



**Grasmere**  
**Nursery School**  
Tadpoles Baby & Toddler Unit

# GRASMERE NURSERY SCHOOL

## SAFEGUARDING POLICY

(Based on Luton Borough Council's Model  
Safeguarding Policy for Schools and Education Service)

**Ratified 1.12.15**  
**(Disseminated 23.9.15)**

## Guidance for use

This model policy has been designed to be adapted by Head Teachers / Principals and Governing Bodies to reflect the ethos of their own school or education setting. It remains the responsibility of the school/academy and their governing body to ensure the policy is compliant with the statutory requirements and guidance which governs Educational Establishments. It is essential that all aspects of this policy are reviewed to ensure that there is parity between the written policy and practice of the educational establishment.

This model policy will be reviewed regularly and updated annually. However, if Statutory Guidance changes, the policy will be updated and re-circulated accordingly. This does not take away the responsibility of the organisation to ensure there is an effective safeguarding policy in place which meets the requirement of the statutory guidance in place at that time.

The School must review and update the safeguarding policy annually and make the policy available publicly via the school or college website or by other means.

In drawing up the safeguarding policy schools will need to consider the range of people who will refer to the policy - teaching staff, support & lunch staff, parent helpers, volunteers, supply staff etc. as well as young people in the setting. Schools will also need to consider such issues as:

- How will a visiting teacher / agency / supply member of staff be made aware of the information contained within your safeguarding policy and their responsibility to comply?
- How the policy will be shared with other organisations commissioned to provide a service in your school?
- Who will inform a volunteer from the local community about issues like confidentiality or how to raise concerns about practice in the school?

It may be useful to produce a brief “welcome sheet” for visitors to the school, including a summary of the child protection policy, the name of the Designated Safeguarding Lead etc.

## Links with other Policies

This safeguarding policy has obvious links with the wider safeguarding agenda: when agreeing or reviewing the policy, links should be made with other relevant guidelines and procedures such as (but not limited to):

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| • Safer Recruitment | Physical Restraint    |
| • Care and Conduct  | PSED                  |
| • Disqualification  | Social networking     |
| • E-Safety          | Health & Safety       |
| • Whistleblowing    | Staff Code of Conduct |
| • Inclusion         |                       |

In drawing up the policy schools should refer to the procedures of Luton Safeguarding Children Board at <http://bedfordscb.proceduresonline.com/index.htm>

It is essential that the school safeguarding policy should describe the procedures which are in accordance with the locally agreed interagency procedures published by the LSCB.

### **Recording systems and procedures**

It is essential that the school includes with this policy a section on the internal safeguarding recording procedures. It is highly recommended that the school refers to the Safeguarding children in Luton recording protocol that was distributed to schools in 2010 as this includes the principals of effective safeguarding recording and pro-forma for use.

### **Maintaining an overview**

Schools must ensure that they maintain an overview, whether this is a list, index or something similar which provides an 'at a view' glance of the children where safeguarding records exist for them and whether this be an individual case record or an entry within the A-Z folder.

# MODEL SAFEGUARDING POLICY FOR SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION SERVICES

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# PART ONE: SAFEGUARDING POLICY

**Ratified by the Governing Body 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015**

**To be reviewed (annually) December 2016**

**Version number:**

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Safeguarding is defined as –

- Protecting children from maltreatment;
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development;
- Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best life chances.

(Working Together, DfE 2015)

This includes, but is not limited to safeguarding children in specific circumstances

Neglect	Physical abuse
Emotional abuse	Sexual abuse
Bullying, including online and prejudice-based bullying	Racist, disability and homophobic or transphobic abuse
Gender based violence / violence against women and girls	Radicalisation and /or extremist behaviour
Child Sexual Exploitation and trafficking	The impact of new technologies on sexual behaviour e.g sexting
Teenage relationship abuse	Substance abuse
Gang / youth violence	Domestic abuse / violence
Female Genital Mutilation	Forced Marriage
Fabricated / induced illness	Poor parenting

1.2 Grasmere Nursery School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all its children. We believe that:

- All children have an equal right to be protected from harm;
- Children need to be safe and to feel safe in school;
- Children need support which matches their individual needs, including those who may have experienced abuse;
- All children have the right to speak freely and voice their values and beliefs;
- All children must be encouraged to respect each other's values and support each other;
- All children have the right to be supported to meet their emotional, and social needs as well as their educational needs – a happy

healthy sociable child/young person will achieve better educationally;

- Schools can and do contribute to the prevention of abuse, victimisation, bullying, exploitation, extreme behaviours, discriminatory views and risk taking behaviours; and
- All staff and visitors have an important role to play in safeguarding children and protecting them from abuse.

1.3 Grasmere Nursery School will fulfil their local and national responsibilities as laid out in the following documents:-

- Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2015)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education: Statutory guidance for schools and colleges (DFE July 2015)
- The Procedures of Luton Safeguarding Children Board
- The Children Act 1989
- The Education Act 2002 s175 / s157
- What to do if you are worried a child is being abused (DfE, 2015)
- Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools: Departmental Advice (DfE 2014)
- Prevent Duty, Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Serious Crime Act 2015

## **2. OVERALL AIMS**

2.1 This policy will contribute to safeguarding our children and promoting their welfare by:

- Clarifying standards of behaviour for staff and children;
- Contributing to the establishment of a safe, resilient and robust ethos in the school, built on mutual respect, and shared values;
- Creating an organisational culture that is safe for children;
- Introducing appropriate work within the curriculum;
- Encouraging children and parents to participate;
- Alerting staff to the signs and indicators that all might not be well;
- Developing staff's awareness of the risks and vulnerabilities children face;
- Addressing concerns at the earliest possible stage in the least intrusive way; and
- Reducing the potential risks children face of being exposed to violence, extremism, exploitation, or victimisation

2.2 This policy will contribute to supporting children by:

- Identifying and protecting the most vulnerable
- Identifying individual needs where possible; and
- Designing plans to meet those needs.

2.3 This policy will contribute to the protection of children by:

- Including appropriate work within the curriculum;
- Implementing child protection policies and procedures; and
- Working in partnership with children, parents and agencies.

### **3. KEY PRINCIPLES**

3.1 The key principle of safeguarding, as stated by Luton Safeguarding Children Board is that safeguarding is everybody's responsibility. This is reinforced within the Statutory Guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (2015)

3.2 In addition, Luton Borough Council has identified the following key safeguarding messages for schools.

- Always see the child first and consider what life is like for the child, maintaining a culture of vigilance
- Provide support and intervention at the earliest possible opportunity in the least intrusive way in accordance with Luton LSCB Thresholds Framework
- Have conversations, build relationships and maintain professional curiosity
- Focus on securing improved outcomes for children and consider what difference support or interventions have made on children's lived experiences
- Build a culture of openness and transparency where all staff are able to demonstrate understanding of their role and responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- Every child is entitled to a rich and rounded curriculum.
- Schools operate with public money: this should be spent wisely, targeting resources on the evidenced needs of children at school now.
- Governance is corporate and decisions are collective, but individual governors can and should take the lead on specific aspects of school life such as safeguarding.
- When issues arise, Head Teachers should speak out, addressing them internally where possible and engaging in a multi agency response when required in accordance with interagency procedures

### **4. KEY PROCESSES**

4.1 All staff should be aware of the guidance issued by Luton Safeguarding Children Board Threshold Framework to ensure children in order to secure the support and intervention at the earliest possible opportunity in the least intrusive way. (<http://lutonlscb.org.uk/pdfs/threshold-framework.pdf>). This document is integral to safeguarding children in Luton educational establishments and will always be used to underpin decision making.

## 5. EXPECTATIONS

### 5.1 All staff and visitors will:

- Be familiar with this safeguarding policy and implement this consistently in the course of their work with children and young people;
- Be subject to Safer Recruitment processes and checks, whether they are new staff, supply staff, contractors, volunteers etc.
- Be involved in the implementation of individual education programmes, Early Help assessments and plans, child in need plans and interagency child protection plans;
- Be alert to signs and indicators of possible abuse (See Appendix One for current definitions and indicators);
- Record concerns and give the record to the Designated Safeguarding Lead Joy Luxford.
- Recognise and respond to concerns about the behaviour of staff, students and volunteers which indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children following interagency procedures agreed by the LSCB;
- Deal with a disclosure of abuse from a child in line with the guidance in Appendix Two - you must inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead immediately, and provide a written account as soon as possible;

### 5.2 All staff will receive single agency level one training at least once every three years. Key staff with designated responsibility for safeguarding will undertake higher level training and will utilise these training opportunities available from the LSCB and other organisations as agreed by the Governing Body.

Staff training needs will be assessed by taking into consideration LSCB priorities and local context. Plans will be put into place to ensure staff have the appropriate training, skills and knowledge in order to undertake their safeguarding responsibilities safely and effectively.

## 6. THE DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEAD

### 6.1 **Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Joy Luxford, Headteacher.** She will provide support to staff members to carry out their safeguarding duties and who will liaise closely with other services such as the early help hub, children's social care. Health, police etc. This person has lead responsibility and management oversight for safeguarding and child protection. The Head Teacher, will be ultimately responsible for coordinating all child protection activity within the school.

### 6.2 The Designated Safeguarding Lead will lead regular case monitoring reviews of vulnerable children. These reviews, together with any

actions arising from the review and the rationale for decision making will be recorded in case files.

- 6.3 When the school has concerns about a child, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will decide what steps should be taken in accordance with the LSCB Thresholds Framework and initiate a response accordingly. The Head Teacher will be kept apprised of cases as appropriate
- 6.4 Safeguarding and child protection information will be dealt with in a confidential manner and in accordance with the LSCB information sharing guidance. Staff will be informed of relevant details only when the Designated Safeguarding Lead feels their having knowledge of a situation will improve their ability to deal with an individual child and / or family. A written record will be made of what information has been shared with whom, and when.
- 6.5 Safeguarding and child protection records will be stored securely in a central place separate from academic records. Individual files will be kept for each child: the school will not keep family files.
- 6.6 Access to safeguarding and child protection records by staff other than by the Designated Safeguarding Lead will be restricted, and a written record will be kept of who has had access to them and when.
- 6.7 Parents will usually (subject to point 6.8 below) be aware of information held on their children and kept up to date regarding any concerns or developments by the appropriate members of staff. General communications with parents will be in line with any home school policies and give due regard to which adults have parental responsibility.
- 6.8 **Do not disclose to a parent any information held on a child if this would put the child at risk of significant harm.** In such circumstances advice will be sought from Children's Social Care.
- 6.9 If a child moves from our school, child protection records will be forwarded on to the Designated Safeguarding Lead at the new school, with due regard to their confidential nature and in line with current government guidance on the transfer of such records. Direct contact between the two schools may be necessary, especially on transfer from primary to secondary schools. We will record where and to whom the records have been passed and the date. The practice guidance produced by Luton Safeguarding Children Board will be adhered to in relation to archiving child protection records.
- 6.10 If sending by post, children's records will be sent by "Special/Recorded Delivery". For audit purposes a note of all children's records transferred or received should be kept in either paper or electronic format. This will include the child's name, date of birth, where and to whom the records have been sent and the date sent and/or received.

- 6.11 If a child is permanently excluded and moves to a Pupil Referral Unit, child protection records will be forwarded on to the relevant organisation.
- 6.12 Where a vulnerable young person is moving to a Further Education establishment, consideration should be given to the student's wishes and feelings on their child protection information being passed on in order that the FE establishment can provide appropriate support.
- 6.13 When a Designated Safeguarding Lead resigns their post or no longer has child protection responsibility, there should be a full face to face handover/exchange of information with the new post holder.
- 6.14 In exceptional circumstances when a face to face handover is unfeasible, the Head Teacher will ensure that the new post holder is fully conversant with all procedures and case files.

## **7. THE GOVERNING BODY**

- 7.1 **The Governing Body will** ensure that they comply with their duties under legislation. They must also have regard to this guidance to ensure that the policies, procedures and training in their schools or colleges are effective and comply with the law at all times
- 7.2 The governing body will ensure that:
- The school contribute to inter-agency working in line with statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015. This includes providing a co-ordinated offer of early help when additional needs of children are identified and contributing to inter-agency plans to provide additional support to children subject to child protection plans
  - The school will allow access for children's social care from the host local authority and, where appropriate, from a placing local authority, for that authority to conduct, or to consider whether to conduct, a section 17 or a section 47 assessment
  - The school safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practice of the local authority as part of the inter-agency safeguarding procedures set up by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).
  - The school has an effective safeguarding policy in accordance with the procedures of Luton Safeguarding Children Board. These describe the procedures which are in accordance with government guidance and refer to locally agreed inter-agency procedures put in place by the LSCB. The Governing Body will ensure that the Policy is updated annually, and is available publicly either via the school \ academy website or by other means.
  - The school initiates appropriate safeguarding responses to 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.

- That the Head Teacher ensures that safeguarding policies and procedures which have been adopted by the Governing Body are consistently implemented
- The school has a staff behaviour policy (sometimes called the code of conduct) which should amongst other things include - staff/child relationships and communications including the use of social media
- The school has procedures for managing allegations and concerns about adults that work or volunteer with children and that these include the procedures for making referrals to the DBS in accordance with legal duties
- The school operates, “safer recruitment” procedures and ensures that appropriate checks are carried out on all new staff and relevant volunteers;
- At least one senior member of the school’s leadership team acts as a Designated Safeguarding Lead which is clearly defined within the role holder’s job description and that this person has the appropriate authority, time, training, funding and resources to undertake this role as per Appendix B Keeping Children Safe in Education, 2015.
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead attends appropriate refresher training every two years;
- The school has designated a teacher with appropriate training, skills and knowledge to promote the educational achievement of Looked After Children
- The Head Teacher and all other staff who work with children undertake training at three yearly intervals which is informed by the local context of the school together with LSCB local priorities
- Temporary staff and volunteers are made aware of the school’s arrangements for child protection and their responsibilities;
- The school remedies any deficiencies or weaknesses brought to its attention without delay; and
- The school has procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse against staff/volunteers.

7.3 The governing body reviews the Safeguarding Policy annually. The School is continually reviewing procedures and putting the policy into practice.

7.4 The Nominated Governor for child protection at the school is **Lyn O’Callaghan** . The Nominated Governor is responsible for liaising with the Head Teacher (Designated Safeguarding Lead) over all matters regarding child protection issues. The role is strategic rather than operational – they will not be involved in concerns about individual children.

7.5 The Nominated Governor will liaise with the Head Teacher (Designated Safeguarding Lead) to contribute to the production of an annual report for governors and the local authority (s175/s157).

- 7.6 Ensure a member of the governing body, usually the chair, is nominated to liaise with the designated officer(s) from the relevant local authority and partner agencies in the event of allegations of abuse made against the Head Teacher, the principal of a college or proprietor or member of governing body of an independent school
- 7.7 Ensure that procedures are in place to manage allegations against other children that are commensurate with Luton LSCB procedures such as those for sexually problematic and harmful behaviours.
- 7.8 Ensure that there are processes in place which enables children and young people to express their wishes and feelings and provide feedback.

## **8. A SAFER SCHOOL CULTURE**

The culture of this school is one that is safe for children and unsafe for adults that may pose a risk to children. There is a belief that safeguarding is the responsibility of all adults working or volunteering within the organisation and that all concerns will be reported to the designated senior manager (usually the Head Teacher or Principal) in accordance with the procedures of the organisations. Essential to this is professional curiosity, openness and transparency where the focus remains on the children attending the establishment.

### **Safer Recruitment and Selection**

- 8.1 The school pays full regard to 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (DfE 2015). Safer recruitment practice includes scrutinising applicants, verifying identity and academic or vocational qualifications, obtaining professional and character references, checking previous employment history and ensuring that a candidate has the health and physical capacity for the job. It also includes undertaking interviews and undertaking appropriate checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and prohibition order checks in relation to qualified teachers.
- 8.2 All recruitment materials will include reference to the school's commitment to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children
- 8.3 Joy Luxford, Hayley Standaloff and Elizabeth Tracy have undertaken CWDC/NCSL Safer Recruitment training. One of the above will be involved in **all** staff / volunteer recruitment processes and sit on the recruitment panel.

### **Staff support**

- 8.4 We recognise the stressful and traumatic nature of safeguarding and child protection work. We will support staff by providing an opportunity to talk through their anxieties with the Designated Safeguarding Lead and to seek further support as appropriate.

## 9. OUR ROLE IN THE PREVENTION OF ABUSE

- 9.1 We will provide opportunities for children to develop skills, concepts, attitudes and knowledge that promote their safety and well-being together with preparing children for life in modern Britain and embedding fundamental

### **The curriculum**

- 9.2 Relevant issues will be addressed through the PSHE curriculum, for example self-esteem, emotional literacy, assertiveness, power, sex and relationship education, e-safety and bullying. This will be undertaken with reference to guidance around how to promote children's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

- 9.3 Relevant issues will be addressed through other areas of the curriculum, for example, circle time, English, History, Drama, Art.

### **Other areas of work**

- 9.4 All our policies which address issues of power and potential harm to ensure a whole school approach such as

- Safer Recruitment
  - Care and Conduct
  - Disqualification
  - E-Safety
  - Whistleblowing
  - Inclusion
- Physical Restraint
  - PSED
  - Social networking
  - Health & Safety
  - Staff Code of Conduct

- 9.5 Our safeguarding policy cannot be separated from the general ethos of the school, which should ensure that children are treated with respect and dignity, taught to treat each other with respect, feel safe, have a voice, and are listened to.

## 10. SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN WHO ARE VULNERABLE TO EXTREMISM,

- 10.1 Since 2010, when the Government published the Prevent Strategy, there has been an awareness of the specific need to safeguard children, young people and families from violent extremism. There have been several occasions both locally and nationally in which extremist groups have attempted to radicalise vulnerable children and young people to hold extreme views including views justifying political, religious, sexist or racist violence, or to steer them into a rigid and narrow ideology that is intolerant of diversity and leaves them vulnerable to future radicalisation.

- 10.2 Grasmere Nursery School values freedom of speech and the expression of beliefs / ideology as fundamental rights underpinning our society's values. Both children and teachers have the right to speak

freely and voice their opinions. However, freedom comes with responsibility and free speech that is designed to manipulate the vulnerable or that leads to violence and harm of others goes against the moral principles in which freedom of speech is valued. Free speech is not an unqualified privilege; it is subject to laws and policies governing equality, human rights, community safety and community cohesion. Essential to this school / academy is fundamental British values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Equality of Opportunity, Freedom of Speech and the rights of all Women and Men to live free from persecution of any kind and it would be expected that views and opinions expressed would be commensurate with these.

- 10.3 The current threat from terrorism in the United Kingdom may include the exploitation of vulnerable people, to involve them in terrorism or in activity in support of terrorism. The normalisation of extreme views may also make children and young people vulnerable to future manipulation and exploitation Grasmere Nursery School is clear that this exploitation and radicalisation should be viewed as a safeguarding concern.
- 10.4 Definitions of radicalisation and extremism, and indicators of vulnerability to radicalisation are in Appendix Four.
- 10.5 Grasmere Nursery School 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.

#### **Risk reduction**

- 10.6 The school governors, the Head Teacher and other Designated Safeguarding Leads will assess the level of risk within the school and put actions in place to reduce that risk. Risk assessment may include consideration of the school's curriculum(EYFS) , SEND policy, integration of children by gender and SEN, anti-bullying policy and other issues specific to the school's profile, community and philosophy. In addition, the school Prevent Action Plan template may be used to demonstrate how the organisation is fulfilling the prevent duty.
- 10.7 This risk assessment will be reviewed as part of the annual s175 return that is monitored by the local authority and the local safeguarding children board.

#### **Response**

- 10.8 Our school, like all others, is required to identify a Prevent Single Point of Contact (SPOC) who will be the lead within the organisation for safeguarding in relation to protecting individuals from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism: this will normally be the Designated Safeguarding Lead. The SPOC for Grasmere Nursery School is **Joy Luxford, Headteacher**. The responsibilities of the SPOC are described in Appendix Five.

- 10.9 When any member of staff has concerns that a child may be at risk of radicalisation or involvement in terrorism, they should speak with the SPOC and to the Designated Safeguarding Lead if this is not the same person. If a child or Young Person is thought to be at risk of radicalisation, a referral to Channel Panel will be made using the Early Help Assessment form.
- 10.10 Numerous factors can contribute to and influence the range of behaviours that are defined as violent extremism, but most young people do not become involved in extremist action. For this reason the appropriate interventions in any particular case may not have any specific connection to the threat of radicalisation, for example they may address mental health, relationship or drug/alcohol issues.
- 10.11 Staff have received WRAP training in order to raise awareness of Prevent and to understand their role in ensuring vulnerabilities are recognised and appropriate support or intervention is secured.

## **11. SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN WHO ARE VULNERABLE TO EXPLOITATION, FORCED MARRIAGE, FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION, OR TRAFFICKING**

- 11.1 Our safeguarding policy above through the school's values, ethos and behaviour policies provides the basic platform to ensure children and young people are given the support to respect themselves and others, stand up for themselves and protect each other.
- 11.2 Our school keeps itself up to date on the latest advice and guidance provided to assist in addressing specific vulnerabilities and forms of exploitation.
- 11.3 Our staff are supported through training to recognise warning signs and symptoms in relation to specific issues, include such issues in an age appropriate way in their curriculum,
- 11.4 Our school works with and engages our families and communities to talk about such issues,
- 11.5 Our staff are supported to talk to families about sensitive concerns in relation to their children and to find ways to address them together wherever possible. However, if a child is thought to be at risk of significant harm and discussing this with the parent may increase the risk of harm, advice will be sought from Children's Social Care Rapid Intervention and Assessment Team and a referral will be made
- 11.6 Our Designated Safeguarding Lead knows where to seek and get advice as necessary.

## **12. WHAT WE DO WHEN WE ARE CONCERNED**

- 12.1 All concerns will be viewed alongside the LSCB Thresholds Framework in order to ensure the appropriate support or intervention is provided at the earliest opportunity in the least intrusive way.
- 12.2 Where risk factors are present but there is no evidence of a particular risk then our DSL /SPOC advises us on preventative work that can be done within school to engage the child into mainstream activities and social groups. The DSL may well be the person who talks to and has conversations with the child's family, sharing the school's concern about the young person's vulnerability and how the family and school can work together to reduce the risk.
- 12.2 If, in consultation with the LSCB Thresholds Framework the level on concern sits at Level 2 or 3 an Early Help Assessment should be completed with the consent of the parent / carer. Additional support or advice for this work may be sought from the Early Intervention Hub / Stronger Families team. In cases where it is not possible to obtain consent from the Parent / Carer, the school will seek advice from the Early Help Hub.
- 12.3 The school will review each case to ensure that any support or intervention provided has impacted positively on the welfare / safety of the child or young person and that improvement is sustained.
- 12.4 In the event that provision of Early Help has not led to improvements for the child / young person, or concerns escalate, the school will follow the step-up procedures published by the LSCB
- 12.5 In consultation with the LSCB Thresholds Framework, if the concerns about the child or young person indicate that they may be at risk of, or suffering significant harm a referral will be made to the Rapid Intervention and Assessment Team. The parent will be informed of the referral unless informing the parent may place the child / young person at increased risk of harm.
- 12.6 If the school are concerned that a child has experienced or is at risk of FGM a Child Protection referral will be made to the Rapid Intervention and Assessment Team in accordance with interagency procedures produced by the LSCB
- 12.7 If the school are concerned that a child may be at risk of significant harm in relation to radicalisation or involvement in violent extremism a child protection referral will be made to the Rapid Intervention and Assessment Team

## **13. INVOLVING PARENTS / CARERS**

- 13.1 In general, we will discuss any safeguarding and child protection concerns with parents / carers before approaching other agencies, and

will seek their consent to making a referral to another agency. Appropriate staff will approach parents / carers after consultation with the Designated Safeguarding Lead. However there may be occasions when the school will contact another agency **before** informing parents/carers because it considers that contacting them may increase the risk of significant harm to the child.

- 13.2 Parents / carers will be informed about our safeguarding policy through: our website, it is also available from the office on request.

#### **14. MULTI-AGENCY WORK**

- 14.1 We work in partnership with other agencies in the best interests of the children. The school will, where necessary, liaise with the school nurse, initiate an Early Help Assessment, and make referrals to children's social care. Referrals and contacts should be made by the Designated Safeguarding Lead to either the Early Help Hub, or the Rapid Intervention and Assessment Team depending on the level of need. Where the child already has a social worker, the request for service should go immediately to the social worker involved, or in their absence to their team manager or Duty Worker.
- 14.2 We will co-operate with any child protection enquiries conducted by children's social care: the school will ensure representation at appropriate inter-agency meetings such as team around the family meetings, initial and review child protection conferences, together with core group meetings.
- 14.3 We will provide reports as required for these meetings in accordance with the LSCB interagency procedures. If the school is unable to attend, a written report will be sent. The report will, wherever possible, be shared with parents / carers at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.
- 14.4 Where there are concerns about a child who may be at risk of or experiencing Child Sexual Exploitation, in addition to the processes referred to above the school will make a referral to the Child Sexual Exploitation Panel in accordance with Local procedures.
- 14.5 Where there are concerns that a child or young person may be, or is at risk of becoming involved in gang related activity, a referral will be made to the MAG panel in accordance with Local procedures
- 14.4 Where a child is subject to an inter-agency child protection plan, child in need plan or early help assessment, the school will contribute to the preparation, implementation and review of the plan as appropriate.

14.5 If a child has been exposed to domestic abuse or violence the school / academy will contribute to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment process as appropriate. This is in addition to providing early help and support in accordance with the Luton LSCB Threshold Framework.

## **15. OUR ROLE IN SUPPORTING CHILDREN**

15.1 We will offer appropriate support to individual children who have experienced abuse or who have abused others.

15.2 An individual support plan will be devised, implemented and reviewed regularly for these children. This plan will detail areas of support, who will be involved, and the child's wishes and feelings. A written outline of the individual support plan will be kept in the child's child protection record.

15.3 Children and young people who abuse others will be responded to in a way that meets their needs as well as protecting others within the school community. The school will seek support from other agencies in accordance with Local Interagency procedures which may include providing early help or making a child protection referral depending on the nature of the abuse / harmful behaviour. We will ensure that the needs of children and young people who abuse others will be considered separately from the needs of their victims.

15.4 We will ensure the school works in partnership with parents / carers and other agencies as appropriate.

## **16. RESPONDING TO AN ALLEGATION OR CONCERN ABOUT A MEMBER OF STAFF**

*Grasmere Nursery will comply with the LSCB procedures for managing allegations about adults that work or volunteer with children in all circumstances*

16.1 This procedure should be used in any case in which it is alleged that a member of staff, governor, visiting professional or volunteer has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child or may have harmed a child;
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child; or
- Behaved in a way that indicates s/he may pose a risk of harm to children

16.2 Although it is an uncomfortable thought, it needs to be acknowledged that there is the potential for staff in school to abuse children.

16.3 All staff working within our organisation must report any potential safeguarding concerns about an individual's behaviour towards

children and young people immediately. Allegations or concerns about colleagues and visitors must be reported direct to the Head Teacher unless the concern relates to the Head Teacher. If the concern relates to the Head Teacher, it must be reported immediately to the Chair of Governors. Alternatively concerns can be reported directly to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) in children's social care, who will liaise with the Chair of Governors and they will decide on any action required.

- 16.4 If the Head Teacher is not available the member of staff should report their concerns to the most senior member of staff available who will make contact with the LADO and discuss the concerns. Contact into the LADO should happen at the earliest possible opportunity within 1 working day.

The LADO in Luton can be contacted on 01582 548069.

- 16.5 The LADO may request a referral, if this is requested the referral will be completed and submitted within 1 working day.
- 16.6 The school will engage with the LADO at all stages of the management of the allegation / concern and comply with the Statutory Guidance contained within Keeping Children Safe in Education (2015) and the local procedures published by the LSCB. In this regard, the school will consider whether it is necessary to suspend the member of staff while the case is being managed, however all reasonable alternatives to manage the risk will be considered.
- 16.7 Should the school dismiss a member of staff/volunteer as a result of a substantiated allegation, or should a member of staff/volunteer resign before an investigation has been completed, in accordance with Statutory Duty a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service will be made. If the member of staff is a qualified teacher, the school will in accordance with published guidance from the Department for Education consider whether a referral to the National College of Teaching and Leadership (NCTL) should be made.
- 16.8 The school will adhere to the Statutory Guidance contained within Keeping Children Safe in Education (2015) with regard to record keeping, references and compromise agreements.

## **17. CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS**

- 17.1 Grasmere Nursery School recognises that while all children have a right to be safe, some children may be more vulnerable to abuse, for example those with a disability or special educational need, those living with domestic violence or drug / alcohol abusing parents, etc.
- 17.2 When the school is considering excluding, either fixed term or permanently, a vulnerable child and / or a child who is the subject of a child protection plan or where there is an existing child protection file,

we will call a multi-agency risk-assessment meeting prior to making the decision to exclude. In the event of a one-off serious incident resulting in an immediate decision to exclude, the risk assessment *must* be completed prior to convening a meeting of the Governing Body

## **18. CHILDREN IN SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES**

18.1 Guidance on children in specific circumstances is in Luton Safeguarding Children Board / Luton Borough Council procedures as listed below

- Abuse Linked to Spiritual Belief
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Safeguarding Children vulnerable to Gang Activity
- Supporting individuals vulnerable to violent extremism
- Private Fostering
- Children missing from home or care
- Children missing education
- Children of Parents who Misuse Substances
- Children of Parents with Learning Difficulties
- Working with parents/carers with mental health problems
- Working with parents/carers with disabilities
- Disabled Children
- Protocol for dealing with domestic violence when children are involved
- E-Safety – Children Exposed to Abuse through the Digital Media
- Fabricated or Induced Illness
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Forced Marriage / Honour Based Violence
- Practice Guidance & Procedures to distinguish between healthy and abusive sexual behaviours in children and young people
- Safeguarding children who may have been trafficked
- Protocol & Guidance; Working with Sexually Active Young People
- Working with hostile, non-compliant clients and those who use disguised compliance

# APPENDICES

# DEFINITIONS AND INDICATORS OF ABUSE

## 1. NEGLECT

Neglect is 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 as a result 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 caregivers); or
- Ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment.

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

The following may be indicators of neglect (this is not designed to be used as a checklist):

- Constant hunger;
- Stealing, scavenging and/or hoarding food;
- Frequent tiredness or listlessness;
- Frequently dirty or unkempt;
- Often poorly or inappropriately clad for the weather;
- Poor school attendance or often late for school;
- Poor concentration;
- Affection or attention seeking behaviour;
- Illnesses or injuries that are left untreated;
- Failure to achieve developmental milestones, for example growth, weight;
- Failure to develop intellectually or socially;
- Responsibility for activity that is not age appropriate such as cooking, ironing, caring for siblings;
- The child is regularly not collected or received from school; or
- The child is left at home alone or with inappropriate carers

## 2. PHYSICAL ABUSE

Physical abuse 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.

The following may be indicators of physical abuse (this is not designed to be used as a checklist):

- Multiple bruises in clusters, or of uniform shape;
- Bruises that carry an imprint, such as a hand or a belt;
- Bite marks;
- Round burn marks;
- Multiple burn marks and burns on unusual areas of the body such as the back, shoulders or buttocks;
- An injury that is not consistent with the account given;
- Changing or different accounts of how an injury occurred;
- Bald patches;
- Symptoms of drug or alcohol intoxication or poisoning;
- Unaccountable covering of limbs, even in hot weather;
- Fear of going home or parents being contacted;
- Fear of medical help;
- Fear of changing for PE;
- Inexplicable fear of adults or over-compliance;
- Violence or aggression towards others including bullying; or
- Isolation from peers.

### **3. SEXUAL ABUSE**

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 (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit act of sexual abuse, as can other children.

The following may be indicators of sexual abuse (this is not designed to be used as a checklist):

- Sexually explicit play or behaviour or age-inappropriate knowledge;
- Anal or vaginal discharge, soreness or scratching;
- Reluctance to go home;
- Inability to concentrate, tiredness;
- Refusal to communicate;
- Thrush, persistent complaints of stomach disorders or pains;
- Eating disorders, for example anorexia nervosa and bulimia;
- Attention seeking behaviour, self-mutilation, substance abuse;

- Aggressive behaviour including sexual harassment or molestation;
- Unusual compliance;
- Regressive behaviour, enuresis, soiling;
- Frequent or open masturbation, touching others inappropriately;
- Depression, withdrawal, isolation from peer group;
- Reluctance to undress for PE or swimming; or
- Bruises or scratches in the genital area.

#### **4. SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

Child sexual exploitation occurs when a child or young person, or another person, receives “something” (for example food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of the child/young person performing sexual activities, or another person performing sexual activities on the child/young person.

The presence of any significant indicator for sexual exploitation should trigger a referral to children’s social care. The significant indicators are:

- Having a relationship of concern with a controlling adult or young person (this may involve physical and/or emotional abuse and/or gang activity);
- Entering and/or leaving vehicles driven by unknown adults;
- Possessing unexplained amounts of money, expensive clothes or other items;
- Frequenting areas known for risky activities;
- Being groomed or abused via the Internet and mobile technology; and
- Having unexplained contact with hotels, taxi companies or fast food outlets.

The intelligence reporting form on the LSCB website will be used to share information with Police and children’s social care that raises a concern around CSE.

In addition to making referrals to children’s social care, referrals of children thought to be at risk of, or experiencing CSE will be referred to the Child Sexual Exploitation panel.

#### **5. EMOTIONAL ABUSE**

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children 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 the 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 also involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another person. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying), 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

The following may be indicators of emotional abuse (this is not designed to be used as a checklist):

- The child consistently describes him/herself in very negative ways – as stupid, naughty, hopeless, ugly;
- Over-reaction to mistakes;
- Delayed physical, mental or emotional development;
- Sudden speech or sensory disorders;
- Inappropriate emotional responses, fantasies;
- Behaviours such as rocking, banging head, regression, tics and twitches;
- Self harming, drug or solvent abuse;
- Fear of parents being contacted;
- Running away;
- Compulsive stealing;
- Appetite disorders - anorexia nervosa, bulimia; or
- Soiling, smearing faeces, enuresis.

N.B.: Some situations where children stop communication suddenly (known as “traumatic mutism”) can indicate maltreatment.

## **6. RESPONSES FROM PARENTS**

Research and experience indicates that the following responses from parents may suggest a cause for concern across all four categories:

- Delay in seeking treatment that is obviously needed;
- Unawareness or denial of any injury, pain or loss of function (for example, a fractured limb);
- Incompatible explanations offered, several different explanations or the child is said to have acted in a way that is inappropriate to her/his age and development;
- Reluctance to give information or failure to mention other known relevant injuries;
- Frequent presentation of minor injuries;
- A persistently negative attitude towards the child;
- Unrealistic expectations or constant complaints about the child;
- Alcohol misuse or other drug/substance misuse;
- Parents request removal of the child from home; or
- Violence between adults in the household.

## 7. DISABLED CHILDREN

When working with children with disabilities, practitioners need to be aware that additional possible indicators of abuse and/or neglect may also include:

- A bruise in a site that might not be of concern on an ambulant child such as the shin, might be of concern on a non-mobile child;
- Not getting enough help with feeding leading to malnourishment;
- Poor toileting arrangements;
- Lack of stimulation;
- Unjustified and/or excessive use of restraint;
- Rough handling, extreme behaviour modification such as deprivation of medication, food or clothing, disabling wheelchair batteries;
- Unwillingness to try to learn a child's means of communication;
- Ill-fitting equipment. for example callipers, sleep boards, inappropriate splinting;
- Misappropriation of a child's finances; or
- Inappropriate invasive procedures.

## DEALING WITH A DISCLOSURE OF ABUSE

**When a child tells me about abuse s/he has suffered, what must I remember?**

- Stay calm.
- Do not communicate shock, anger or embarrassment.
- Reassure the child. Tell her/him you are pleased that s/he is speaking to you.
- Never enter into a pact of secrecy with the child. Assure her/him that you will try to help but let the child know that you will have to tell other people in order to do this. State who this will be and why.
- Tell her/him that you believe them. Children very rarely lie about abuse; but s/he may have tried to tell others and not been heard or believed.
- Tell the child that it is not her/his fault.
- Encourage the child to talk but do not ask "leading questions" or press for information.
- Listen and remember.
- Check that you have understood correctly what the child is trying to tell you.
- Praise the child for telling you. Communicate that s/he has a right to be safe and protected.
- Do not tell the child that what s/he experienced is dirty, naughty or bad.
- It is inappropriate to make any comments about the alleged offender.
- Be aware that the child may retract what s/he has told you. It is essential to record all you have heard.
- At the end of the conversation, tell the child again who you are going to tell and why that person or those people need to know.
- As soon as you can afterwards, make a detailed record of the conversation using the child's own language. Include any questions you may have asked. Do not add any opinions or interpretations.

NB It is not education staff's role to seek disclosures. Their role is to observe that something may be wrong, ask about it, listen, be available and try to make time to talk.

### **Immediately afterwards**

**You must not deal with this yourself.** Clear indications or disclosure of abuse must be reported to children's social care without delay, by the Head Teacher (Designated Safeguarding Lead).

Children making a disclosure may do so with difficulty, having chosen carefully to whom they will speak. Listening to and supporting a child/young person who has been abused can be traumatic for the adults involved.

Support for you will be available from your Designated Safeguarding Lead or Head Teacher .

## ALLEGATIONS ABOUT A MEMBER OF STAFF, GOVERNOR OR VOLUNTEER

1. Inappropriate behaviour by staff/volunteers could take the following forms:
  - **Physical**  
For example the intentional use of force as a punishment, slapping, use of objects to hit with, throwing objects or inappropriate physical handling.
  - **Emotional**  
For example intimidation, belittling, scapegoating, sarcasm, lack of respect for children's rights, and attitudes that discriminate on the grounds of race, gender, disability or sexuality. Excessive or aggressive shouting
  - **Sexual**  
For example sexualised behaviour towards peers, sexual harassment, sexual communication including via social networking, email, text, grooming behavior, sexual assault and rape.
  - **Neglect**  
For example failing to act to protect a child or children, failing to seek medical attention or failure to meet a child's basic needs
  
2. If a child makes an allegation or raises a concern about a member of staff, governor, visitor or volunteer the Head Teacher should be informed immediately. If the allegation or concern may fall within the following criteria the LADO will be contacted at the earliest possible opportunity and within 1 working day.
  - Behaved in a way that has harmed a child or may have harmed a child;
  - Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child;
  - or
  - Behaved in a way that indicates s/he may pose a risk of harm to children

**The Head Teacher will not carry out the investigation herself or interview pupils.**

3. If a child makes an allegation of physical abuse against an adult that works with children and there are visible bruises, marks or injuries. Or if a child makes an allegation of sexual abuse against an adult that works with children Child Protection procedures will be followed and a referral made to the Rapid Interventions and Assessment Team. The LADO will also be informed.
  
3. The Head Teacher must exercise, and be accountable for, their professional judgement on the action to be taken, as follows –

- If the actions of the member of staff, are felt likely to fall within the scope of the interagency allegation management procedures as stated in point 2, the Head Teacher will notify the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) (Tel: 01582 548069). The LADO will liaise with the Head Teacher and advise about action to be taken which will be in accordance with the interagency procedures for managing allegations. .
  - If the Head Teacher is uncertain whether the concern or allegation falls within the scope of the allegation management procedures a consultation with the LADO will take place and the advice provided will be acted upon. This consultation and the advice offered will be recorded and held on file.
4. Where an allegation has been made against the Head Teacher , then the Chair of the Governing Body takes on the role of liaising with the LADO team in determining the appropriate way forward. For details of this specific procedure see the Section on [Allegations against Staff and Volunteers](#) in the procedures of Luton Safeguarding Children Board

## APPENDIX FOUR

### INDICATORS OF VULNERABILITY TO RADICALISATION

1. Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. Children 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 school staff are able to recognise those vulnerabilities.
6. Indicators of vulnerability include:
  - Identity Crisis – the child is distanced from their cultural / religious heritage and experiences discomfort about their place in society;
  - Personal Crisis – the child 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 child’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 child 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 – children may experience difficulties with social interaction, empathy with others, understanding the consequences of their actions and awareness of the motivations of others.
7. 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.
8. 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 FIVE**

**PREVENTING VIOLENT EXTREMISM -  
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT  
(SPOC)**

The SPOC for Grasmere Nursery School is **Joy Luxford, Headteacher**, who is responsible for

- Ensuring that staff of the school are aware that you are the SPOC in relation to protecting children from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
- Maintaining and applying a good understanding of the relevant guidance in relation to preventing children from becoming involved in terrorism, and protecting them from radicalisation by those who support terrorism or forms of extremism which lead to terrorism;
- Raising awareness about the role and responsibilities Grasmere Nursery School in relation to protecting children from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
- Monitoring the effect in practice of the school's RE curriculum and assembly policy to ensure that they are used to promote community cohesion and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs;
- Raising awareness within the school about the safeguarding processes relating to protecting children from radicalisation and involvement in terrorism;
- Acting as the first point of contact within the school for case discussions relating to children who may be at risk of radicalisation or involved in terrorism;
- Collating relevant information from in relation to referrals of vulnerable children into the Channel\* process;
- Attending Channel\* meetings as necessary and carrying out any actions as agreed;
- Reporting progress on actions to the Channel\* Co-ordinator; and
- Sharing any relevant additional information in a timely manner.

- \* Channel is a multi-agency approach to provide support to individuals who are at risk of being drawn into terrorist related activity. It is led by the West Midlands Police Counter-Terrorism Unit, and it aims to
- Establish an effective multi-agency referral and intervention process to identify vulnerable individuals;
  - Safeguard individuals who might be vulnerable to being radicalised, so that they are not at risk of being drawn into terrorist-related activity; and

- Provide early intervention to protect and divert people away from the risks they face and reduce vulnerability.

## RECORDING PROCEDURE

## APPENDIX 6

	Who	Action	Detail
1.	Person with concern	Complete a recording form	Any member of staff, volunteer or visitor who identifies or receives a concern about the safety or welfare of a child should complete a Safeguarding Children Recording Form ( <b>unless the concern is of an urgent nature in which case appropriate action should be taken immediately and the form completed afterwards</b> ).
2.	Person with concern	Take the form to the Designated safeguarding Person	On completion of the form the person should take it to the setting's Designated Senior Member of Staff for Child Protection. If this person is unavailable the form should be taken to whoever acts in her absence. <b>Important: The form is designed to facilitate a discussion about the concern or incident. The form <u>must not</u> be left for the Designated Person to access at a later date, for example in their pigeonhole or post tray. This may cause a critical delay in dealing with the concern and impact on confidentiality</b>
3.	Person with concern <u>and</u> Designated CP Person	Discuss concern with the Designated Person and agree actions	The person who has made the recording should discuss the concern with the Designated Person. They should agree together, in conjunction with the LSCB Inter-Agency Safeguarding Procedures and Thresholds Framework what action should be taken and by whom (see Suggested Actions). These actions should be recorded on the Concerns Chronology Form, and all parties should agree how and when the actions will be reviewed.
4.	Designated CP Person	Add a summary to the Child Concerns Chronology	A summary of the concern and the actions agreed should be added to the chronology of concerns sheet and the recording form placed behind this chronology
5.	Person with concern and Designated CP Person	Review the actions	The review discussion should consider if the previously agreed actions have been completed and if further action or review is required. The key points of this discussion should be recorded on the back of the original Safeguarding Recording Form.



## Grasmere Nursery School and Children's Centre

### Summary of procedures to be followed for Safeguarding Children and Child Protection to be read in conjunction with the Model Safeguarding Policy.

#### This will reference the early Years Foundation Stage Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements

We have a commitment to promoting the achievement of each child of every race, religion, cultural background, ability and gender to their full potential. We cannot ensure equality, but will strive towards equality of opportunity and will actively promote anti-racism.

#### Rationale

The purpose of this policy is to document the systems and procedures in place within Grasmere Nursery School and Children's Centre to ensure the safeguarding and welfare of children and to ensure that there is a robust mechanism in place to monitor and review the effectiveness of these.

Effective safeguarding underpins the five elements of the 'Every Child Matters' agenda and the Core Themes and Principles contained within the EYFS Statutory Guidance related in particular to the Welfare Requirements.

At Grasmere Nursery School and Children's Centre we have a core objective to keep children safe by;

- providing a safe environment for children and young people to learn
- identifying children and young people who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, and taking appropriate action with the aim of making sure they are kept safe both at home and at school

Achieving this objective requires systems designed to:

- prevent unsuitable people working with children and young people;
- promote safe practices and challenge poor and unsafe practice;
- identify instances in which there are grounds for concern about a child's welfare, and initiate or take appropriate action to keep them safe; and
- contribute to effective partnership working between all those involved with young people.

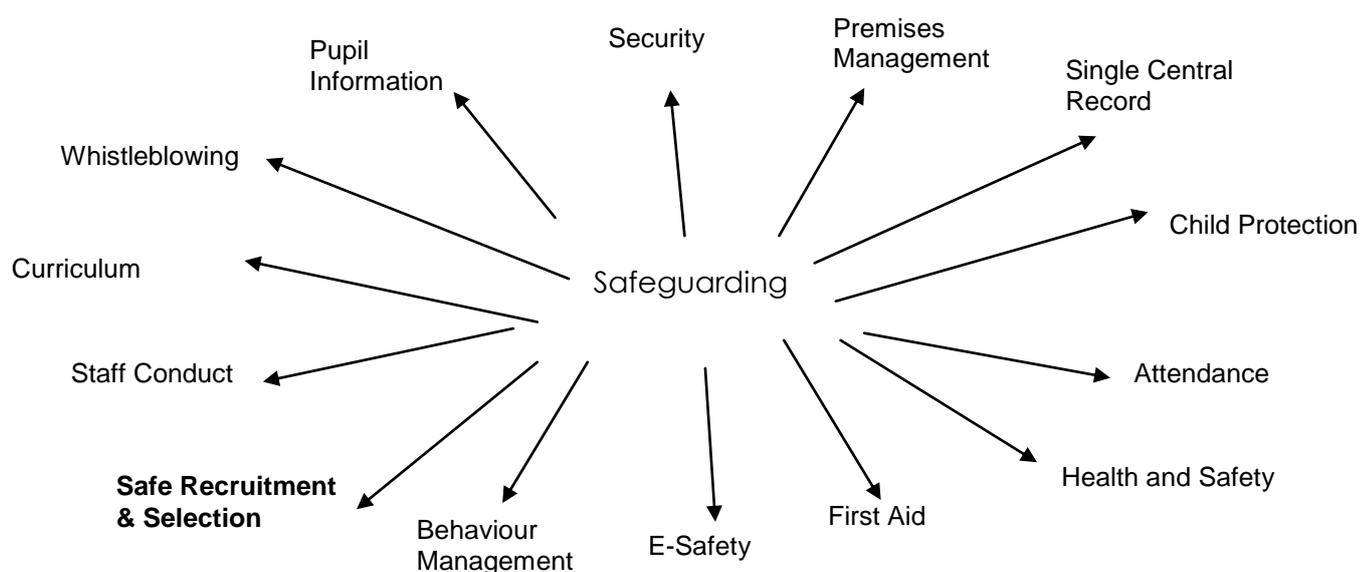
Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined for the purposes of this policy as:

- protecting children from maltreatment;
- preventing impairment of children's health or development;
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and

- undertaking that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.

### Guidelines

At Grasmere Nursery School and Children's Centre the health, safety and well-being of all children is of paramount importance. Parents/Carers bring their children to school each day with the expectation that school provides a secure environment in which their children can flourish. The school therefore has to ensure that this expectation becomes reality. In order to do this a wide range of measures are put in place:



### Single Central Record

The school operates and maintains a Single Central Record in line with the DfE guidance 'Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education' which records in one database the details of staff working and volunteering within the school. The record includes the following details;

1. Name
2. Address
3. Date of Birth
4. Qualifications (where required for the role)
5. Evidence of identity
6. CRB disclosure number
7. Date of CRB check
8. Review date of CRB
9. Right to work in the UK

For regular visitors accessing the school site, evidence of identity is checked and disclosure number is taken and recorded on the Single Central Record.

The Single Central register is kept in the secure locked filing cabinet in the Head Teacher's office for inspection by authorised authorities.

For people visiting the school on a 'one-off' or ad hoc basis and who will not have unsupervised access to pupils, photograph identification is requested and checked at reception.

### **Child Protection Procedures**

We aim to:

- Provide a secure and safe environment for all children.
- Ensure that children are never placed at risk while in the charge of the nursery staff.
- Ensure that confidentiality is maintained at all times.
- Ensure that all staff are familiar with Child Protection issues and procedures.
- Review and update this policy every Spring term.

Staff will often be the first people to sense that there is a problem with a child or family. They may be the first people in whom children confide about abuse. This policy lays out the procedures that will be followed if we have any reason to believe that a child in our care is subject to any kind of abuse or neglect.

Our prime responsibility is the welfare and well-being of all children in our care. As such we believe we have a duty to the children, parents/carers and staff to act quickly and responsibly in any instance that may come to our attention.

We have a legal responsibility to report any suspicions of abuse to Social Services' Referral and Assessment Team, which has a duty to investigate such matters. We will follow the procedures set out by the Bedfordshire and Luton Safeguarding Children Board. If in doubt we will call the Referral and Assessment Team at Social Services for advice. It is not our responsibility to investigate suspected abuse – we "Recognise, Record and Report".

#### **Staff Responsibilities:**

Designated teachers/officers have completed the relevant training for this role and undertake re-training when necessary (training requires updating after two years).

Designated Child Protection Officers are;

Mrs Joy Luxford (Head Teacher)

Mrs Hayley Standaloft ( Interim Deputy Head Teacher)

Mrs Liz Tracy (School Business Manager)

Lyndsey O'Callaghan is the designated Governor

All staff have a responsibility to record and report any suspicions of abuse or neglect on the Recording Form and to tell the designated person (Appendix 1. LBC Safeguarding Children Recording Form) to the Designated Person. It is the responsibility of the Designated Person to complete the Concerns Form (Appendix 2 Concerns Form). They also have a responsibility to ensure they do not put themselves in a position that may lead to a concern being raised about them. If a member of staff does have a concern they should follow the

Whistle Blowing Policy and complete a Comment and Concerns Form (Appendix 3. Comments and Concerns Form)

**Governors Responsibilities:**

It is the responsibility of the governing body to ensure this policy is implemented, evaluated and monitored.

- The governor with responsibility for Child Protection and Safeguarding will be kept informed of Child Protection concerns and the actions taken, as a result of referrals whilst the confidentiality of the family is always maintained.
- He/she will feed back to the governors.
- Governors will be informed of all relevant staff training by the Head Teacher.
- The governor with responsibility with Child Protection should do an annual report for the governing body.
- This policy will be evaluated in the Spring Term every year.

1. **Physical Abuse**

Action will be taken under this heading if staff have reason to believe that there has been a physical injury to a child or where there is definite knowledge, or reasonable suspicion that the injury was inflicted or knowingly not prevented.

## 2. **Sexual Abuse**

Action will be taken under this heading if the staff team have witnessed occasions where a child indicated sexual activity through words, play, drawing or had an excessive pre-occupation with sexual matters or had an inappropriate knowledge of adult sexual behaviour.

## 3. **Emotional Abuse**

Action will be taken under this heading if the staff team have reason to believe that there is severe, adverse effect on the behaviour and emotional development of a child caused by persistent or severe ill treatment or rejection.

## 4. **Neglect**

Action will be taken under this heading if the staff team have reason to believe that there has been persistent or severe neglect of a child (for example, by exposure to any kind of danger, including cold and starvation) which results in serious impairment of the child's health or development, including failure to thrive.

### **Procedures in the Nursery and Children's Centre.**

- All staff will be given a copy of our booklet "Grasmere's Staff Booklet for Safeguarding Children" to read. It contains relevant information from LSCB's document "Keeping Children Safe in Education", April 2014. All senior staff will be given a full copy of the LSCB's document. This document clearly describes the procedures to follow when abuse or neglect is suspected. At performance management review meetings it will be an agenda item. All new staff will be given the document during their first week at work as part of their induction.
- Copies of the Grasmere Staff Booklet for Safeguarding Children will be in every classroom and the Family Room.
- At the start of every weekly staff meeting there will be a discussion about children causing concern to ensure all relevant staff are aware of current concerns.
- A rolling program of training at Level 1 and Level 2 is in place for all staff who have contact with children and families. Children's safety is always the priority, and staff will escalate proceedings where this is felt necessary.
- We adhere to the procedures for Safer Recruitment advised by LSCB.
- Recording forms are available in Green, Blue and Yellow Rooms, Tadpoles and the Office. Staff should replenish them if they are all used. Spare copies are also available in the safeguarding folder in the Head Teacher's office.

**Domestic Violence:**

Incidents of domestic violence are increasing in Luton. 2 Staff are trained in how to manage reports of DV from families. There are posters in all the entrances advising parents what to do. It is mentioned at new parents' meetings so families know we can help.

**Allegations against a member of staff:**

If an allegation is made against a member of staff Paul James the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Tel: 01582 548069 from Luton Borough Council. The Referral Team at Social Services Tel: 01582 547654 and after Ofsted Tel: 08456 404040

During holiday times the Head Teacher should also be informed.

**CAF forms (Common Assessment Framework):**

There are procedures in place to support families where there is a need of any sort, which may or may not result in children being at risk. Where staff have concerns about a family or parents ask for support from us, a CAF form may be completed. The Head teacher or Family Worker usually do this. Completing the form is a long process which enables specific areas of need to be identified within a family. If these needs can be met through our provision it may not be necessary to send the CAF further. Where it identifies support needed from external agencies it is sent to Social Services by email and presented, by the member of staff who completed it, to the local multi-agency panel meeting. Responsibility for actions following this meeting is given to a named professional – the "Lead Professional" for the family. From March 2010 all referrals to social services should be accompanied by a CAF, or a CAF should follow a referral made in an emergency. Information about Safeguarding Children is included in the new parents' handbook 2013/2014 and on school Newsletters.

Parents will be informed of our concerns unless we consider informing parents may put the child at increased risk of harm.

**Confidentiality:**

Information about children and families will be shared with the child's class team and all adults who work closely with the child by the designated officer. All staff will know that a child has a concerns sheet but may not always know all the details. We consider it to be more important that information is shared and staff are aware of children's needs than that they are put at risk through lack of communication.

**Staff Training:**

All staff are required to have training for safeguarding children every 2 years and this is organised as a training day or taken individually. In addition the Head Teacher organises short updates for new staff when needed. Staff may attend Local Authority training in addition to whole Centre training. Senior staff are trained to level 2 in safeguarding children.

Other issues related to safeguarding are:

### **Anti-Bullying Procedures**

All cases of alleged bullying are taken seriously by the school and are acted upon accordingly. The anti-bullying policy clearly documents the procedures in place for handling allegations of bullying and these are reviewed by governors every Autumn Term. (The draft Policy has been written and is expected to go to Governors during the Autumn Term).

### **Attendance**

Attendance is closely monitored on a daily basis. Parents/Carers of Children who are absent telephone the school with notification of the reason for any absences.

Whilst the children at this school are not of statutory school age and Parents/Carers who utilise their right to take their children out of school for planned absences are expected to make a formal request in writing to the school. A full record of this is kept in the school register and is monitored by the Head Teacher.

Parents are informed of the schools commitment to ensuring that children attend regularly and thereby receive the best possible education in the schools Prospectus 2013/2014 and in school Newsletters.

### **Health and Safety**

The school has a health and safety policy in place and this is monitored and reviewed annually by the Governing Body, the Governor with responsibility for Health and Safety is Lyn O'Callaghan.

Risk assessments covering all aspects of school operations are in place and are reviewed at least every two years.

The responsibility for health and safety is that of the Governing Body however this is delegated to the Head Teacher.

Day to day health and safety issues are reported to the Head Teacher (Joy Luxford) and the school Caretaker (Rob Jordan) for action.

Fire evacuation practices are undertaken termly and these are reported to governors using the Head Teacher report.

There is a Disaster Recovery Plan in place which details information and actions required in the event of a critical incident.

The school promotes healthy lifestyles this is promoted by all of the staff team and is monitored by the Head Teacher.

### **First Aid** (see also health and safety policy)

A number of staff are qualified to administer first aid with key people having paediatric first aid qualification which meets the requirements of the Early Years and Foundation Stage guidance. A First aid box is located in the Children's toilet area in Red and Blue classroom as well as the Head teacher's Office .

## **E-Safety**

The school follows the Luton Borough Council's LSCB Schools e-safety Protocol book.

All staff who access the school computer network are required to read and sign the acceptable use policy which details the conditions with which access is granted. Information about audits and violations of use are also featured. Any member of staff who is found to have abused the ICT network will have access rescinded and will face disciplinary action.

Mobile phones are not allowed to be taken into the toilet areas of the school.

## **Effective Behaviour Management**

Children are expected to behave appropriately at school. However school recognises that knowing how to behave in this way is part of the learning process and as such has a comprehensive behaviour management policy in place which documents the procedures for managing behaviour positively.

## **Safe Recruitment and Selection**

The school adheres to the requirements detailed in the DfE Safeguarding of Children and Safer recruitment in Education' document it has robust Safer Recruitment protocols in place.

Grasmere Nursery School and Children's Centre follow the Local Authority's guidelines for safe recruitment and include our policy in packs for applicants for posts here. Details of our safe recruitment practice are in the Safe Recruitment folder. All staff and visitors who regularly work with children and are unsupervised will have a CRB/DBS clearance. The Central Register is kept in the Deputy Head Teacher's office.

## **Staff Conduct**

The school expects staff to act as positive role models for the children attending the school and therefore expects utmost professional conduct at all times. Staff who act unprofessionally or inappropriately are subject to disciplinary investigation.

## **Curriculum**

The curriculum plays an important part in ensuring that children know how to keep themselves safe. This is taught through a variety of media, songs and visitors.

## **Managing Allegations Against Staff**

The school has adopted and adheres to the Local Authority procedure 'Arrangements for making allegations against people who work with children or those who are in a position of trust.'

## **Whistleblowing**

The school has a Whistle Blowing Policy that fully supports the Local Authority Whistle Blowing procedure should they wish to report an incident involving safeguarding of children but they feel they cannot report it via the usual means within school.

### **Building design and management (including site security)**

Access to the school is restricted via an access control system, which requires a pre-programmed access code. Therefore only authorised personnel can access the school environment. All staff should wear a name badge.

There is a perimeter fence around the school, which not only ensures that children cannot freely egress from the school site but also that unauthorised people cannot easily enter the site.

The school site is kept secure; the doors to the building only being opened at the beginning and end of each session, when a member of staff is always on duty at the door.

Outside play equipment and playgrounds are inspected daily by the caretaker to ensure the site and equipment are safe for the children to use. An annual inspection is also conducted by the Local Authority Health and Safety team and also by RoSPA (external play equipment).

### **School Visitors**

Any visitors accessing the school site will be required to show evidence of their identity. Regular visitors to the school will already be recorded on the Single Central Record (see above). Ad hoc visitors who do not regularly access the school will be accompanied by a member of staff at all times.

All visitors will be required to sign in and receive a visitor's pass at reception and then sign out accordingly. This process is overseen by the school administrators. All visitors will be given and must wear a Visitor badge. Anyone who cannot fulfil the above criteria will not be allowed onto the site.

School staff are required to challenge any adult that they see in school who are not authorised and a member of the leadership team will be called upon to deal with the situation

### **Use of Pupil Information**

Pupil information is recorded on the school SIMS system. Access is restricted to key personnel to ensure information is centrally updated and secure. Staff who have access to this sensitive data lock their screens when they are away from their desks to prevent unauthorised access. Computers are logged off at the end of each day. A home school registration form is kept in a file in the locked cupboard in the main office

### **Other relevant policies:**

Confidentiality Policy  
Safe Recruitment Policy  
Home visits Policy  
Use of reasonable restraint  
Behaviour Policy  
PSE Policy  
Safer working practice Policy  
E safety and the use of mobile technology

- All incidents/suspicions to be reported to the Head Teacher or Care Leader no matter how small or insignificant. In their absence the Deputy Head Teacher is to be informed.
- All concerns to be recorded on a "Recording Form" form from Luton Safeguarding Children Board.
- Completed forms must be given to Head Teacher or other staff listed above immediately for further action. They must never be filed away without a Concerns Chronology Form being completed and agreed actions recorded and put in place.
- Where concerns are recorded for a child a team meeting may be called and completion of a Common Assessment Framework form should be considered. This is usually the responsibility of the Head Teacher or Family Worker.
- If in doubt about any procedure or incident staff may call the Initial Assessment Team for advice. They may advise completion of a CAF or will ask for an immediate referral if the child is in danger.
- The CAF is a very detailed document that should ideally be filled in with the parent/s.
- Where the immediate safety of the child is at risk, or severe abuse is suspected then the Referral and Assessment Team should be informed at once by telephone. They will require all the child's details and a full account of the disclosure/suspicions. A Child in Need form must be completed and emailed or taken by hand to them. It may not be necessary to inform parents if this puts children at risk of further danger. If in doubt, telephone the Initial Assessment Team at Social Services for advice. Confirm the email address with them.
- Where children have siblings at other schools, the headteacher of those schools should be informed of concerns and actions immediately.
- If staff feel at all threatened by parents when dealing with safeguarding incidents they should call Luton Police: 01582 401212.
- If staff have any questions or doubts about what action to take then advice may be taken from the following:
- Luton Safeguarding Children Team/Referral and Assessment Team on 01582 547783.
- Educational Welfare Team, Paul James, LADO on 01582 548069
- Luton Police Station, 01582 401212
- Reporting concerns forms are in all classrooms and the Head Teacher's office. CAF forms and advice documents are in the Head Teacher's office.

All members of staff must be confident that they are fully aware of signs of abuse and neglect. They must know what to do to report a concern. They must have a copy of Grasmere's Staff Booklet for Safeguarding Children. If any additional training or advice is required they must speak to the Head Teacher.

Written by	
Ratified by Governors	
Date for Review	
Signed – Chair of Governors	
Signed – Head Teacher	