

# Ladywood Primary School



## Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy

January 2018

## **Introduction**

The health, safety and well-being of all our children are of paramount importance to all the adults who work in our school. Our children have the right to protection, regardless of age, gender, race, culture or disability. They have a right to be safe and to grow up in a stable and loving environment. Through PSHCE, we teach them how to recognise different risks in different situations and how to behave in response to them.

## **Aims and objectives**

This policy ensures that all staff in our school are clear about the actions necessary with regard to a child protection issue.

Its aims are:

- to raise awareness of all staff and identify responsibility in reporting possible cases of abuse;
- to ensure effective communication between all staff when dealing with Child Protection issues;
- to lay down the correct procedures for those who encounter an issue of child protection.
- to raise awareness of all staff of the need for schools to have due regard of the need to prevent young people from being drawn into terrorism

## **Suspicious of abuse**

If any teacher or teaching assistant suspects that a child in his/her class may be a victim of abuse they must immediately inform the named person for Child Protection about their concerns. **The named persons for Child Protection at Ladywood Primary School are Miss Clare Grainger, Headteacher, and Mrs Lyndsey Roystone, Inclusion Manager. The named Governors for Child Protection/Safeguarding are Pastor Joy Gascoigne and Shannon Mitchell.** All causes for concern must be recorded immediately and in writing a 'Cause for concern' record sheet by the person with the concern. Blank copies of this form are kept in classrooms. These must then be passed to the designated lead teacher immediately, who will decide on the appropriate actions, completing the 'for designated teacher use' section of the cause for concern sheet.

## **Categories of abuse**

Abuse can be of a sexual, emotional or physical nature. It may also be a result of neglect.

1. **Sexual Abuse** takes place when a child is forced to take place in sexual activity, using the child to satisfy sexual desires. It is also

an abuse to allow children access to obscene books, videos and other materials.

2. **Emotional Abuse** occurs when adults persistently fail to provide to the child love and affection. For example they may threaten, taunt or shout, causing the child to lose self confidence, and to become nervous or withdrawn. If children do not receive love, praise and affection from adults there can be serious consequences for their development.
3. **Physical Abuse** is when a person injures or harms a child or does not knowingly prevent it. For example, using excessive force, hitting, shaking, squeezing, burning, biting, suffocating or drowning. It includes allowing inappropriate use of drugs, medication and alcohol by children
4. **Neglect** occurs when adults fail to meet the child's essential needs such as providing adequate shelter, food, warmth, clothing and medical care. It also includes leaving young children, who can not look after themselves, alone or without proper supervision.

#### **Procedures following referral to the named person**

Any action that the named person takes when dealing with an issue of child protection must be in line with the procedures outlined in the Local Authority Child Protection guidelines. The Local Authority document should be referred to, however broad guidelines are as follows:

- The school's named Safeguarding Leads will work closely with Social Services when investigating any allegations of abuse. All parties involved will handle such investigations in a sensitive manner, but the interests of the child are of paramount importance.
- If a child alleges abuse, the school will usually make a telephone referral without communicating with parents first, followed by a written 'Request for Service' form. In some circumstances it will be necessary to inform parents first.
- If a child protection referral is made, a case conference will be held. The case conference offers the opportunity for all parties to share information and formulate a plan of action. School staff will be expected to provide reports for all conferences and meetings and will be required to attend and participate.
- All information relating to individual child protection issues are treated as confidential. Information will only be passed on to appropriate persons. The child will be kept informed at all stages and will be told who is involved and what information we have given them.

#### **Conduct of Staff**

The school has a duty to ensure that high standards of professional

behaviour exist between staff and children and that all members of staff are clear about what constitutes appropriate behaviour and professional boundaries.

At all times, members of staff are required to work in a professional way with children. All staff should be aware of the dangers inherent in:

- working alone with a child
- physical interventions
- cultural and gender stereotyping
- dealing with sensitive information
- giving to and receiving gifts from children and parents
- contacting children through private telephones (including texting), e-mail, MSN, or social networking websites.
- disclosing personal details inappropriately
- meeting pupils outside school hours or school duties

### **Allegations against Staff**

Any allegations against staff must be reported to the Headteacher and she will follow BMBC procedures ([www.safeguardingchildrenbarnsley.com](http://www.safeguardingchildrenbarnsley.com)). A log book for allegations against staff and details of BMBC procedures are kept in the school safe.

### **Physical Restraint**

There may be times when adults in our school, in the course of their duty, have to use physical intervention to restrain children. The Headteacher and Inclusion Manager are Team Teach Trained and should carry out, wherever possible, all positive handling restraints. All restraints are recorded.

### **Criminal Record Screening**

We require all adults employed in school to have their application vetted through police records in order to ensure that there is no evidence of offences involving children or abuse. No adults are allowed to work unsupervised with children until CRB checks have been carried out.

### **Photographing Children**

Permission from parents to photograph or film their child during the school day is sought on the contact forms which are located in the school office. Parents have the choice to opt out of this if they do not want photographs or films to be taken of their child.

### **Before and After School Activities**

Where the school provides out of school hours activities (such as sports

clubs), we will ensure that these bodies have appropriate safeguarding information.

### **Prevent Duty**

From 1 July 2015 all schools are subject to a duty to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. Under the Prevent Duty it is essential that all staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation, and know what to do when they are identified.

There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to terrorist or racial ideology. As with managing all safeguarding and child protection risks, staff should be alert to changes in children's behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Should children be identified as at risk general safeguarding principles detailed in this policy should be applied to keep them safe. In addition the school Safeguarding Leads are aware of the Channel Programme which can be accessed to support individuals vulnerable to radicalisation.

As part of the ongoing Curriculum at Ladywood we aim to build pupils' resilience to radicalisation by promoting fundamental British values, SMSC development, PSHCE and by teaching the principles of e-safety and internet awareness due to the increased risk of online radicalisation.

### **Child Protection training**

All adults in the school receive regular training to raise their awareness of abuse and their knowledge of the agreed local child protection procedures (May 2015). The next training will take place in May 2018.

The Headteacher and Inclusion Manager attended Prevent Duty Training on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015. Training for all Members of staff took place in February 2016.

### **Monitoring and review**

This policy is reviewed biannually by the Governing Body and will be due for renewal in January 2020.

Policy updated by Clare Grainger 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018

DATE PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNING BODY AND SIGNED BY THE  
CHAIR:

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SIGNED BY THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS:

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Mrs P Randal