



Child Protection Policy

Reviewed September 2016

Introduction

At Deerhurst and Apperley C of E School, the health, safety and well-being of all our children are of paramount importance to all the adults who work in our school. Our children have the right to protection, regardless of age, gender, race, culture or disability. They have a right to be safe in our school

In our school we respect all our children. The atmosphere within our school is one that encourages all children to do their best. We provide opportunities that enable our children to take and make decisions for themselves.

Our teaching of personal, social and health education and citizenship, as part of the National Curriculum (The Cambridge Scheme) helps to develop appropriate attitudes in our children and makes them aware of the impact of their decisions on others. We also teach them how to recognise different risks in different situations, and how to behave in response to them.

Aims and objectives

This policy ensures that all staff in our school are clear about the actions necessary with regard to a child protection issue and supports the Whole School Policy for Safeguarding Children (see policy file). Its aims are:

- To raise the awareness of all staff and identify responsibility in reporting cases of abuse (see Safeguarding Children Policy)
- To ensure effective communication between all staff when dealing with child protection issues
- To lay down the correct procedures for those who encounter an issue of child protection

Procedures

The named person in our school who is the Child Protection Coordinator is the Head teacher, Mrs Jayne Neveu. Mrs Julie Oldroyd and Mrs Eve Perry are the named deputy child protection coordinators. The governor responsible for Child Protection is Mr Angus Mackenzie.

If any teacher suspects that a child in their class may be a victim of abuse, they immediately inform the named person about their concerns. Abuse can be of a sexual, emotional or physical nature. It can also be the result of neglect.

Any action that the named person takes when dealing with an issue of child protection must be in line with the procedures outlined in the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Boards (GSCB).

The school's named person works closely with the GSCB when investigating any allegations of abuse. All parties involved handle such investigations in a sensitive manner, but the welfare of the child is of paramount importance.

If a child alleges abuse, the school will make every effort to communicate with parents first. In some circumstances this may not be appropriate.

If a Child Protection referral is made, GSCB will make an initial assessment of the situation. If the situation cannot be resolved and the child is felt to be at risk of significant harm, a Child Protection case conference may be held. Staff involved are expected to attend and participate in all case conference and meetings held under the GSCB.

We regard all information relating to individual child protection issues as confidential, and we treat them accordingly. We only pass information on to the appropriate persons. We inform the child at all stages of who is involved, and what information we have given them.

At Deerhurst and Apperley Primary School we require evidence of original academic certificates. We do not accept testimonials and insist on taking up references prior to interview. We will question the contents of application forms if we are unclear about them, we will undertake enhanced DBS checks and use any other means of ensuring we are recruiting and selecting the most suitable people to work with our children. We will also ask for a declaration of the disqualification by association to be signed. The head teacher and two governors have received training and have been awarded certificates in safer recruitment. The Child Protection Policy is closely linked to The Safeguarding Children Policy and should be cross referenced.

There may be times when adults in our school, in the course of their duty, use physical intervention to restrain children. The Head teacher requires that the adult involved in any such incident reports this immediately and then records the event.

All adults in the school receive regular training to raise awareness of abuse and their knowledge of agreed GSCB procedures.

The Prevent Duty

There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology. As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Children at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views. School staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation and act proportionately. Even very young children may be vulnerable to radicalisation by others, whether in the family or outside, and display concerning behaviour. The Prevent duty does not require teachers or childcare providers to carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but as with any other safeguarding risk, they must take action when they observe behaviour of concern. General safeguarding principles apply to keeping children safe from the risk of radicalisation as set out in **Working together to safeguard children and Keeping children safe in education (Sept 2016)** (which all staff must sign to say they have read). The DSL should refer to the Channel programme if a referral is made to them. This will enable early mechanisms to be put in place if it is felt an individual might be vulnerable to radicalisation. When training is available (WRAP) the DSL will undertake it and train other staff in school.

Peer on Peer Abuse

Staff should recognise that children are capable of abusing their peers. No peer to peer abuse will be passed off as 'just banter'. Peer to peer abuse could be:

- girls being sexually touched/assaulted
- boys being sexually touched/assaulted

- sexting (Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre (CEOP) has recently updated their sexting guidance: **this advice will be added when it's available.**

Types of hazing eg

- Verbal abuse, including berating of individuals
- Threats or implied threats

Any allegations of peer on peer abuse will be dealt with immediately. Any staff member who becomes aware of this will reassure the child it will be dealt with and report it to the DSL immediately. All systems, then activated, will be processed with the best interest of the child.

Monitoring and Review

The governing body regularly reviews any incidents reported by the Head teacher. A named governor participates in the school's training with regard to the child protection procedures. This policy is reviewed annually by the governing body.

Policy reviewed with staff and Child Protection Governor September 2016

To be presented to Full Governing Body and agreed at next meeting October 2016:

Signed:



Head teacher Date

Signed:

Governor for Child Protection Date

Signed:



Chair of Governors

Date:

"Children can only be safeguarded properly if the key agencies work effectively together. Local Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Boards is designed to help ensure that this happens. They put the former area child protection committees (ACPCs) on a statutory footing.

The core membership of LSCBs is set out in the Children Act 2004, and includes local authorities, health bodies, the police and others. The Deerhurst and Apperley C of E Primary School
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objective of *GSCBs* is to coordinate and to ensure the effectiveness of their member agencies in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

The statutory regulations, which came into force on 1 April 2006, are available from the [OPSI website](#)."

<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/lscb/>