

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Policy Title:** | Safeguarding Policy |
| **Approved By:** | Colours Academy |
| **Author:** | Victoria Poole-Birrell |
| **Position:**  | Head of Centre |
| **Last Up-Dated**: | August 2020 |
| **Review Date:** | September 2021 |

**1 Safeguarding legislation and guidance**

The following safeguarding legislation and guidance has been considered when drafting this policy:

* Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 (maintained schools only)

Section 157 of the Education Act 2002 (Independent schools only, including academies and CTCs)

The Education (Independent Schools Standards) (England) Regulations 2003 (Independent schools only,  including academies and CTCs)

* The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
* The Teacher Standards 2012
* Working Together to Safeguarding Children 2015
* Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016
* HM Gov Information Sharing 2015
* What to do if you’re worried a child is being abused 2015
* **2. Policy Principles**

The welfare of the child is paramount

All children regardless of age, gender, culture, language, race, ability, sexual identity or religion have equal rights to protection, safeguarding and opportunities.

We recognise that all adults, including temporary staff, volunteers, directors and members, have a full and active part to play in protecting our pupils from harm and have an equal responsibility to act on any suspicion or disclosure that may suggest a child is at risk of harm;

All staff believe that our academy should provide a caring, positive, safe and stimulating environment that promotes the social, physical and moral development of the individual child.

Pupils and staff involved in child protection issues will receive appropriate support and supervision.

* **3. Policy Aims**

To demonstrate the academy’s commitment with regard to safeguarding and child protection to pupils, parents and other partners.

To support the child’s development in ways that will foster security, confidence and independence.

To provide an environment in which children and young people feel safe, secure, valued and respected, and feel confident to, and know how to approach adults if they are in difficulties, believing they will be effectively listened to.

To raise the awareness of all teaching and non-teaching staff of the need to safeguard children and of their responsibilities in identifying and reporting possible cases of abuse.

Wherever the word “staff” is used, it covers ALL staff on site, including ancillary supply and self-employed staff, contractors, volunteers working with children.

To provide a systematic means of monitoring children known or thought to be at risk of harm, and ensure we, the academy, contribute to assessments of need and support packages for those children.

To emphasise the need for good levels of communication between all members of staff.

To develop a structured procedure within the academy which will be followed by all members of the school community in cases of suspected abuse.

To develop and promote effective working relationships with other agencies, especially the Police and MASH.

To ensure that all staff working within our school who have substantial access to children have been checked as to their suitability, including verification of their identity, qualifications, and a satisfactory DBS check, and a single central record is kept for audit.

**4. Values**

**Supporting Children**

We recognise that a child who is abused or witnesses violence may feel helpless and humiliated, may blame themselves, and find it difficult to develop and maintain a sense of self-worth.

We recognise that the academy may provide the only stability in the lives of children who have been abused or who are at risk of harm.

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

Our academy will support all children by:

Encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness, through the curriculum as well as our relationships, whilst not condoning aggression or bullying. Promoting a caring, safe and positive environment within the academy. Responding sympathetically to any requests for time out to deal with distress and anxiety .

Offering details of helplines, counselling or other avenues of external support. Liaising and working together with all other support services and those agencies involved in the safeguarding of children. Notifying MASH as soon as there is a significant concern.

Providing continuing support to a child about whom there have been concerns who leaves the academy by ensuring that appropriate information is copied under confidential cover to the child’s new setting and ensuring the academy medical records are forwarded as a matter of priority.

Guidance regarding DBS checks recently updated by the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012

**Prevention / Protection**

We recognise that the academy plays a significant part in the prevention of harm to our children by providing children with good lines of communication with trusted adults, supportive friends and an ethos of protection.

The academy community will therefore:

Ensure that all children know there is an adult in the academy whom they can approach if they are worried or in difficulty. Ensure all staff are aware of school guidance for their use of mobile technology and have discussed safeguarding issues around the use of mobile technologies and their associated risks.

**5. Safe Academy, Safe Staff**

We will ensure that;

All staff receive information about the academy’s safeguarding arrangements, the academy’s safeguarding statement, staff behaviour policy (code of conduct), child protection policy, the role and names of the Designated Safeguarding Lead, and Keeping Children Safe in Education.

All staff receive safeguarding and child protection training at induction in line with advice from Devon Safeguarding Children’s Board which is regularly updated and receive safeguarding and child protection updates (for example, via email, e-bulletins and staff meetings), as required, but at least annually;

All members of staff are trained in and receive regular updates in online safety and reporting concerns;

All staff have regular child protection awareness training, updated by the DSL as appropriate, to maintain their understanding of the signs and indicators of abuse;

The name of the designated members of staff for child protection, the Designated Safeguarding Lead, are clearly advertised in the academy with a statement explaining the academy’s role in referring and monitoring cases of suspected abuse.

**6. Roles and Responsibilities**

**The Director understands and fulfills their responsibilities, namely to ensure that;**

There is a Child Protection and Safeguarding policy;

Child protection, safeguarding, recruitment and managing allegations policies and procedures, including the staff behavior policy (code of conduct), are consistent with Devon Safeguarding Children’s Board and statutory requirements, are reviewed annually and that the Child Protection policy is publically available on the school website or by other means;

All staff including temporary staff and volunteers are provided with the academy’s child protection policy and staff behavior policy;

All staff have read Keeping Children Safe in Education (2016) part 1 and Annex A and that mechanisms are in place to assist staff in understanding and discharging their roles and responsibilities as set out in the guidance.

The academy operates a safer recruitment procedure that includes statutory checks on staff suitability to work with children and disqualification by association regulations and by ensuring that there is at least one person on every recruitment panel who has completed safer recruitment training;

The academy has procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse against staff (including the headteacher), volunteers and against other children and that a referral is made to the DBS if a person in regulated activity has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns, or would have had they not resigned.

A member of the senior leadership team has been appointed as the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) who will take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection and that the role is explicit in the role holder’s job description;

Appropriate safeguarding responses are in place for children who go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions, to help identify the risk of abuse and neglect including sexual abuse or exploitation and to help prevent the risks of their going missing in future;

Appropriate online filtering and monitoring systems are in place;

Any weaknesses in Child Protection are remedied immediately;

**The Head of Centre will ensure that;**

The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and procedures are implemented and followed by all staff;

Sufficient time, training, support, resources, including cover arrangements where necessary, is allocated to the DSL to carry out their roles effectively, including the assessment of pupils and attendance at strategy discussions and other necessary meetings;

Where there is a safeguarding concern that the child’s wishes and feelings are taken into account when determining what action to take and what services to provide;

Systems are in place for children to express their views and give feedback, which operate with the best interest of the child at heart;

All staff feel able to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice and that such concerns are handled sensitively and in accordance with the whistle-blowing procedures;

That pupils are provided with opportunities throughout the curriculum to learn about safeguarding, including keeping themselves safe online;

They liaise with the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), before taking any action and on an ongoing basis, where an allegation is made against a member of staff or volunteer;

Anyone who has harmed or may pose a risk to a child s referred to the Disclosure and Barring Service.

**The Designated Safeguarding Lead;**

Holds ultimate responsibility for safeguarding and child protection in the academy;

Acts as a source of support and expertise in carrying out safeguarding duties for the  whole academy community;

Encourages a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and  feelings;

Is appropriately trained with updates every two years and will refresh their knowledge  and skills at regular intervals but at least annually;

Will refer a child if there are concerns about possible abuse, to the Children’s Services  Local Referral, Intervention and Assessment Service, and act as a focal point for staff to discuss concerns.

Will keep detailed, accurate records, either written or using appropriate online software, of all concerns about a child even if there is no need to make an immediate referral;

Will ensure that all such records are kept confidential, stored securely and are separate from pupil records, until the child’s 25th birthday;

Will ensure that when a pupil leaves the academy, their child protection file is passed to the new school (separately from the main pupil and ensuring secure transit) and that confirmation of receipt is obtained;

Will ensure that a copy of the CP file is retained until such a time that the new school acknowledges receipt of the original file. The copy should then be shredded;

Will liaise with the Local Authority and work with other agencies and professionals in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children;

Has a working knowledge of DSCB procedures;

Will ensure that either they, or another staff member, attend case conferences, core  groups, or other multi-agency planning meetings, contribute to assessments, and provide  a report where required which has been shared with the parents;

Will ensure that any pupil currently with a child protection plan who is absent in the  educational setting without explanation for two days is referred to their key worker’s  MASH Team;

Will ensure that all staff sign to say they have read, understood and agree to work within  the academy’s child protection policy, staff behaviour policy (code of conduct) and Keeping Children Safe in Education Part 1 and annex A and ensure that the policies are used appropriately;

Will organise child protection and safeguarding induction, regularly updated training and a minimum of annual updates (including online safety) for all school staff, keep a record of attendance and address any absences;

Has an understanding of locally agreed processes for providing early help and intervention and will support members of staff where Early Help is appropriate;

Will ensure that the name of the designated members of staff for Child Protection, the Designated Safeguarding Lead and deputies, are clearly advertised in the academy, with a statement explaining the academy’s role in referring and monitoring cases of suspected abuse.

**The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead(s)**

Is/are trained to the same standard as the Designated Safeguarding Lead and, in the absence of the DSL, carries out those functions necessary to ensure the ongoing safety and protection of pupils.

**All Academy Staff**

Understand that it is everyone’s responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and that they have a role to play in identifying concerns, sharing information and taking prompt action;

Consider, at all times, what is in the best interests of the child;

Know how to respond to a pupil who discloses abuse through delivery of ‘Working  together to Safeguard Children’, and ‘What to do if you suspect a Child is being Abused’  (2015);

Will refer any safeguarding or child protection concerns to the DSL or if necessary where  the child is at immediate risk to the police or MASH;

Are aware of the Early Help5 process and understand their role within it including  identifying emerging problems for children who may benefit from an offer of Early Help, liaising with the DSL in the first instance and supporting other agencies and professionals in an early help assessment through information sharing. In some cases staff may act as the Lead Professional in Early Help Cases.

Will provide a safe environment in which children can learn;

**7. Confidentiality**

Colours Academy recognises that in order to effectively meet a child’s needs, safeguard their welfare and protect them from harm the academy must contribute to inter-agency working in line with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015) and share information between professionals and agencies where there are concerns.

All staff must be aware that they have a professional responsibility to share information with other agencies in order to safeguard children and that the Data Protection Act 1998 is not a barrier to sharing information where the failure to do so would place a child at risk of harm.

All staff must be aware that they cannot promise a child to keep secrets which might compromise the child’s safety or wellbeing.

However, we also recognise that all matters relating to child protection are personal to children and families. Therefore, in this respect they are confidential and the teacher or DSLs will only disclose information about a child to other members of staff on a need to know basis.

We will always undertake to share our intention to refer a child to MASH with their parents /carers unless to do so could put the child at greater risk of harm, or impede a criminal investigation. If in doubt, we will consult with an Assistant Team Manager at the Children’s Services Area Team on this point.

**8. Child Protection Procedures**

Abuse and neglect are forms 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 the family or in an institutional or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others (e.g. via the internet). They may be abused by an adult or adults or by another child or children.

Further information about the four categories of abuse; physical, emotional, sexual and neglect, and indicators that a child may be being abused can be found in appendices 1 and 2.

Any child in any family in any school could become a victim of abuse. Staff should always maintain an attitude of “It could happen here”.

There are also a number of specific safeguarding concerns that we recognise our pupils may experience;

child missing from education

child missing from home or care

child sexual exploitation (CSE)

bullying including cyberbullying

domestic abuse

drugs

fabricated or induced illness

faith abuse

female genital mutilation (FGM)

forced marriage

gangs and youth violence

gender-based violence/violence against women and girls (VAWG)

mental health

private fostering

radicalisation

youth produced sexual imagery (sexting)

teenage relationship abuse

trafficking

peer on peer abuse

Staff are aware that behaviours linked to drug taking, alcohol abuse, truanting and sexting put children in danger and that safeguarding issues can manifest themselves via peer on peer abuse.

We also recognise that abuse, neglect and safeguarding issues are complex and are rarely standalone events that can be covered by one definition or label. Staff are aware that in most cases multiple issues will overlap one another.

 **If staff are concerned about a child’s welfare**

If staff notice any indicators of abuse/neglect or signs that a child may be experiencing a safeguarding issue they should record these concerns and pass it to the DSL. They may also discuss their concerns in person with the DSL but the details of the concern should be recorded in writing.

There will be occasions when staff may suspect that a pupil may be at risk, but have no ‘real’ evidence. The pupil’s behaviour may have changed, their artwork could be bizarre, they may write stories or poetry that reveal confusion or distress, or physical or inconclusive signs may have been noticed.

Colours Academy recognise that the signs may be due to a variety of factors, for example, a parent has moved out, a pet has died, a grandparent is very ill or an accident has occurred. However, they may also indicate a child is being abused or is in need of safeguarding.

In these circumstances staff will try to give the child the opportunity to talk. It is fine for staff to ask the pupil if they are okay or if they can help in any way.

Following an initial conversation with the pupil, if the member of staff remains concerned they should discuss their concerns with the DSL and put them in writing.

If the pupil does begin to reveal that they are being harmed, staff should follow the advice below regarding a pupil making a disclosure.

**If a pupil discloses to a member of staff**

We recognise that it takes a lot of courage for a child to disclose they are being abused. They may feel ashamed, guilty or scared, their abuser may have threatened that something will happen if they tell, they may have lost all trust in adults or believe that what has happened is their fault. Sometimes they may not be aware that what is happening is abuse.

A child who makes a disclosure may have to tell their story on a number of subsequent occasions to the police and/or social workers. Therefore, it is vital that their first experience of talking to a trusted adult is a positive one.

During their conversation with the pupil staff will;

Listen to what the child has to say and allow them to speak freely

Remain calm and not over act or act shocked or disgusted–the pupil may stop talking if they feel they are upsetting the listener

Reassure the child that it is not their fault and that they have done the right thing in telling someone

Not be afraid of silences–staff must remember how difficult it is for the pupil and allow them time to talk

Take what the child is disclosing seriously

Ask open questions and avoid asking leading questions

Avoid jumping to conclusions ,speculation or make accusations

 Not automatically offer any physical touch as comfort. It may be anything but comforting to a child who is being abused.

Avoid admonishing the child for not disclosing sooner. Saying things such as ‘I do wish you had told me about it when it started’ may be the staff member’s way of being supportive but may be interpreted by the child to mean they have done something wrong.

Tell the child what will happen next

If a pupil talks to any member of staff about any risks to their safety or wellbeing the staff member will let the child know that they will have to pass the information on – staff are not allowed to keep secrets.

The member of staff should write up their conversation as soon as possible in the child’s own words. Staff should make this a matter of priority. The record should be signed and dated, the member of staff’s name should be printed and it should also detail where the disclosure was made and who else was present. The record should be handed to the DSL.

**Notifying Parents**

The academy will normally seek to discuss any concerns about a pupil with their parents. This must be handled sensitively and the DSL will make contact with the parent in the event of a concern, suspicion or disclosure.

However, if the academy believes that notifying parents could increase the risk to the child or exacerbate the problem, advice will first be sought from children’s MASH.

Where there are concerns about forced marriage or honour based violence parents should not be informed a referral is being made as to do so may place the child at a significantly increased risk.

**Making a referral**

Concerns about a child or a disclosure should be discussed with the DSL who will help decide whether a referral to children’s MASH, early help or other support is appropriate in accordance with Devon Safeguarding Children’s Board Threshold Tool

If a referral is needed then the DSL should make it. However, anyone can make a referral and if for any reason a staff member thinks a referral is appropriate and one hasn’t been made they can and should consider making a referral themselves.

The child (subject to their age and understanding) and the parents will be told that a referral is being made, unless to do so would increase the risk to the child.

If after a referral the child’s situation does not appear to be improving the designated safeguarding lead (or the person that made the referral) should press for re-consideration to ensure their concerns have been addressed, and most importantly the child’s situation improves.

If a child is in immediate danger or is at risk of harm a referral should be made to children’s MASH and/or the police immediately. Anybody can make a referral.

Where referrals are not made by the DSL, the DSL should be informed as soon as possible.

**Supporting Staff**

We recognise that staff working in the school who have become involved with a child who has suffered harm, or appears to be likely to suffer harm may find the situation stressful and upsetting.

We will support such staff by providing an opportunity to talk through their anxieties with the DSL and to seek further support as appropriate.

**9. Children who are particularly vulnerable**

Colours Academy recognises that some children are more vulnerable to abuse and neglect and that additional barriers exist when recognising abuse for some children.

We understand that this increase in risk is due more to societal attitudes and assumptions or child protection procedures, which fail to acknowledge children’s diverse circumstances, rather than the individual child’s personality, impairment or circumstances.

In some cases possible indicators of abuse such as a child’s mood, behaviour or injury might be assumed to relate to the child’s impairment or disability rather than giving a cause for concern. Or a focus may be on the child’s disability, special educational needs or situation without consideration of the full picture. In other cases, such as bullying, the child may be disproportionately impacted by the behaviour without outwardly showing any signs that they are experiencing it.

Some children may also find it harder to disclose abuse due to communication barriers, lack of access to a trusted adult or not being aware that what they are experiencing is abuse.

To ensure that all of our pupils receive equal protection we will give special consideration to children who are;

Disabled or have special educational needs

Young carers

Affected by parental substance misuse, domestic abuse or parental mental health  needs

Asylum seekers

Living away from home

Vulnerable to being bullied or engaged in bullying

Already viewed as a ‘problem’

Living in temporary accommodation

Live transient lifestyles

Living in chaotic and unsupportive home situations

Vulnerable to discrimination on the grounds of race, ethnicity, religion, disability  or sexuality

At risk of sexual exploitation

Do not have English as a first language

At risk of female genital mutilation

At risk of forced marriage

At risk of being drawn into extremism.

**10. Anti-Bullying/Cyberbullying**

Bullying may lead to consideration under child protection procedures. This includes all forms e.g. cyber, racist, homophobic and gender related bullying. We keep a record of known bullying incidents which is shared with and analysed by the governing body. All staff are aware that children with SEND and / or differences/perceived differences are more susceptible to being bullied / victims of child abuse.

If the bullying is particularly serious, or the anti-bullying procedures are seen to be ineffective, the Head of Centre and the DSL will consider implementing child protection procedures.

**11. Racist Incidents**

Repeated racist incidents or a single serious incident may lead to consideration under child protection procedures. We keep a record of racist incidents and report them to the Local Authority.

**12. Radicalisation and Extremism**

The Prevent Duty for England and Wales (2015) under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on education and other children’s services to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Extremism is defined as ‘as ‘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’. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

Some children are at risk of being radicalised; adopting beliefs and engaging in activities which are harmful, criminal or dangerous.

Colours Academy is clear that exploitation of vulnerable children and radicalisation should be viewed as a safeguarding concern and follows the Department for Education guidance for schools and childcare providers on preventing children and young people from being drawn into terrorism.

Colours Academy seeks to protect children and young people against the messages of all violent extremism including, but not restricted to, those linked to Islamist ideology, or to Far Right / Neo Nazi / White Supremacist ideology, Irish Nationalist and Loyalist paramilitary groups, and extremist Animal Rights movements.

Academy staff receive training to help identify early signs of radicalisation and extremism.

When any member of staff has concerns that a pupil may be at risk of radicalisation or involvement in terrorism, they should speak with the DSL. They should then follow normal safeguarding procedures. If the matter is urgent then Devon Police must be contacted by dialling 999. In non-urgent cases where police advice is sought then dial 101. The Department of Education has also set up a dedicated telephone helpline for staff and governors to raise concerns around Prevent (020 7340 7264).

**13. Domestic Abuse**

Domestic abuse represents one quarter of all violent crime. It is actual or threatened physical, emotional, psychological or sexual abuse. It involves the use of power and control by one person over another. It occurs regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, class, sexuality, age, religion, mental or physical ability. Domestic abuse can also involve other types of abuse.

We use the term domestic abuse to reflect that a number of abusive and controlling behaviours are involved beyond violence.

Slapping, punching, kicking, bruising, rape, ridicule, constant criticism, threats, manipulation, sleep deprivation, social isolation, and other controlling behaviours all count as abuse.

Living in a home where domestic abuse takes place is harmful to children and can have a serious impact on their behaviour, wellbeing and understanding of healthy, positive relationships. Children who witness domestic abuse are at risk of significant harm and staff are alert to the signs and symptoms of a child suffering or witnessing domestic abuse (See Appendix 5).



**14. Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact, it can also occur through the use of technology. More information and the indicators of CSE is set out in appendix 3. CSE can happen online and offline and all staff should be aware of the link between online safety and vulnerability to CSE.

Any concerns that a child is being or is at risk of being sexually exploited should be passed without delay to the DSL. Colours Academy is aware there is a clear link between regular school absence/truanting and CSE. Staff should consider a child to be at potential CSE risk in the case of regular school absence/truanting and make reasonable enquiries with the child and parents to assess this risk.

Colours Academy is aware that a child often is not able to recognise the coercive nature of the abuse and does not see themselves as a victim. As a consequence the child may resent what they perceive as interference by staff. However, staff must act on their concerns as they would for any other type of abuse.

**15. Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)**

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is illegal in England and Wales under the FGM Act (2003). It is a form of child abuse and violence against women. A mandatory reporting duty requires teachers to report ‘known’ cases of FGM in under 18s, which are identified in the course of their professional work, to the police9.

The duty applies to all persons who are employed or engaged to carry out ‘teaching work’ in the academy, whether or not they have qualified teacher status. The duty applies to the individual who becomes aware of the case to make a report. It should not be transferred to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, however the DSL should be informed.

If a teacher is informed by a girl under 18 that an act of FGM has been carried out on her or a teacher observes physical signs which appear to show that an act of FGM has been carried out on a girl under 18 and they have no reason to believe the act was necessary for the girl’s physical or mental health or for purposes connected with labour or birth, the teacher should personally make a report to the police force in which the girl resides by calling 101. The report should be made by the close of the next working day.

www.devonsafeguardingchildren.org/CSE

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mandatory-reporting-of-female-genital-mutilation-procedural- information

Academy staff are trained to be aware of risk indicators of FGM which are set out in Appendix 4. Staff should be particularly alert to suspicions or concerns expressed by female pupils about going on a long holiday during the summer vacation period. There should also be consideration of potential risk to other girls in the family and practicing community.

Where there is a risk to life or likelihood of serious immediate harm the teacher should report the case immediately to the police, including dialling 999 if appropriate.

There are no circumstances in which a teacher or other member of staff should examine a girl.

**16. Forced Marriage**

A forced marriage is a marriage in which one or both people do not (or in cases of people with learning disabilities cannot) consent to the marriage but are coerced into it. Coercion may include physical, psychological, financial, sexual and emotional pressure. It may also involve physical or sexual violence and abuse.

Forced marriage is an appalling and indefensible practice and is recognised in the UK as a form of violence against women and men, domestic/child abuse and a serious abuse of human rights. Since June 2014 forcing someone to marry has become a criminal offence in England and Wales under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014.

A forced marriage is not the same as an arranged marriage which is common in several cultures. The families of both spouses take a leading role in arranging the marriage but the choice of whether or not to accept the arrangement remains with the prospective spouses.

Academy staff should never attempt to intervene directly as a school or through a third party. Contact should be made with MASH

**17. Honour-based Violence**

Honour based violence (HBV) can be described as a collection of practices, which are used to control behaviour within families or other social groups to protect perceived cultural and religious beliefs and/or honour. Such violence can occur when perpetrators perceive that a relative has shamed the family and/or community by breaking their honour code.

Honour based violence might be committed against people who;

become involved with a boyfriend or girlfriend from a different culture or religion;

want to get out of an arranged marriage;

want to get out of a forced marriage;

wear clothes or take part in activities that might not be considered traditional  within a particular culture.

It is a violation of human rights and may be a form of domestic and/or sexual abuse. There is no, and cannot be, honour or justification for abusing the human rights of others.

**18. One Chance Rule**

All staff are aware of the ‘One Chance’ Rule’ in relation to forced marriage, FGM and HBV. Staff recognise they may only have one chance’ to speak to a pupil who is a potential victim and have just one chance to save a life.

Colours Academy are aware that if the victim is not offered support following disclosure that the ‘One Chance’ opportunity may be lost. Therefore, all staff are aware of their responsibilities and obligations when they become aware of potential forced marriage, FGM and HBV cases.

**19. Private Fostering Arrangements**

A private fostering arrangement occurs when someone other than a parent or close relative cares for a child for a period of 28 days or more, with the agreement of the child’s parents. It applies to children under the age of 16 or 18 if the child is disabled. Children looked after by the local authority or who are place in residential schools, children’s homes or hospitals are not considered to be privately fostered.

Private fostering occurs in all cultures, including British culture and children may be privately fostered at any age.

Colours Academy recognise that most privately fostered children remain safe and well but are aware that safeguarding concerns have been raised in some cases. Therefore, all staff are alert to possible safeguarding issues, including the possibility that the child has been trafficked into the country.

By law, a parent, private foster carer or other persons involved in making a private fostering arrangement must notify children’s services as soon as possible. However, where a member of staff becomes aware that a pupil may be in a private fostering arrangement they will raise this will the DSL and the DSL will notify MASH of the circumstances.

**20. Looked After Children**

The most common reason for children becoming looked after is as a result of abuse and neglect. Colours Academy ensures that staff have the necessary skills and understanding to keep looked after children safe. Appropriate staff have information about a child’s looked after legal status and care arrangements, including the level of authority delegated to the carer by the authority looking after the child and contact arrangements with birth parents or those with parental responsibility.

The designated teacher for looked after children and the DSL have details of the child’s social worker and the name and contact details of the Devon County Council’s virtual school head for children in care.

The designated teacher for looked after child works with the virtual school head to discuss how Pupil Premium Plus funding can be best used to support the progress of looked after children in the school and meet the needs in the child’s personal education plan.

**21. Children Missing Education**

Attendance, absence and exclusions are closely monitored. A child going missing from education is a potential indicator of abuse and neglect, including sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.

The DSL will monitor unauthorised absences and take appropriate action including notifying the local authority particularly where children go missing on repeat occasions and/or are missing for periods during the school day in conjunction with ‘Children Missing Education: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities10.

Staff must be alert to signs of children at risk of travelling to conflict zones, female genital mutilation and forced marriage.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-missing-education

**22. Online Safety**

Our pupils increasingly use electronic equipment on a daily basis to access the internet and share content and images via social media sites such as facebook, twitter, instagram, snapchat and oovoo.

Unfortunately, some adults and other children use these technologies to harm children. The harm might range from sending hurtful or abusive texts or emails, to grooming and enticing children to engage in sexual behaviour such as webcam photography or face-to-face meetings. Pupils may also be distressed or harmed by accessing inappropriate material such as pornographic websites or those which promote extremist behaviour, criminal activity, suicide or eating disorders

**23. Peer on Peer Abuse**

Colours Academy recognise that children are capable of abusing their peers. It will not be passed off as ‘banter’ or ‘part of growing up’. The forms of peer on peer abuse are outlined below.

Domestic abuse – an incident or pattern of actual or threatened acts of physical, sexual, financial and/or emotional abuse, perpetrated by an adolescent against a current or former dating partner regardless of gender or sexuality.

Child Sexual Exploitation – children under the age of 18 may be sexually abused in the context of exploitative relationships, contexts and situations by peers who are also under 18.

Harmful Sexual Behaviour – Children and young people presenting with sexual behaviours that are outside of developmentally ‘normative’ parameters and harmful to themselves and others (For more information, please see Appendix 2).

Serious Youth Violence – Any offence of most serious violence or weapon enabled crime, where the victim is aged 1-19’ i.e. murder, manslaughter, rape, wounding with intent and causing grievous bodily harm. ‘Youth violence’ is defined in the same way, but also includes assault with injury offences.

The term peer-on-peer abuse can refer to all of these definitions and a child may experience one or multiple facets of abuse at any one time. Therefore, our response will cut across these definitions and capture the complex web of their experiences.

There are also different gender issues that can be prevalent when dealing with peer on peer abuse (i.e. girls being sexually touched/assaulted or boys being subjected to initiation/hazing type violence).

Colours Academy aims to reduce the likelihood of peer on peer abuse through;

the established ethos of respect, friendship, courtesy and kindness;

high expectations of behaviour;

clear consequences for unacceptable behaviour;

systems for any pupil to raise concerns with staff, knowing that they will be listened to, valued and believed;

Any concerns, disclosures or allegations of peer on peer abuse in any form should be referred to the DSL using Colours Academy’s child protection procedures as set out in this policy. Where a concern regarding peer on peer abuse has been disclosed to the DSL, advice and guidance will be sought from MASH and where it is clear a crime has been committed or there is a risk of crime being committed the Police will be contacted.

Working with external agencies the academy will respond to the unacceptable behaviour. If a pupil’s behaviour negatively impacts on the safety and welfare of other pupils then safeguards will be put in place to promote the well-being of the pupils affected and the victim and perpetrator will be provided with support.

**24. Youth produced sexual imagery (sexting)**

The practice of children sharing images and videos via text message, email, social media or mobile messaging apps has become commonplace. However, this online technology has also given children the opportunity to produce and distribute sexual imagery in the form of photos and videos. Such imagery involving anyone under the age of 18 is illegal.

Youth produced sexual imagery refers to both images and videos where;

A person under the age of 18 creates and shares sexual imagery of themselves with a peer under the age of 18.

A person under the age of 18 shares sexual imagery created by another person under the age of 18 with a peer under the age of 18 or an adult.

A person under the age if 18 is in possession of sexual imagery created by another person under the age of 18.

All incidents of this nature should be treated as a safeguarding concern and in line with the UKCCIS guidance ‘Sexting in schools and colleges: responding to incidents and safeguarding young people’12.

Cases where sexual imagery of people under 18 has been shared by adults and where sexual imagery of a person of any age has been shared by an adult to a child is child sexual abuse and should be responded to accordingly.

If a member of staff becomes aware of an incident involving youth produced sexual imagery they should follow the child protection procedures and refer to the DSL as soon as possible. The member of staff should confiscate the device involved and set it to flight mode or, if this is not possible, turn it off. Staff should not view, copy or print the youth produced sexual imagery.

The DSL should hold an initial review meeting with appropriate academy staff and subsequent interviews with the children involved (if appropriate). Parents should be informed at an early stage and involved in the process unless there is reason to believe that involving parents would put the child at risk of harm. At any point in the process if there is concern a young person has been harmed or is at risk of harm a referral should be made to MASH or the Police as appropriate.

Immediate referral at the initial review stage should be made to MASH/Police if;

The incident involves an adult;

There is good reason to believe that a young person has been coerced, blackmailed or groomed or if there are concerns about their capacity to consent (for example, owing to special education needs);

What you know about the imagery suggests the content depicts sexual acts which are unusual for the child’s development stage or are violent;

The imagery involves sexual acts;

The imagery involves anyone aged 12 or under;

There is reason to believe a child is at immediate risk of harm owing to the sharing  of the imagery, for example the child is presenting as suicidal or self-harming.

If none of the above apply then the DSL will use their professional judgement to assess the risk to pupils involved and may decide, with input from the Headteacher, to respond to the incident without escalation to MASH or the police.

In applying judgement the DSL will consider if;

there is a significant age difference between the sender/receiver;

there is any coercion or encouragement beyond the sender/receiver;

the imagery was shared and received with the knowledge of the child in the  imagery;

the child is more vulnerable than usual i.e. at risk;

there is a significant impact on the children involved;

the image is of a severe or extreme nature;

the child involved understands consent;

the situation is isolated or if the image been more widely distributed;

there other circumstances relating to either the sender or recipient that may add  cause for concern i.e. difficult home circumstances;

the children have been involved in incidents relating to youth produced imagery  before.

If any of these circumstances are present the situation will be escalated according to our child protection procedures, including reporting to the police or MASH. Otherwise, the situation will be managed within the Academy.

The DSL will record all incidents of youth produced sexual imagery, including both the actions taken, actions not taken, reasons for doing so and the resolution in line with safeguarding recording procedures.

**25. Allegations against staff**

All academy staff should take care not to place themselves in a vulnerable position with a child. It is always advisable for interviews or work with individual children or parents to be conducted in view of other adults.

Guidance about conduct and safe practice, including safe use of mobile phones by staff and volunteers will be given at induction.

We understand that a pupil may make an allegation against a member of staff or staff may have concerns about another staff member.

Refer to “Guidance for Safe Working Practice for the Protection of Children and Staff in Education Settings” available on the DfE website.

If such an allegation is made, or information is received which suggests that a person may be unsuitable to work with children, the member of staff receiving the allegation or aware of the information, will immediately inform the Headteacher.

The Head of Centre on all such occasions will discuss the content of the allegation with the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) at the earliest opportunity and before taking any further action.

The academy will follow the Devon procedures for managing allegations against staff, procedures set out in Keeping Children Safe in Education and the school’s Managing Allegations policy and procedures.

Suspension of the member of staff, excluding the Headteacher, against whom an allegation has been made, needs careful consideration, and the Headteacher will seek the advice of the LADO and an HR Consultant in making this decision.

**26. Whistle-blowing**

We recognise that children cannot be expected to raise concerns in an environment where staff fail to do so.

All staff should be aware of their duty to raise concerns, where they exist, about the management of child protection, which may include the attitude or actions of colleagues, poor or unsafe practice and potential failures in the school’s safeguarding arrangements. If it becomes necessary to consult outside the school, they should speak in the first instance, to the Area Education Officer/LADO following the Whistleblowing Policy.

The NSPCC whistleblowing helpline is available for staff who do not feel able to raise concerns regarding child protection failures internally. Staff can call: 0800 028 0285 – line is available from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Monday to Friday and Email: help@nspcc.org.uk.

**27. Physical Intervention**

We acknowledge that staff must only ever use physical intervention as a last resort, when a child is endangering him/herself or others, and that at all times it must be the minimal force necessary to prevent injury to another person.

Such events should be recorded and signed by a witness. Parents will be informed.

Staff who are likely to need to use physical intervention will be appropriately trained in the Positive Options technique.

We understand that physical intervention of a nature which causes injury or distress to a child may be considered under child protection or disciplinary procedures.

We recognise that touch is appropriate in the context or working with children, and all staff have been given ‘Safe Practice’ guidance to ensure they are clear about their professional boundary.

**28. Confidentiality and sharing information**

All staff will understand that child protection issues warrant a high level of confidentiality, not only out of respect for the pupil and staff involved but also to ensure that information being released into the public domain does not compromise evidence.

Staff should only discuss concerns with the DSL. That person will then decide who else needs to have the information and they will disseminate it on a ‘need-to-¬know’ basis.

Child protection information will be stored and handled in line with the Data Protection Act 1998 and HM Gov.Information sharing and Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers, March 2016

Information sharing is guided by the following principles. The information is:

necessary and proportionate

relevant

adequate

accurate

timely

secure

‘Guidance on Safer Working Practices is available on the DfE website

**Appendix 1**

**Recognising signs of child abuse**

**Categories of Abuse:**

Physical Abuse

Emotional Abuse (including Domestic Abuse)

Sexual Abuse (including child sexual exploitation) Neglect  **Signs of Abuse in Children:**  The following non-specific signs may indicate something is wrong:

Significant change in behaviour

Extreme anger or sadness

Aggressive and attention-seeking behaviour

Suspicious bruises with unsatisfactory explanations

Lack of self-esteem

Self-injury

Depression

Age inappropriate sexual behaviour

Child Sexual Exploitation.  **Risk Indicators**  The factors described in this section are frequently found in cases of child abuse. Their presence is not proof that abuse has occurred, but:

Must be regarded as indicators of the possibility of significant harm

Justifies the need for careful assessment and discussion with designated / named / lead  person, manager, (or in the absence of all those individuals, an experienced colleague)

May require consultation with and / or referral to Children’s Services  The absence of such indicators does not mean that abuse or neglect has not occurred.  In an abusive relationship the child may:

Appear frightened of the parent/s

 Act in a way that is inappropriate to her/his age and development (though full account needs  to be taken of different patterns of development and different ethnic groups)  The parent or carer may:

Persistently avoid child health promotion services and treatment of the child’s episodic  illnesses

Have unrealistic expectations of the child

Frequently complain about/to the child and may fail to provide attention or praise (high  criticism/low warmth environment)

Be absent or misusing substances

Persistently refuse to allow access on home visits

Be involved in domestic abuse Staff should be aware of the potential risk to children when individuals, previously known r suspected to

have abused children, move into the household.

**Recognising Physical Abuse**

The following are often regarded as indicators of concern:

An explanation which is inconsistent with an injury

Several different explanations provided for an injury

Unexplained delay in seeking treatment

The parents/carers are uninterested or undisturbed by an accident or injury

Parents are absent without good reason when their child is presented for treatment

Repeated presentation of minor injuries (which may represent a “cry for help” and if ignored  could lead to a more serious injury)

Family use of different doctors and A&E departments

Reluctance to give information or mention previous injuries  **Bruising**  Children can have accidental bruising, but the following must be considered as non-accidental unless there is evidence or an adequate explanation provided:

Any bruising to a pre-crawling or pre-walking baby

Bruising in or around the mouth, particularly in small babies which may indicate force feeding

Two simultaneous bruised eyes, without bruising to the forehead, (rarely accidental, though a  single bruised eye can be accidental or abusive)

Repeated or multiple bruising on the head or on sites unlikely to be injured accidentally

Variation in colour possibly indicating injuries caused at different times

The outline of an object used e.g. belt marks, hand prints or a hair brush

Bruising or tears around, or behind, the earlobe/s indicating injury by pulling or twisting

Bruising around the face

Grasp marks on small children

Bruising on the arms, buttocks and thighs may be an indicator of sexual abuse  **Bite Marks**  Bite marks can leave clear impressions of the teeth. Human bite marks are oval or crescent shaped. Those over 3 cm in diameter are more likely to have been caused by an adult or older child.  A medical opinion should be sought where there is any doubt over the origin of the bite.  **Burns and Scalds**  It can be difficult to distinguish between accidental and non-accidental burns and scalds, and will always require experienced medical opinion. Any burn with a clear outline may be suspicious e.g.:

Circular burns from cigarettes (but may be friction burns if along the bony protuberance of the spine)

Linear burns from hot metal rods or electrical fire elements

Burns of uniform depth over a large area

Scalds that have a line indicating immersion or poured liquid (a child getting into hot water is  his/her own accord will struggle to get out and cause splash marks)

Old scars indicating previous burns/scalds which did not have appropriate treatment or adequate explanation

Scalds to the buttocks of a small child, particularly in the absence of burns to the feet, are indicative of dipping into a hot liquid or bath.

**Fractures**

Fractures may cause pain, swelling and discolouration over a bone or joint.

Non-mobile children rarely sustain fractures.

There are grounds for concern if:

The history provided is vague, non-existent or inconsistent with the fracture type

There are associated old fractures

Medical attention is sought after a period of delay when the fracture has caused symptoms  such as swelling, pain or loss of movement

There is an unexplained fracture in the first year of life  **Scars**  A large number of scars or scars of different sizes or ages, or on different parts of the body, may suggest abuse.  **Recognising Emotional Abuse**  Emotional abuse may be difficult to recognise, as the signs are usually behavioural rather than physical. The manifestations of emotional abuse might also indicate the presence of other kinds of abuse.  The indicators of emotional abuse are often also associated with other forms of abuse.  The following may be indicators of emotional abuse:

Developmental delay

Abnormal attachment between a child and parent/carer e.g. anxious, indiscriminate or not attachment

Indiscriminate attachment or failure to attach

Aggressive behaviour towards others

Scape-goated within the family

Frozen watchfulness, particularly in pre-school children

Low self-esteem and lack of confidence

Withdrawn or seen as a “loner” – difficulty relating to others **Recognising Signs of Sexual Abuse**  Boys and girls of all ages may be sexually abused and are frequently scared to say anything due to guilt and/or fear. This is particularly difficult for a child to talk about and full account should be taken of the cultural sensitivities of any individual child/family.  Recognition can be difficult, unless the child discloses and is believed. There may be no physical signs and indications are likely to be emotional/behavioural.

Some behavioural indicators associated with this form of abuse are:

Inappropriate sexualised conduct

Sexually explicit behaviour, play or conversation, inappropriate to the child’s age

Continual and inappropriate or excessive masturbation

Self-harm (including eating disorder), self mutilation and suicide attempts

Involvement in prostitution or indiscriminate choice of sexual partners

An anxious unwillingness to remove clothes e.g. for sports events (but this may be related to  cultural norms or physical difficulties)  Some physical indicators associated with this form of abuse are:

Pain or itching of genital area

Blood on underclothes

Pregnancy in a younger girl where the identity of the father is not disclosed

Physical symptoms such as injuries to the genital or anal area, bruising to buttocks, abdomen  and thighs, sexually transmitted disease, presence of semen on vagina, anus, external genitalia or clothing  **Recognising Neglect**  Evidence of neglect is built up over a period of time and can cover different aspects of parenting. Indicators include:

Failure by parents or carers to meet the basic essential needs e.g. adequate food, clothes, warmth, hygiene and medical care

A child seen to be listless, apathetic and irresponsive with no apparent medical causeFailure of child to grow within normal expected pattern, with accompanying weight loss

Child thrives away from home environment

Child frequently absent from school

Child left with adults who are intoxicated or violent

Child abandoned or left alone for excessive periods

**Appendix 2**

**Sexual Abuse by Young People**

The boundary between what is abusive and what is part of normal childhood or youthful experimentation can be blurred. The determination of whether behaviour is developmental, inappropriate or abusive will hinge around the related concepts of true consent, power imbalance and exploitation. This may include children and young people who exhibit a range of sexually problematic behaviour such as indecent exposure, obscene telephone calls, fetishism, bestiality and sexual abuse against adults, peers or children.

**Developmental Sexual Activity** encompasses those actions that are to be expected from children and young people as they move from infancy through to an adult understanding of their physical, emotional and behavioural relationships with each other. Such sexual activity is essentially information gathering and experience testing. It is characterised by mutuality and of the seeking of consent.

**Inappropriate Sexual Behaviour** can be inappropriate socially, in appropriate to development, or both. In considering whether behaviour fits into this category, it is important to consider what negative effects it has on any of the parties involved and what concerns it raises about a child or young person. It should be recognised that some actions may be motivated by information seeking, but still cause significant upset, confusion, worry, physical damage, etc. It may also be that the behaviour is “acting out” which may derive from other sexual situations to which the child or young person has been exposed. If an act appears to have been inappropriate, there may still be a need for some form of behaviour management or intervention. For some children, educative inputs may be enough to address the behaviour.

Abusive sexual activity included any behaviour involving coercion, threats, aggression together with secrecy, or where one participant relies on an unequal power base. In order to more fully determine the nature of the incident the following factors should be given consideration. The presence of exploitation in terms of:

**Equality** – consider differentials of physical, cognitive and emotional development, power and control and authority, passive and assertive tendencies

**Consent** – agreement including all the following:

Understanding that is proposed based on age, maturity, development level, functioning and experience

Knowledge of society’s standards for what is being proposed

A wareness of potential consequences and alternatives

Assumption that agreements or disagreements will be respected equally

Voluntary decision

Mental competence

**Coercion –** the young perpetrator who abuses may use techniques like bribing, manipulation and emotional threats of secondary gains and losses that is loss of love, friendship, etc. Some may use physical force, brutality or the threat of these regardless of victim resistance.

In evaluating sexual behaviour of children and young people, the above information should be used only as a guide. Further information and advice is available in the Devon multi-agency protocol “Working with Sexually Active Young People” available at www.devon.gov.uk/safeguarding, by choosing Safeguarding Children – Protocols and Guidance for Professionals. Assessment, Consultation and Therapy (ACT) 01306 745310 can also assist professionals in identifying sexual behaviour of concern in children and adolescents.

**Appendix 3**

**Child Sexual Exploitation**

The following list of indicators is not exhaustive or definitive but it does highlight common signs which can assist professionals in identifying children or young people who may be victims of sexual exploitation.

Signs include:

going missing from home or school

regular school absence/truanting

underage sexual activity

inappropriate sexual or sexualised behaviour

sexually risky behaviour , 'swapping' sex

repeat sexually transmitted infections

in girls, repeat pregnancy, abortions, miscarriage

receiving unexplained gifts or gifts from unknown sources

having multiple mobile phones and worrying about losing contact via mobile

online safety concerns such as youth produced sexual imagery or being coerced into sharing  explicit images.

having unaffordable new things (clothes, mobile) or expensive habits (alcohol, drugs)

changes in the way they dress

going to hotels or other unusual locations to meet friends

seen at known places of concern

moving around the country, appearing in new towns or cities, not knowing where they are

getting in/out of different cars driven by unknown adults

having older boyfriends or girlfriends

contact with known perpetrators

involved in abusive relationships, intimidated and fearful of certain people or situations

hanging out with groups of older people, or anti-social groups, or with other vulnerable peers

associating with other young people involved in sexual exploitation

recruiting other young people to exploitative situations

truancy, exclusion, disengagement with school, opting out of education altogether

unexplained changes in behaviour or personality (chaotic, aggressive, sexual)

 mood swings, volatile behaviour , emotional distress

self-harming, suicidal thoughts, suicide attempts, overdosing, eating disorders

drug or alcohol misuse

getting involved in crime

police involvement, police records

involved in gangs, gang fights, gang membership

injuries from physical assault, physical restraint, sexual assault.

**Appendix 4 Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)**

It is essential that staff are aware of FGM practices and the need to look for signs, symptoms and other indicators of FGM.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is illegal in England and Wales under the FGM Act 2003 (“the 2003 Act”). It is a form of child abuse and violence against women. FGM comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia for non-medical reasons.

Section 5B of the 2003 Act1 introduces a mandatory reporting duty which requires regulated health and social care professionals and teachers in England and Wales to report ‘known’ cases of FGM in under 18s which they identify in the course of their professional work to the police. The duty came into force on 31 October 2015.

**What is FGM?**

It involves procedures that intentionally alter/injure the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. 4 types of procedure: Type 1 Clitoridectomy – partial/total removal of clitoris Type 2 Excision – partial/total removal of clitoris and labia minora

Type 3 Infibulation entrance to vagina is narrowed by repositioning the inner/outer labia

Type 4 all other procedures that may include: pricking, piercing, incising, cauterising and scraping the genital area.

Why is it carried out? Belief that:

FGM brings status/respect to the girl – social acceptance for marriage

Preserves a girl’s virginity

Part of being a woman / rite of passage

Upholds family honour

Cleanses and purifies the girl

Gives a sense of belonging to the community

Fulfils a religious requirement

Perpetuates a custom/tradition

Helps girls be clean / hygienic

Is cosmetically desirable

Mistakenly believed to make childbirth easier  **Is FGM legal?**FGM is internationally recognised as a violation of human rights of girls and women. It is **illegal** in most  countries including the UK.  **Circumstances and occurrences that may point to FGM happening are:**

Child talking about getting ready for a special ceremony

Family taking a long trip abroad

Child’s family being from one of the ‘at risk’ communities for FGM (Kenya, Somalia, Sudan, Sierra  Leon, Egypt, Nigeria, Eritrea as well as non-African communities including Yemeni, Afghani,  Kurdistan, Indonesia and Pakistan)

Knowledge that the child’s sibling has undergone FGM

Child talks about going abroad to be ‘cut’ or to prepare for marriage  Signs that may indicate a child has undergone FGM:

Prolonged absence from school and other activities

Behaviour change on return from a holiday abroad, such as being withdrawn and appearing  subdued

Bladder or menstrual problems

Finding it difficult to sit still and looking uncomfortable

Complaining about pain between the legs

Mentioning something somebody did to them that they are not allowed to talk about

Secretive behaviour, including isolating themselves from the group

Reluctance to take part in physical activity

Repeated urinal tract infection

Disclosure  **The ‘One Chance’ rule**  As with Forced Marriage there is the ‘One Chance’ rule. It is essential that settings /schools/colleges take action **without delay** and make a referral to children’s services.

**Appendix 5 Domestic Abuse**How does it affect children?

Children can be traumatised by seeing and hearing violence and abuse. They may also be directly targeted by the abuser or take on a protective role and get caught in the middle. In the long term this can lead to mental health issues such as depression, self-harm and anxiety.

**What are the signs to look out for?**

Children affected by domestic abuse reflect their distress in a variety of ways. They may change their usual behaviour and become withdrawn, tired, start to wet the bed and have behavioural difficulties. They may not want to leave their house or may become reluctant to return. Others will excel, using their time in your care as a way to escape from their home life. None of these signs are exclusive to domestic abuse so when you are considering changes in behaviours and concerns about a child, think about whether domestic abuse may be a factor.

**What should I do if I suspect a family is affected by domestic abuse?**

Contact: https://new.devon.gov.uk/dsva/

**Appendix 6 INDICATORS OF VULNERABILITY TO RADICALISATION**

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.

Extremism is defined by the Government in the Prevent Strategy as: 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. We also include in our definition of extremism calls for the death of members of our armed forces, whether in this country or overseas.

Extremism is defined by the Crown Prosecution Service as: The demonstration of unacceptable behaviour by using any means or medium to express views which:

Encourage, justify or glorify terrorist violence in furtherance of particular beliefs;

Seek to provoke others to terrorist acts;

Encourage other serious criminal activity or seek to provoke others to serious criminal  acts; or

Foster hatred which might lead to inter-community violence in the UK.

There is no such thing as a “typical extremist”: those who become involved in extremist actions come from a range of backgrounds and experiences, and most individuals, even those who hold radical views, do not become involved in violent extremist activity.

Pupils may become susceptible to radicalisation through a range of social, personal and environmental factors - it is known that violent extremists exploit vulnerabilities in individuals to drive a wedge between them and their families and communities. It is vital that academy staff are able to recognise those vulnerabilities.

Indicators of vulnerability include:

Identity Crisis – the student / pupil is distanced from their cultural / religious heritage and  experiences discomfort about their place in society;

Personal Crisis – the student / pupil may be experiencing family tensions; a sense of  isolation; and low self-esteem; they may have dissociated from their existing friendship group and become involved with a new and different group of friends; they may be searching for answers to questions about identity, faith and belonging;

Personal Circumstances – migration; local community tensions; and events affecting the student / pupil’s country or region of origin may contribute to a sense of grievance that is triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination or aspects of Government policy;

Unmet Aspirations – the student / pupil may have perceptions of injustice; a feeling of failure; rejection of civic life;

Experiences of Criminality – which may include involvement with criminal groups, imprisonment, and poor resettlement / reintegration;

Special Educational Need – students / pupils may experience difficulties with social interaction, empathy with others, understanding the consequences of their actions and awareness of the motivations of others.

However, this list is not exhaustive, nor does it mean that all young people experiencing the above are at risk of radicalisation for the purposes of violent extremism.

More critical risk factors could include:

Being in contact with extremist recruiters;

Accessing violent extremist websites, especially those with a social networking element;

Possessing or accessing violent extremist literature;

Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage;

Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues;

Joining or seeking to join extremist organisations; and

Significant changes to appearance and / or behaviour;

Experiencing a high level of social isolation resulting in issues of identity crisis and / or  personal crisis.



**Appendix 8**

**Further advice on child protection is available from:**

**NSPCC: http://www.nspcc.org.uk/**

**Childline: http://www.childline.org.uk/pages/home.aspx**

**CEOPSThinkuknow: https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/**

**Anti-Bullying Alliance: http://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/**

**Beat Bullying: http://www.beatbullying.org/**

**Childnet International –making the internet a great and safe place for children. Includes resources for professionals and parents http://www.childnet.com/**

**Thinkuknow (includes resources for professionals and parents) https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/ Safer Internet Centre** [**http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/**](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/)



**For Early Help, Consultation and Enquiries please contact:** Telephone: **0345 155 1071**

E-mail: mashsecure@devon.gcsx.gov.uk Fax: 01392 448951 Enquiry Form available at: www.devon.gov.uk/mash-enquiryform.doc

Post: **Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, P.O. Box 723, Exeter EX1 9QS Emergency Duty Team** – out of hours **0845 6000 388 Police** – non emergency – 101

**For all LADO enquiries** Exeter (01392) 384964 Or **http://www.devon.gov.uk/lado**

**Early Help Team**

Senior Manager: Phillippa Court

Manager Exeter and South: Stephen Matthewman 07790362310

Manager Mid & East: Ian Flett

Manager South&West: Karen Hayes

Manager Northern: Sarah Simpson 07854304512

Early Help Advisers:

North: Pete Simpson:peter.simpson@devon.gcsx.gov.uk 07817124965 Mid&East:Karol Stannard:karol.stannard@devon.gov.uk

Lisa.robinson@devon.gov.uk 07891417159 South&West:Karen Hayes earlyhelpsouthsecuremailbox@devon.gcsx.gov.uk

Exeter:Jan Mead:

jan.mead@devon.gov.uk 07891417073 0345 155 1071, ask for Early Help earlyhelpsecure@devon.gov.uk