.

<sup>2</sup>Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges at any point in a child's life. Where a child would benefit from co-ordinated early help, an early help inter-agency assessment should be arranged. Chapter one of [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) provides detailed guidance on the early help process.

<sup>3</sup> Referrals should follow the process set out in the local threshold document and local protocol for assessment. Chapter one of [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#).

<sup>4</sup> Under the Children Act 1989, local authorities are required to provide services for children in need for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting their welfare. Children in need may be assessed under section 17 of the Children Act 1989. Under section 47 of the Children Act 1989, where a local authority has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, it has a duty to make enquiries to decide whether to take action to safeguard or promote the child's welfare. Full details are in Chapter one of [Working Together to Safeguard Children](#).

<sup>5</sup> This could include applying for an Emergency Protection Order (EPO).