Dainty Little

Hands



**Child Protection and Safeguarding Children Policy – St Mary’s Catholic School, Wednesbury**

**Policy Statement**

Everyone employed by the provision has a responsibility in relation to child protection and safeguarding children. In most cases this will be the referral of concerns to his/her line manager. In day-to-day contact with children and families – and particularly children identified as being at risk, staff have an opportunity to note concerns and to meet with parents and other associated adults.

This policy aims to outline the role that the provision will have in relation to child protection, the procedures that staff should take and guidance on issues related to child protection generally. It is not exhaustive. All staff should use as a rule of thumb the needs and safety of the child as being at the centre of any decision they make.

Dainty Little Hands Ltd will fulfil their local and national responsibilities as laid out in the following documents:-

* The most recent version of [Working Together to Safeguard Children](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2) (DfE)
* The most recent version of [Keeping Children Safe in Education:](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education--2)

Statutory guidance for schools and colleges (DfE Sept 2016)

* [West Midlands Safeguarding Children Procedures](http://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/page/contents)
* [The Education Act 2002](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2002/32/contents) s175
* [Mental Health and Behaviour in Schools: Departmental Advice](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mental-health-and-behaviour-in-schools--2) (DfE 2014)

In order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, the school will act in accordance with the following legislation and guidance:

* The Children Act 2004
* Sandwell Childrens Safeguarding Partnership website [guidance for safer working practice](https://www.sandwellcsp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/2019_08_27-Guidance-for-Safer-Working-Practice-for-Adults-who-work-with-Children-in-Sandwell-FINAL-updated-August-2019.pdf) .
* Working Together to Safeguard Children (HM Government 2015)
* The Education (Pupil Information) (England) Regulations 2005
* Dealing with Allegations of Abuse against Teachers and Other Staff (DfE 2011)
* Keeping Children Safe in Education (2018)
* Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (2015)
* The Prevent duty departmental advice for schools and childcare providers (June 2015)
* Education Act 2002 (section 175/157) o Section 175 of the Education Act 2002 requires local education authorities and the governors of maintained schools and further education (FE) colleges to make arrangements to ensure that their functions are carried out with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
* Section 157 of the same act and the Education (Independent Schools Standards) (England) Regulations 2003 require proprietors of independent schools (including academies and city technology colleges) to have arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are pupils at the school.
* “Working Together to Safeguard Children” (2015) requires all schools to follow the procedures for protecting children from abuse which are defined by Sandwell Safeguarding Children Board and have appropriate procedures in place for responding to all concerns of actual or suspected abuse including allegations against members of staff in a position of trust. The best way to safeguard a child is through effective early help and prevention so it is important to carry out effective early help assessment and take on the role of the Lead Professional. Sandwell’s Multi-agency Threshold Document explains early help and expectations more in depth.
* ‘Keeping Safe in Education’ (2016) places the following statutory duties on all schools:
* Schools should be aware of and follow the procedures issued by Sandwell Childrens Safeguarding Partnership. Staff should be vigilant to signs of abuse and to whom they should report any concerns on to  Schools should have procedures in place which are disseminated to all staff for handling suspected or actual cases of abuse of pupils, including procedures to be followed in the case of allegations against persons in a position of trust  Every school should have Designated Safeguarding Lead who is a member of the senior management team and responsible for coordinating safeguarding/child protection work within the school and liaising with other agencies as appropriate  Staff with designated responsibility for safeguarding and child protection should receive appropriate single agency and multi-agency training approved by SCSP at least every two years  All other staff in school should receive training to raise their awareness of signs and symptoms of suspected or actual abuse and the The school follows the procedures agreed by SCSP

**The Aims of the Policy**

The aims of this policy are:

1. to raise awareness of individual responsibilities in identifying and reporting possible cases of abuse
2. to provide a systematic means of monitoring, recording and reporting of concerns and cases
3. to provide guidance on recognising and dealing with suspected child abuse
4. to provide a framework for inter-agency communication and effective liaison
5. to identify strategies and interventions available to support children at risk.

**Procedure**

In order to safeguard children we will:

1. adopt child protection guidelines as recommended by our Local Authority’s Safeguarding Children Board/Trust/Partnership and other appropriate professional bodies
2. follow the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy of the school
3. implement appropriate procedures and code of conduct for the practice team
4. raise awareness with staff and patients that concerns about the welfare of a child and child protection are taken seriously, with appropriate action being taken
5. create an environment where children are listened to and their concerns taken seriously
6. share information with other agencies on a need-to-know basis
7. involve parents and children, except where doing so would put the child at greater risk of harm
8. follow safer recruitment guidance and procedures
9. provide effective staff management through access to supervision, support and training
10. review this policy annually to ensure it is updated and informs day-to-day practice.

**Designated Safeguarding Lead**

The designated Safeguarding lead (DSL) is Jayne Dainty. Their role is to help co-ordinate any concerns that are raised regarding the welfare of a child and to liaise with other professionals where appropriate, including the local authority social care for children. Her number is 07843391751 if you need to call her for any advice.

**The designated person will:**

1. co-ordinate action within the provision and liaise with the Host School and social care services and other agencies over cases of abuse and suspected abuse
2. act as a source of advice within the provision
3. ensure that staff are familiar with the provision's policy and procedure
4. make child protection referrals, recording and reporting accordingly
5. liaise with agencies about individual cases
6. organise training on child protection and safeguarding children within provision
7. ensure that appropriate strategies for recording and reporting incidents are kept within provision
8. provide appropriate feedback to members of staff as and when necessary.

**Staff**

Staff should:

1. be alert to the signs of abuse as detailed in this policy
2. report any concerns immediately, where possible to the designated person
3. consult with the designated person if in any doubt as to how to proceed
4. follow the advice given in this policy in relation to how to handle disclosures.

**Partnerships with Parents**

It is important that the provision has there is an established approach to working with parents. Parents' and children's need for privacy should be respected. However, the priority is the needs of the child and effective liaison is crucial for this.

It should be recognised that families from different backgrounds and cultures will may have different approaches to raising children. These differences should be acknowledged and respected provided they do not place the child at risk as defined later in this policy.

Where possible staff should work with and share information with parents. Permission for liaison and information sharing with outside agencies should be sought unless it places the child at risk. In these cases, it is preferable to seek advice from social care services or make a child protection referral. Please see page 12 on how to do this.

**Guidance on Recognising Abuse**

Child abuse is a term used to describe ways in which children are harmed by someone often in a position of power. It is not the responsibility of staff to decide whether child abuse is occurring but to act on any concerns and report these to the appropriate party. The health, safety and protection of a child are paramount.

Abuse might fall into the categories of:

1. physical
2. emotional
3. sexual
4. neglect.

Staff should respond appropriately to signs and symptoms in a child which gives them cause for concern. These include but are not exhaustive:

1. significant changes in children's behaviour or appearance
2. frequent mood changes
3. deterioration in their general well-being
4. unexplained bruising, marks or signs of possible abuse
5. signs of neglect such as being unkempt
6. comments children make which give cause for concern
7. not wanting to go home
8. displaying sexualised behaviour
9. a child who is quiet and withdrawn
10. a child who gives the impression of being unloved and unhappy.

**More details on how to recognise signs of abuse are available on** <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/signs-symptoms-effects>

**FGM**

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is the partial or total removal of external female genitalia for non-medical reasons. It's also known as female circumcision or cutting.

Religious, social or cultural reasons are sometimes given for FGM. However, FGM is child abuse. It's dangerous and a criminal offence.

A girl at immediate risk of FGM may not know what's going to happen. But she might talk about or you may become aware of:

1. a long holiday abroad or going 'home' to visit family
2. relative or cutter visiting from abroad
3. a special occasion or ceremony to 'become a woman' or get ready for marriage
4. a female relative being cut – a sister, cousin, or an older female relative such as a mother or aunt.

More details on how to recognise signs of abuse are available on https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/female-genital-mutilation-fgm/preventing-protecting/

**RADICALISATION AND EXTREMISM**

Radicalisation happens when a person's thinking and behaviour become significantly different from how most of the members of their society and community view social issues and participate politically. Only small numbers of people radicalise and they can be from a diverse range of ethnic, national, political and religious groups.

As a person radicalises they may begin to seek to change significantly the nature of society and government. However, if someone decides that using fear, terror or violence is justified to achieve ideological, political or social change—this is violent extremism.

Radicalisation can be really difficult to spot. Signs that may indicate a child is being radicalised include:

* 1. isolating themselves from family and friends
	2. talking as if from a scripted speech
	3. unwillingness or inability to discuss their views
	4. a sudden disrespectful attitude towards others
	5. increased levels of anger
	6. increased secretiveness, especially around internet use.

Children who are at risk of radicalisation may have low self-esteem, or be victims of bullying or discrimination. Extremists might target them and tell them they can be part of something special, later brainwashing them into cutting themselves off from their friends and family.

**CSE**

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a type of [sexual abuse](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/child-sexual-abuse/). Children in exploitative situations and relationships receive something such as gifts, money or affection as a result of performing sexual activities or others performing sexual activities on them.

Children or young people may be tricked into believing they're in a loving, consensual relationship. They might be invited to parties and given drugs and alcohol. They may also be [groomed](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/grooming/) and exploited [online](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/online-abuse/).

Some children and young people are [trafficked](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/child-trafficking/) into or within the UK for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Sexual exploitation can also happen to [young people in gangs](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/staying-safe-away-from-home/gangs-young-people/).

Child sexual exploitation is a hidden crime. Young people often trust their abuser and don't understand that they're being abused. They may depend on their abuser or be too scared to tell anyone what's happening.

It can involve violent, humiliating and degrading sexual assaults, including oral and anal rape. In some cases, young people are persuaded or forced into exchanging sexual activity for money, drugs, gifts, affection or status. Child sexual exploitation doesn't always involve physical contact and can happen online.

When [sexual exploitation](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/child-sexual-exploitation/) happens online, young people may be persuaded, or forced, to:

1. send or post sexually explicit images of themselves
2. take part in sexual activities via a webcam or smartphone
3. have sexual conversations by text or online.

Abusers may threaten to send images, video or copies of conversations to the young person's friends and family unless they take part in other sexual activity.

Images or videos may continue to be shared long after the sexual abuse has stopped.

Sexual exploitation can be very difficult to identify. Warning signs can easily be mistaken for 'normal' teenage behaviour.

Young people who are being sexually exploited may:

1. go missing from home, care or education.
2. be involved in abusive relationships, intimidated and fearful of certain people or situations
3. hang out with groups of older people, or antisocial groups, or with other vulnerable peers
4. associate with other young people involved in sexual exploitation
5. get involved in gangs, gang fights, gang membership
6. have older boyfriends or girlfriends
7. spend time at places of concern, such as hotels or known brothels
8. not know where they are, because they have been moved around the country
9. be involved in petty crime such as shoplifting
10. have unexplained physical injuries
11. have a changed physical appearance, for example lost weight.

**More details on how to recognise signs of abuse are available on**

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-abuse-and-neglect/child-sexual-exploitation/

**Policy on Dealing with Suspected Abuse**

All staff should refer concerns to the designated person as soon as possible. However if you believe a child is in immediate danger, contact the Police immediately.

THE DESIGNATED PERSON FOR ALL DAINTY LITTLE HANDS SETTINGS IS JAYNE DAINTY – 01922682232/07843391751

In the meantime, they should:

1. consider the child’s welfare as paramount
2. believe the child and take them seriously
3. remain calm and caring
4. reassure the child that they have done the right thing in talking to them
5. make notes of the conversation as soon as possible, using the child's own words
6. explain to the child what will happen next and who will be told

**Staff should not:**

* promise confidentiality
* postpone the discussion until a different time
* interpret what they have been told
* ask leading questions.

**IF IN DOUBT, CONTACT THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY**

**Where the staff member suspects that a child is being abused they should**:

1. immediately tell their line manager or the designated safeguarding lead for safeguarding and child protection about their concerns
2. make factual notes of what has occurred, using the child's own words where relevant, and any action taken.

**The designated person will follow the procedure below**.

1. Where possible, they will calmly discuss the concerns with the child and their parents and obtain agreement to making a referral to children social care services unless this discussion will put the child in increased risk of harm. Under no circumstances continue the discussion if it becomes confrontational. If a child’s disclosure is about significant abuse from their parent under no circumstances confront the parent of the alleged abuse as there is a risk of compromising any investigation or prosecution.
2. Seek professional advice from Children Care Services if unsure about whether or not to talk to parents first.
3. If the perpetrator of the alleged abuse is not a parent of the child/children under no circumstances confront them.
4. When a referral is made, agree what the child and parents will be told, by whom and when. Inform the recipient of the referral what information has already been discussed with the child and their parents.
5. If a telephone referral is made it must be confirmed in writing within 48 hours. Children's social care services should acknowledge the written referral within one working day of receiving it, indicating the course of action chosen. If nothing has been heard back within three working days, contact children's social care again.

**Confidentiality**

Relevant information about the protection of children must be shared with the investigative agencies, but only on a “need to know” basis.

Staff should be careful in subsequent discussions and ensure that information is only given to the appropriate person. All staff should be kept aware of issues relating to confidentiality and the status of information they may hold.

# The Use of Mobile Telephones and Digital Cameras Policy

This organisation believes that mobile telephones used in the correct and safe manner can have a positive benefit to the operation of the organisation and to the health and safety of its employees. Use of mobile telephones in the wrong place, at the wrong time or in the wrong circumstances can cause accidents and interrupt activities to the detriment of the organisation, employees and others.

The organisation will allow the sensible use of mobile telephones, provided by the organisation, provided the basic health and safety rules and sensible use are followed.

NO SMART PHONES OR DIGITAL CAMERAS ARE TO BE USED AT ANY TIME WITHIN TIMES THAT CARE IS PROVIDED.

All personal mobile phones should be locked in the cabinet before school club opens.

## Procedure

1. Employees must keep the use of mobile telephones to a minimum, ie few calls and of short duration.
2. The Company will provide a basic mobile phone handset to be used in club.
3. The Company will provide a Instant (Polaroid) Cameras for use in club.
4. All Smart phones or digital cameras are to be locked away in the filing cabinet provided and are not to be used in any circumstance.
5. All visitors must also lock away their phones on entering the club.
6. Employees should avoid pressing the mobile telephone tight against the ear. They should try to hold it away from the side of the head, and alternate between left and right ear.
7. If employees have a cardiac pacemaker or other medically implanted device, they should seek medical advice before using a mobile telephone.
8. Employees must not make or answer calls whilst driving a car on company business and MUST exercise proper control of their vehicle at all times.
9. Employees should consider the use of a hands-free set incorporating earpiece and microphone in vehicles. Otherwise they should turn off the mobile telephone whilst driving or switch it to messaging.
10. Employees must never use a hand-held mobile telephone or microphone when driving. They should find a safe place to stop before answering or making a call.
11. Employees should remember that using “hands-free” equipment is also likely to distract them while driving. They should find a safe place to stop before answering or making a call.
12. Employees MUST NOT stop on the hard shoulder of a motorway to answer or make a call, except in an emergency.
13. Employees should switch off their mobile telephone when at a petrol refuelling station or when near any other potentially flammable atmosphere.
14. Employees should switch off their mobile telephone when visiting a hospital ward or inside an aircraft.

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| Parents, Carers and Visitors are NOT permitted to use their phones in school club. |  |

**E Safety and Online Gaming**

No member of staff is permitted to enter into any conversation regarding personal on-line gaming habits or internet use. It is prohibited to share any social media contact information, on line gaming contact details or any other information relating to contacting children out side of school and club settings.

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| Signed: | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Jayne Dainty\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Date: | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_10/08/2020\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Policy review date: | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_09/08/2021\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

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| ***FOR ST MARY’S CATHOLIC SCHOOL*****\*\*Contact Sandwell Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 0121 569 3100 to speak to someone about your concerns\*\***You might suspect that a child is at risk of harm or neglect. You may know of a family who could benefit from some additional support and help to look after a child better. Here are some of the ways you can raise concerns about the welfare of a child:**Children who have concerns**If you are a child who is suffering from harm, neglect or abuse or are worried that another child may be suffering you can:* Talk to someone outside your family that you trust like a teacher, school nurse, police officer or other person in authority.
* Contact the Sandwell Safeguarding Team on 0121 569 3100 and speak to someone from Social Care. A Social Worker works for the government and their job is to help you if you need to be protected from harm.
* Contact West Midlands Police on 101 (24 hour non-emergency number). In an emergency always dial 999. It is the job of the Police to protect you from harm and stop crimes being committed against you or other children.

**Child Sexual Exploitation:**To download a copy of the CSE screening tool please GO TO https://www.sandwellcsp.org.uk/key-safeguarding-issues/referral-forms-screening-tools/To download a copy of the Child Exploitation Measurement Tool please GO TO https://www.sandwellcsp.org.uk/key-safeguarding-issues/referral-forms-screening-tools/**Concerns regarding a professional who works with children:**If you wish to make contact with the **Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)*** Please call **0121 569 4770**
* If you wish to make a referral to the LADO, please click here to download a copy of the [Partnership Referral Form](https://www.sandwellcsp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2019_08_27-POT-Partnership-referral-form-updated-August-2019.doc)
* For more information please read the [LADO Guidance for Professionals](https://www.sandwellcsp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/2019_08_29-LADO-Referral-Guidance-for-Employers-Agencies-Aug-2019.pdf)
* Additional information can be accessed by reading the [Managing Allegations Leaflet](https://www.sandwellcsp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2019_09_02-Managing-allegations-allegations-against-employees-or-volunteers-in-Sandwell-leaflet.pdf) and the [Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with Children in Sandwell August 2019](https://www.sandwellcsp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/2019_08_27-Guidance-for-Safer-Working-Practice-for-Adults-who-work-with-Children-in-Sandwell-FINAL-updated-August-2019.pdf)

**Useful Telephone Numbers** Sandwell Contact Centre – 0121 569 3100 West Midlands Police – 101 or in an emergency 999 Local Authority Child Protection Officers for Education – 0121 569 8144 Local Authority Designated Officer – 0121 569 4770 CSE Team – 0121 569 8690 Prevent (Radicalisation and Extremism) Coordinator Manjeet Pangli Prevent Worker Sarfraz Khan – 0121 569 2201 Tipton COG – 0121 5697291 Wednesbury COG – 0121 569 7294 West Bromwich Central COG – 0121 569 7293 Oldbury COG – 0121 569 7295 Rowley COG – 0121 569 7296 Smethwick COG – 0121 569 7297  |  |
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