

# Brookland Infant and Nursery and Junior Schools Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Staff: September 2018

Governors: September 2018

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### Statement of intent

The most fundamental responsibility of our schools is to safeguard our children ie to take all reasonable steps to ensure their physical and emotional safety within and beyond school and to promote their skills and knowledge in staying safe, including online. This document is a statement of the aims and strategies for the protection of pupils at Brookland Schools from harm. It should be read in conjunction with the schools' Acceptable use of ICT policy, online safety policy, behavior policy, health and safety policy, curriculum policy, equalities policy, inclusion policy, DfE document Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018 Part One Information for all School and College Staff and Annex A Further Information on children and the court system, children missing from education, children with family members in prison, child sexual exploitation, child criminal exploitations: county lines, domestic abuse, homelessness, so called "honour-based" violence, preventing radicalisation, peer on peer abuse, sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges. Any member of staff, governor, child or parent should contact the appropriate person if there is a concern about a particular child.

This policy sets out a clear and consistent framework for delivering this promise, in line with safeguarding legislation and statutory guidance.

### Key aims are:

- To establish a safe environment in which children can learn and develop, including the physical environment as outlined in our Health and Safety policy.
- Ensuring that members of the governing body, the headteacher, staff members and volunteers understand their responsibilities under safeguarding legislation and statutory guidance, are alert to the signs of child abuse and know to refer concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
- To ensure staff and governors follow the code of conduct as outlined in our staff handbook and governors handbook
- To raise awareness of child protection issues and equip children with the skills needed to keep them safe and ways in which they can help to protect themselves.
- To ensure disclosures or concerns are taken seriously and acted upon swiftly in accordance with school procedures.
- To develop and implement procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse, including radicalisation, peer on peer abuse and honour based violence, such as forced marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).
- To identify and support pupils who have been abused in accordance with his/her agreed child protection plan.
- To follow up and report any incidents of homophobic, racist or other forms of bullying or discrimination.
- Creating a culture of safer recruitment by adopting procedures that help deter, reject or identify people who might pose a risk to children.
- Ensuring that the headteacher, new staff members, volunteers and governors are only appointed when all the appropriate checks have been satisfactorily completed.

The DSL in the Infants is: Brenda McCafferty and in the absence of the DSL, child protection matters will be dealt with by the Safeguarding Team: Amy Simpson, DHT or Eleanor Furze, Inclusion Leader. All DSL's are contactable through the school office. Infants: 020 8346 6824, office@brooklandinf.barnetmail.net.

The DSL in the Juniors is: Jenny Aylen and in the absence of the DSL, child protection matters will be dealt with by the safeguarding Team: Shirley Bates, DHT or Cara Christie, AHT or Danielle Lucas, SENCO. All DSL's are contactable through the school office. Juniors: 020 8346 6937, office@brooklandjnr.barnetmail.net.

Our named school governor with safeguarding responsibilities is Laura Pincus, she is contactable through the school offices in both schools.

Contact details for MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) 020 8359 4066 during office hours. Call Barnet if it out of hours 020 8359 2000 and ask for duty social worker or call 101 for local police. NSPCC are also able to respond to urgent concerns 0808 800 5000

#### **Definitio**n

For the purpose of this policy, Brookland Infant and Nursery School and Junior School will define "safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children" as:

- Protecting pupils from maltreatment.
- Preventing the impairment of pupils' health or development.
- Ensuring that pupils grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- Taking action to enable all pupils to have the best outcomes.

#### Roles and responsibilities

#### The governing body has a duty to:

- Ensure that the schools complies with its duties under the child protection and safeguarding legislation.
- Guarantee that the policies, procedures and training opportunities in the schools are effective and comply with the law at all times.
- Ensure support, training and knowledge of systems is in place to assist staff and governors in understanding and discharging their roles and responsibilities.
- Guarantee that the schools contributes effectively to inter-agency working in line with the statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.
- Confirm that the schools' safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practice of the LA as part of the inter-agency safeguarding procedures established by the local safeguarding children board (LSCB).
- Comply with its obligations under section 14B of the Children Act 2004 to supply the LSCB with information to fulfil its functions.
- Ensure that a member of the governing body is nominated to liaise with the LA and/or partner agencies on issues of child protection, and in the event of allegations of abuse made against the headteacher or other governor.
- Guarantee that there are effective child protection policies and procedures in place together with a staff code of conduct.

- Appoint a member of staff from the senior management team (SMT) to the role of DSL as an explicit part of the role-holder's job description – there should always be cover for the DSL.
- Ensure DSL and safeguarding Team have appropriate support and training.
- Make sure that pupils are taught about safeguarding, including protection against dangers online, through teaching and learning opportunities, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum.
- Adhere to statutory responsibilities to check staff who work with children, taking proportionate decisions on whether to ask for any checks beyond what is required.
- Guarantee that volunteers are appropriately supervised.
- Make sure that at least one person on any appointment panel has undertaken safer recruitment training.
- Ensure that all staff members receive safeguarding and child protection training updates, such as emails and staff meetings, as required, but at least annually.
- Certify that there are procedures in place to handle allegations against members of staff or volunteers.
- Confirm that there are procedures in place to make a referral to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) if a person in regulated activity has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns, or would have been had they not resigned.
- Guarantee that there are procedures in place to handle allegations against other pupils.
- Make sure that pupils' wishes or feelings are taken into account when determining what action to take, and what services to provide to protect individual pupils.
- Guarantee that there are systems in place for pupils to express their views and give feedback.
- Establish an early help procedure and inform all staff of the procedures it involves.
- Appoint a designated teacher to promote the educational achievement of looked after children (LAC) and ensure that this person has undergone appropriate training.
- Ensure that the designated teacher works with the virtual school head to discuss how the pupil premium funding can best be used to support LAC.
- Make sure that staff members have the skills, knowledge and understanding necessary to keep LAC safe, particularly with regard to the pupil's legal status, contact details and care arrangements.
- Put in place appropriate safeguarding responses for pupils who go missing from school, particularly on repeat occasions, to help identify any risk of abuse and neglect, including sexual abuse or exploitation, and prevent the risks of their disappearance in future.
- Ensure that all members of the governing body have been subject to an enhanced DBS check.

#### The headteacher has a duty to:

- Safeguard pupils' wellbeing and maintain public trust in the teaching profession.
- Ensure that the policies and procedures adopted by the governing body, particularly concerning referrals of cases of suspected abuse and neglect, are followed by staff members.

 Provide staff with the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, Staff Code of Conduct, information regarding the role of the DSL, Acceptable use of ICT policy and part one of the Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2018 guidance at induction and Annex A.

### The DSL has a duty to:

- Refer all cases of suspected abuse to Children's Social Care, via MASH (020 8359 4066), the LA designated officer (LADO) for child protection concerns when involving staff, the DBS, and the police in cases where a crime has been committed.
- Refer cases of radicalisation to the Channel programme.
- Liaise with the headteacher to inform her of safeguarding issues, especially ongoing enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police investigations.
- Act as a source of support, advice and expertise to staff members on matters of safeguarding by liaising with relevant agencies.
- Understand the assessment process for providing early help and intervention.
- Liaise with other agencies and setting up inter-agency assessment where early help is deemed appropriate.
- Keep cases of early help under constant review and refer them to the Children's Social Care if the situation does not appear to be improving.
- Have a working knowledge of how LAs conduct a child protection case conference and a child protection review conference, and be able to attend and contribute to these effectively when required to do so.
- Ensure each member of staff has access to and understands the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and procedures – this will be discussed during the staff induction process.
- Be alert to the specific requirements of children in need, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and young carers.
- Keep detailed, accurate and secure records of concerns and referrals.
- Obtain access to resources and attend any relevant training courses.
- Encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings.
- Work with the governing body to ensure the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy is reviewed annually and the procedures are updated regularly.
- Ensure the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy is available publicly, and parents/carers are aware that the school may make referrals for suspected cases of abuse or neglect, as well as the role the school plays in these referrals.
- Link with the LSCB to make sure that staff members are aware of the training opportunities available and made aware of the latest local policies on safeguarding.
- Ensure that a pupil's child protection file is copied when transferring to a new school and records are sent securely and confidentially to the new schools' DSL
- Be available at all times during school hours to discuss any safeguarding concerns or ensure a member of the safeguarding team is available.
- Act as the lead professional in undertaking an early help assessment, where necessary.
- Support social workers in making decisions about individual children.

 Be aware of, and understand, the process for making referrals to Children's Social Care, as well as for making statutory assessments under the Children Act 1989 and their role in these assessments.

# Other staff members have a responsibility to:

- Report any concern at all about a particular child to the DSL and a record should be made on the appropriate form.
- Safeguard pupils' wellbeing and maintain public trust in the teaching profession as part of their professional duties.
- Provide an emotionally and physically safe environment in which pupils can learn and thrive.
- Maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned.
- Be aware of the signs of abuse and neglect.
- Be aware of the early help process, and understand their role in it.
- Know that if at any point there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child and the DSL or safeguarding team is not around, make a referral to Children's Social Care (MASH 020 8359 4066) and/or the police immediately.
- Understand the procedure to follow in the event that a child confides they are being abused or neglected.
- Maintain appropriate levels of confidentiality when dealing with individual cases, and always act in the best interest of the child.
- Follow the school's procedure for, and approach to, preventing radicalisation.

# Concerns about a pupil

If a pupil is in immediate danger, a referral will be made to MASH (0208 359 4066) and/or the police straight away.

Concerns about a pupil do not include those in immediate danger and so must be handled differently.

If a staff member has any concerns about a pupil, they will raise this with the DSL or another member of the safeguarding team or, if necessary, refer the case to specialist or early help services.

If a referral is made about a child by anyone other than the DSL, the DSL will be informed as soon as possible.

The LA will make a decision regarding what action is required within one working day of the referral being made, and will notify the referrer.

Staff are required to monitor a referral if they do not receive information from the LA regarding what action is necessary for the pupil.

If the situation does not improve after a referral, the DSL will ask for reconsideration to ensure that their concerns have been addressed and that the situation improves for the pupil.

If early help is appropriate, the case will be kept under constant review. If the pupil's situation does not improve, a referral will be considered.

It may be decided to talk to the family and, with their agreement, to make referral to other agencies for support or to complete a CAF (Common Assessment Form) if the family needs support from more than one agency.

All concerns, discussions and decisions made, as well as the reasons for those decisions, will be recorded in writing by the DSL and kept securely in a locked cabinet in the Headteacher's office.

Where there are safeguarding concerns, the school will ensure that the pupil's wishes are always taken into account, and that there are systems available for pupils to provide feedback and express their views.

An inter-agency assessment will be undertaken where a child and their family could benefit from coordinated support from more than one agency. These assessments will identify what help the child and family require in preventing needs escalating to a point where intervention would be needed.

If after consultation a member of staff feels that appropriate action is not being taken s/he may refer directly to the MASH team but must inform the Headteacher first. Additionally he/she can contact the NSPCC advice line. Similarly, if the safeguarding lead feels insufficient action is being taken and that relevant MASH thresholds have been reached, more senior members of social services should be contacted.

The governing body are informed termly about the number of referrals made to social services, the number of children on Child Protection Plans and the number of Looked After Children.

#### Information to be recorded

- Child's name and date of birth
- The incident(s) which gives rise for concern with date(s) and time(s)
- Record verbatim anything that the child says as soon as possible. Ask questions
  but ensure what is recorded is factual, include reported speech, body language
  and tone of voice where appropriate Opinion should not be given unless there is
  some form of evidence base which can be quoted.
- Take care not to ask leading questions e.g. ask What happened next? not -Was X done? Do ask questions to clarify what the child has said.
- If recording bruising/injuries indicate position, colour, size, shape and time on a body map. Never take photographs.
- Action taken information passed to the designated teacher.

### Concerns about staff members, volunteers and safeguarding practices

If a staff member has concerns about another member of staff, person working for a school club or volunteer then this will be raised immediately with the headteacher. If the concern is with regards to the headteacher, this will be referred to the chair of governors, Laura Pincus, contactable via the school offices.

Where an allegation is made, the Headteacher should obtain necessary further details of the allegation and the circumstances in which it was made. The headteacher or Chair of governors must discuss with the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) the nature of the allegations, through MASH (020 8359 4066). The headteacher will follow the Safeguarding Children Board procedures and agree further action to be taken in respect of the child and the member of staff with the LADO.

Any concerns regarding the safeguarding practices at Brookland Infant and Nursery School and Junior School will be raised with the SLT, and the necessary whistleblowing procedures will be followed, as outlined in the Whistleblowing Policy.

If a staff member feels unable to raise an issue with the SLT, they should access other whistleblowing channels such as the NSPCC whistleblowing helpline (0800 028 0285).

#### Inter-agency working

Brookland Infant and Nursery School and Junior School contributes to interagency working as part of its statutory duty.

- The schools will work with Children's Social Care, the police, health services and other services to protect the welfare of its pupils, through the early help process and by contributing to inter-agency plans to provide additional support.
- The schools will liaise with the Virtual School for any Looked After Children. (Paul Witcombe, Acting Headteacher Virtual School: 020 8359 3508)
- The school recognises the importance of information sharing between professionals and local agencies in order to effectively meet pupils' needs.
- In light of the above, staff members are aware that whilst the GDPR Data Protection Act 2018 places a duty on schools to process personal information fairly and lawfully, it is not a barrier to sharing information where failure to do so would result in the pupil being placed at risk of harm.
- Staff members will ensure that fear of sharing information does not stand in the way of their responsibility to promote the welfare and safety of pupils.
- The school also recognises the particular importance of inter-agency working in identifying and preventing child sexual exploitation (CSE).

### Abuse and neglect

- All members of staff will be aware that abuse, neglect and safeguarding issues are rarely standalone events that can be given a specific label and, as such, multiple issues often overlap one another.
- All staff will be aware of actions involving peer-on-peer abuse, and the necessary procedures to follow to prevent such abuse, as outlined in the school's Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy.
- All staff will be aware of the behaviours linked to drug taking, alcohol abuse, truancy and sexting, and will understand that these put pupils in danger.

# Types of abuse and neglect

<u>Abuse:</u> A form of maltreatment of a child which involves inflicting harm of failing to act to prevent harm. Children may be abused in a family, institutional or community setting by those known to them, or, more rarely, by others, e.g. via the internet.

<u>Physical abuse:</u> A form of abuse which may involve actions such as hitting, throwing, burning, drowning and poisoning, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical abuse can also be caused when a parent/carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

<u>Emotional abuse:</u> A form of abuse which involves the emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and adverse effects on the child's emotional development. This may involve telling a child they are worthless, unloved, inadequate, not giving them the opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them, or often making them feel as though they are in danger.

<u>Sexual abuse:</u> A form of abuse which involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, and whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. This may involve penetrative assault, such as touching, or non-penetrative actions, such as looking at sexual images or encouraging children to behave in inappropriate ways.

<u>Neglect:</u> A form of abuse which involves the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in serious impairment of a child's health or development. This may involve providing inadequate food, clothing or

shelter, or the inability to protect a child from physical or emotional harm, or ensure access to appropriate medical treatment.

# Possible Signs and Symptoms of abuse

Some of the following signs might be indicators of abuse or neglect:

- Children whose behaviour changes they may become aggressive, challenging, disruptive, withdrawn or clingy, or they might have difficulty sleeping or start wetting the bed:
- Children with clothes which are ill-fitting and/or dirty;
- Children with consistently poor hygiene;
- Children who make strong efforts to avoid specific family members or friends, without an obvious reason;
- Children who don't want to change clothes in front of others or participate in physical activities;
- Children who are having problems at school, for example, a sudden lack of concentration and learning or they appear to be tired and hungry;
- Children who talk about being left home alone, with inappropriate carers or with strangers;
- Children who reach developmental milestones, such as learning to speak or walk, late, with no medical reason;
- Children who are regularly missing from school or education;
- Children who are reluctant to go home after school;
- Children with poor school attendance and punctuality, or who are consistently late being picked up;
- Parents who are dismissive and non-responsive to practitioners' concerns;
- Parents who collect their children from school when drunk, or under the influence of drugs;
- Children who drink alcohol regularly from an early age;
- Children who are concerned for younger siblings without explaining why;
- Children who talk about running away; and
- Children who shy away from being touched or flinch at sudden movements.

#### Physical abuse

Some of the following signs may be indicators of physical abuse:

- Children with frequent injuries:
- Children with unexplained or unusual fractures or broken bones; and
- Children with unexplained:
  - bruises or cuts:
  - burns or scalds; or
  - bite marks.

### Emotional abuse

Some of the following signs may be indicators of emotional abuse:

- Children who are excessively withdrawn, fearful, or anxious about doing something wrong;
- Parents or carers who withdraw their attention from their child, giving the child the 'cold shoulder';
- Parents or carers blaming their problems on their child: and
- Parents or carers who humiliate their child, for example, by name-calling or making negative comparisons.

#### Sexual abuse

Some of the following signs may be indicators of sexual abuse:

- Children who display knowledge or interest in sexual acts inappropriate to their age;
- Children who use sexual language or have sexual knowledge that you wouldn't expect them to have;
- · Children who ask others to behave sexually or play sexual games; and
- Children with physical sexual health problems, including soreness in the genital and anal areas, sexually transmitted infections or underage pregnancy.

# Sexual exploitation

Some of the following signs may be indicators of sexual exploitation:

- Children who appear with unexplained gifts or new possessions;
- Children who associate with other young people involved in exploitation;
- Children who have older boyfriends or girlfriends;
- Children who suffer from sexually transmitted infections or become pregnant;
- Children who suffer from changes in emotional well-being;
- Children who misuse drugs and alcohol;
- Children who go missing for periods of time or regularly come home late; and
- Children who regularly miss school or education or don't take part in education.

#### Neglect

Some of the following signs may be indicators of neglect:

- Children who are living in a home that is indisputably dirty or unsafe;
- Children who are left hungry or dirty;
- Children who are left without adequate clothing, e.g. not having a winter coat;
- Children who are living in dangerous conditions, i.e. around drugs, alcohol or violence:
- Children who are often angry, aggressive or self-harm;
- Children who fail to receive basic health care; and
- Parents who fail to seek medical treatment when their children are ill or are injured.

### Female genital mutilation (FGM)

For the purpose of this policy, "female genital mutilation", commonly referred to as FGM, is defined as the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or any other injury to the female genital organs.

- All staff will be alert to the possibility of a girl being at risk of FGM, or already having suffered FGM. If staff members are worried about someone who is at risk of FGM or who has been a victim of FGM, they are required to share this information with social care or the police.
- Teachers are personally required to report to the police any discovery, whether through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence, of FGM on a girl under the age of 18. Teachers failing to report such cases will face disciplinary action.

NB. The above does not apply to any suspected or at risk cases, nor if the individual is over the age of 18. In such cases, local safeguarding procedures will be followed.

- There are a range of potential indicators that a pupil may be at risk of FGM. While
  individually they may not indicate risk, if two or more indicators are present, this
  could signal a risk to the pupil.
- Victims of FGM are most likely to come from communities that are known to adopt this practice. It is important to note that the pupil may not yet be aware of

the practice or that it may be conducted on them, so it is important for staff to be sensitive when broaching the subject.

# Indicators that may show a heightened risk of FGM include the following:

- The position of the family and their level of integration into UK society
- Any girl with a mother or sister who has been subjected to FGM
- Any girl withdrawn from personal, social and health education (PSHE)

# Indicators that may show FGM could take place soon:

- The risk of FGM increases when a female family elder is visiting from a country of origin
- A girl may confide that she is to have a 'special procedure' or a ceremony to 'become a woman'
- A girl may request help from a teacher if she is aware or suspects that she is at immediate risk
- A girl, or her family member, may talk about a long holiday to her country of origin or another country where the practice is prevalent

It is important that staff look for signs that FGM has already taken place so that help can be offered, enquiries can be made to protect others, and criminal investigations can begin.

# Indicators that FGM may have already taken place include the following:

- Difficulty walking, sitting or standing
- Spending longer than normal in the bathroom or toilet
- Spending long periods of time away from a classroom during the day with bladder or menstrual problems
- Prolonged or repeated absences from school followed by withdrawal or depression
- Reluctance to undergo normal medical examinations
- Asking for help, but not being explicit about the problem due to embarrassment or fear

Teachers will not examine pupils, and so it is rare that they will see any visual evidence, but they will report to the police where an act of FGM appears to have been carried out. Unless the teacher has a good reason not to, they should also consider and discuss any such case with the DSL and involve Children's Social Care as appropriate.

FGM is also included in the definition of 'honour-based' violence (HBV), which involves crimes that have been committed to defend the honour of the family and/or community, alongside forced marriage and breast ironing. All forms of HBV are forms of abuse, and will be treated and escalated as such.

Staff will be alert to the signs of HBV, including concerns that a child is at risk of HBV, or has already suffered from HBV, and will activate local safeguarding procedures if concerns arise.

#### Forced marriage

For the purpose of this policy, a "forced marriage" is defined as a marriage that is entered into without the full and free consent of one or both parties, and where violence, threats or any other form of coercion is used to cause a person to enter into the marriage. Forced marriage is classed as a crime in the UK.

As part of HBV, staff will be alert to the signs of forced marriage, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Becoming anxious, depressed and emotionally withdrawn with low self-esteem
- Showing signs of mental health disorders and behaviours such as self-harm or anorexia
- Displaying a sudden decline in their educational performance, aspirations or motivation
- Regularly being absent from school
- Displaying a decline in punctuality
- An obvious family history of older siblings leaving education early and marrying early

If staff members have any concerns regarding a child who may have undergone, is currently undergoing, or is at risk of, forced marriage, they will speak to the DSL and local safeguarding procedures will be followed.

# Child sexual exploitation (CSE)

For the purpose of this policy, "child sexual exploitation" is defined as: a form of sexual abuse where children are sexually exploited for money, power or status.

CSE can take many forms but the perpetrator will always hold some kind of power over the victim. It is important to note that some young people who are being sexually abused do not exhibit any external signs of abuse.

Brookland Infant and Nursery School and Junior School has adopted the following procedure for handling cases of CSE, as outlined by the DfE:

# 1. <u>Identifying cases</u>

School staff members are aware of and look for the key indicators of CSE; these are as follows:

- Going missing for periods of time or regularly going home late
- Regularly missing lessons
- Appearing with unexplained gifts and new possessions
- Associating with other young people involved in exploitation
- Having older boyfriends or girlfriends
- Undergoing mood swings or drastic changes in emotional wellbeing
- Displaying inappropriate sexualised behaviour
- Suffering from sexually transmitted infections or becoming pregnant
- Displaying changes in emotional wellbeing
- Misusing drugs or alcohol

### 2. Referring cases

Where CSE, or the risk of it, is suspected, staff will discuss the case with the dedicated member of staff for child protection. If after discussion a concern still remains, local safeguarding procedures will be triggered, including referral to the LA.

# 3. Support

The LA and all other necessary authorities will then handle the matter to conclusion. The school will cooperate as needed.

# **Child Criminal Exploitation: County Lines**

A key indicator for identifying potential involvement are missing episodes from school. Exploitation can increasingly involve younger children and is typified by imbalance of power in favour of the perpetrator, which may be an individual or group. Force, enticement and threats are used for compliance.

# **Preventing radicalisation**

Protecting children from the risk of radicalisation is part of the school's wider safeguarding duties. Brookland Infant and Nursery School and Junior School will actively assess the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism. Staff will be alert to changes in pupils' behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. Staff will use their professional judgement to identify pupils who may be at risk of radicalisation and act appropriately, which may include making a referral to the Channel programme. The school will work with the LSCB as appropriate. The school will ensure that they engage with parents/carers and families, as they are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation. In doing so, the school will assist and advise family members who raise concerns, and provide information for support mechanisms. Any concerns over radicalisation will be discussed with a child's parents/carers, unless the school has reason to believe that the child would be placed at risk as a result.

# **Training**

The DSL will undertake Prevent awareness training to be able to provide advice and support to other staff on how to protect children against the risk of radicalisation. The DSL will hold formal training sessions with all members of staff to ensure they are aware of the risk indicators and their duties regarding preventing radicalisation.

#### Risk indicators

Indicators of an identity crisis:

- Distancing themselves from their cultural/religious heritage
- Uncomfortable with their place in society

Indicators of a personal crisis:

- Family tensions
- A sense of isolation
- Low self-esteem
- Disassociation from existing friendship groups
- Searching for answers to questions about identify, faith and belonging

Indicators of vulnerability through personal circumstances:

- Migration
- Local community tensions
- Events affecting their country or region of origin
- Alienation from UK values
- A sense of grievance triggered by personal experience of racism or discrimination Indicators of vulnerability through unmet aspirations:
- Perceptions of injustice
- Feelings of failure
- Rejection of civic life

Indicators of vulnerability through criminality:

- Experiences of dealing with the police
- Involvement with criminal groups

#### Making a judgement

When making a judgement, staff will ask themselves the following questions:

- Does the pupil have access to extremist influences?
- Does the pupil access the internet for the purposes of extremist activities (e.g. using closed network groups, accessing or distributing extremist material, contacting covertly using Skype)?

- Is there a reason to believe that the pupil has been, or is likely to be, involved with extremist organisations?
- Is the pupil known to have possessed, or be actively seeking, extremist literature/other media likely to incite racial or religious hatred?
- Does the pupil sympathise with or support illegal/illicit groups?
- Does the pupil support groups with links to extremist activity?
- Has the pupil encountered peer, social, family or faith group rejection?
- Is there evidence of extremist ideological, political or religious influence on the pupil?
- Have international events in areas of conflict and civil unrest had a noticeable impact on the pupil?
- Has there been a significant shift in the pupil's outward appearance that suggests a new social, political or religious influence?
- Has the pupil come into conflict with family over religious beliefs, lifestyle or dress choices?
- Does the pupil vocally support terrorist attacks; either verbally or in their written work?
- Has the pupil witnessed or been the victim of racial or religious hate crime?
- Is there a pattern of regular or extended travel within the UK?
- Has the pupil travelled for extended periods of time to international locations?
- Has the pupil employed any methods to disguise their identity?
- Does the pupil have experience of poverty, disadvantage, discrimination or social exclusion?
- Does the pupil display a lack of affinity or understanding for others?
- Is the pupil the victim of social isolation?
- Does the pupil demonstrate a simplistic or flawed understanding of religion or politics?
- Is the pupil a foreign national or refugee, or awaiting a decision on their/their family's immigration status?
- Does the pupil have insecure, conflicted or absent family relationships?
- Has the pupil experienced any trauma in their lives, particularly trauma associated with war or sectarian conflict?
- Is there evidence that a significant adult or other person in the pupil's life has extremist views or sympathies?

Critical indicators include where the pupil is:

- In contact with extremist recruiters.
- Articulating support for extremist causes or leaders.
- Accessing extremist websites.
- Possessing extremist literature.
- Using extremist narratives and a global ideology to explain personal disadvantage.
- Justifying the use of violence to solve societal issues.
- Joining extremist organisations.
- Making significant changes to their appearance and/or behaviour.

Any member of staff who identifies such concerns, as a result of observed behaviour or reports of conversations, will report these to the DSL. The DSL will consider whether a situation may be so serious that an emergency response is required. In this situation, a 999 call will be made; however, concerns are most likely to require a police investigation as part of the Channel programme, in the first instance.

### Channel programme

Safeguarding children is a key role for both the school and the LA, which is implemented through the use of the Channel programme. This service shall be used where a vulnerable pupil is at risk of being involved in terrorist activities. The contact for Channel and advice is: Ben Taylor, Prevent co-ordinator, 020 8359 2995. cases where the school believes a pupil is potentially at serious risk of being radicalised, the headteacher or DSL will contact the Channel programme. The Channel programme ensures that vulnerable children and adults of any faith, ethnicity or background, receive support before their vulnerabilities are exploited by those that would want them to embrace terrorism, and before they become involved in criminal terrorist-related activity. The programme identifies individuals at risk, assesses the extent of that risk, and develops the most appropriate support plan for the individuals concerned, with multi-agency cooperation and support from name of school. The delivery of the Channel programme may often overlap with the implementation of the LA's or school's wider safeguarding duty, especially where vulnerabilities have been identified that require intervention from social services, or where the individual is already known to social services.

### Extremist speakers

The lettings contracts prevents speakers who may promote extremist views from using the school premises.

### Building children's skills, knowledge and understanding

Brookland Infant and Nursery School and Junior School will:

- Provide a safe environment for debating controversial issues.
- Promote fundamental British values, alongside pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- Allow pupils time to explore sensitive and controversial issues.
- Provide pupils with the knowledge and skills to understand and manage potentially difficult situations, recognise risk, make safe choices and recognise where pressure from others threatens their personal safety and wellbeing.
- Equip pupils to explore political and social issues critically, weigh evidence, debate, and make reasoned arguments.
- Teach pupils about how democracy, government and law making/enforcement occurs.
- Teach pupils about mutual respect and understanding for the diverse national, regional, religious and ethnic identities of the UK.

The NSPCC lead an Assembly every 3 years to explain the work of Child Line.

#### **Internet, Computing and Online Safety**

- The children are encouraged to access the internet in school and are taught safe practice.
- Parents are asked to give written permission for the use of the internet on entry to school. Parents must sign a usage form to ensure that the risks and sanctions are clearly understood in and beyond school.
- If staff know of misuse by a staff member, volunteer or child the issue must be reported to the Headteacher immediately.
- The Headteacher has overall responsibility for internet safety, including ensuring the use of additional user-level URL filtering using the Synetrix USO service and the Headteacher will have access to all usernames and passwords provided. (see also Online Safety Policy and appendices for staff and parent use of mobiles

- phones cameras and video cameras in and around school, Acceptable use of ICT Policy)
- The school has taken a balanced approach to the photographing and videoing of children at school events. Taking pictures and videos of children's achievement and activities is a wonderful way of capturing memories and promoting success.
   We expect parents to be responsible in their use of such images. (see Home/School/Child and Online safety agreement)

Brookland Infant and Nursery School and Junior School will ensure that suitable filtering systems are in place to prevent children accessing terrorist and extremist material, in accordance with the school's Online Safety Policy. The use of mobile phones by staff and pupils is closely monitored by the school, in accordance with the Acceptable Use of ICT Policy.

# **Good Practice in Intimate Care**

- All children have the right to be treated with dignity and respect. These guidelines are designed to support good practice in intimate care and to safeguard both children from abuse and staff from false allegations. (see also Changing Policy and Safeguarding Guidelines for swimming)
- Young children are vulnerable. Staff involved in their care need to be sensitive to a child's needs and to be aware that some tasks may be open to misinterpretation.

### Working with Pupils of the Opposite Sex

- There is positive value in both female and male staff being involved in appropriate ways with children. Ideally every child should be offered the choice of a same sex carer for their intimate care. Staff should be aware of the procedures described in intimate care and the changing policy.
- When children are engaged in outside trips, staff should check that male public toilets are suitable for use by entering them and checking if possible. Otherwise boys should use female public toilets so to allow supervision at all times.

#### Resources

Brookland Infant and Nursery School and Junior School will utilise the following resources:

- The LSCB
- Local police (contacted via 101 for non-emergencies)
- The DfE's dedicated helpline (020 7340 7264)
- The Channel awareness programme
- The Educate Against Hate website

# A child missing from education

A child going missing from school is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect and, as such, these children are increasingly at risk of being victims of harm, exploitation or radicalisation. Staff will monitor pupils that go missing from the school, particularly on repeat occasions, and report them to the DSL following normal safeguarding procedures. Brookland Infant and Nursery School and Junior School will inform the LA (Education Welfare Team 020 8359 7684) of any pupil who fails to attend regularly, or has been absent without the school's permission for a continuous period of 10 school days or more.

#### Admissions register

Pupils are placed on the admissions register at the beginning of the first day that is agreed by the school, or when the school has been notified that the pupil will first be attending. The school will notify the LA within five days of when a pupil's name is added to the admissions register. The school will ensure that the admissions register is kept up-to-date and accurate at all times, and will inform parents/carers when any changes occur. Staff will monitor pupils who do not attend the school on the agreed date, and will notify the LA at the earliest opportunity.

If a parent/carer notifies the school that their child will live at a different address, the school will record the following information on the admissions register:

- The full name of the parent/carer with whom the pupil will live
- The new address
- The date from when the pupil will live at this address

The school will require 2 additional emergency contact numbers on file to contact in case the primary contact can't be reached.

If a parent/carer notifies the school that their child will be attending a different school, or is already registered a different school, the following information will be recorded on the admissions register:

- The name of the new school
- The date on which the pupil first attended, or is due to attend, that school Where a pupil moves to a new school, the school will use the internet system school2school to securely transfer pupils' data.

In order to ensure accurate data is collected to allow effective safeguarding, the school will inform the LA of any pupil who is going to be deleted from the admission register, in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (as amended), where they:

- Have been taken out of the school by their parents/carers, and are being educated outside the national education system, e.g. home education.
- Have ceased to attend the school, and no longer live within a reasonable distance of the premises.
- Have been certified by the school's medical officer as unlikely to be in a fit state
  of health to attend, before ceasing to be of compulsory school age, and neither
  he/she nor his/her parent/carer has indicated the intention to continue to attend
  the school after ceasing to be of compulsory school age.
- Have been in custody for a period of more than four months due to a final court order and the school does not reasonably believe they will be returning to the school at the end of that period.
- Have been permanently excluded.

The school will also remove a pupil from the admissions register where the school and LA has been unable to establish the pupil's whereabouts after making reasonable enquiries into their attendance. If a pupil is to be removed from the admissions register, the school will provide the LA with the following information:

- The full name of the pupil
- The full name and address of any parent/carer with whom the pupil lives
- At least one telephone number of the parent/carer with whom the pupil lives
- The full name and address of the parent/carer with whom the pupil is going to live, and the date that the pupil will start living there, if applicable
- The name of the pupil's new school and the pupil's expected start date there, if applicable

 The grounds for removal from the admissions register under regulation 8 of the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

The school will work with the LA to establish methods of making returns for pupils back into the school. The school will highlight to the LA where they have been unable to obtain necessary information from parents/carers, e.g. where an address is unknown.

The school will also highlight any other necessary, contextual information, including safeguarding concerns.

# Pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

The school recognises that pupils with SEND can face additional safeguarding challenges, and understands that further barriers may exist when determining abuse and neglect in this group of pupils.

Staff will be aware of the following:

- Certain indicators of abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury may relate to the pupil's disability and these should never be ignored or dismissed as indicators of abuse without further exploration
- Pupils with SEND are statically more at risk of abuse
- Pupils with SEND can be disproportionally impacted by things like bullying, without outwardly showing any signs
- Communication barriers may exist, as well as difficulties in overcoming these barriers

When reporting concerns or making referrals for pupils with SEND, the above factors will always be taken into consideration.

# Allegations of abuse against other pupils – peer on peer abuse

All staff will be aware that pupils are capable of abusing their peers, and will never tolerate abuse as "banter" or "part of growing up". The school is aware that peer-on-peer abuse can be manifested in many different ways, including sexting and gender issues, such as girls being sexually touched or assaulted, and boys being subjected to hazing/initiation type of violence, which aims to cause physical, emotional or psychological harm. All allegations of abuse made against other pupils and the disciplinary action necessary will be dealt with in accordance with the procedures outlined in the school's Anti-Bullying Policy.

The DSL will be informed of any allegations of abuse against other pupils, who will record the incident in writing and decide what course of action is necessary, with the best interests of the pupil in mind at all times. If appropriate, a referral may be made to children's social services and, depending on the nature of the incident, the police.

The DSL will decide which safeguards, if any, are necessary for the pupil, e.g. counselling support or immediate protection. In all cases, parents/carers will be informed of the incident and how it is being managed, unless doing so would put the pupil at further risk of harm.

In order to prevent peer-on-peer abuse, the school will educate pupils about abuse, its forms, the importance of discussing any concerns and respecting others, through the curriculum, assemblies and PSHE lessons. The school will also ensure that pupils are taught about safeguarding, including online safety, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum in PSHE lessons, sex and relationship education (SRE).

### **Private fostering**

A private fostering arrangement is one that is made privately (without the involvement of a local authority) for the care of a child under the age of 16 years

(under 18, if disabled) by someone other than a parent or close relative, in their own home, with the intention that it should last for 28 days or more.

A close family relative is defined as a 'grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt' and includes half-siblings and step-parents; it does not include great-aunts or uncles, great grandparents or cousins.

Parents and private foster carers both have a legal duty to inform the relevant local authority at least six weeks before the arrangement is due to start; not to do so is a criminal offence.

Whilst most privately fostered children are appropriately supported and looked after, they are a potentially vulnerable group who should be monitored by the local authority, particularly when the child has come from another country. In some cases privately fostered children are affected by abuse and neglect, or be involved in trafficking, child sexual exploitation or modern-day slavery.

Schools have a mandatory duty to report to the local authority where they are aware or suspect that a child is subject to a private fostering arrangement. Although schools have a duty to inform the local authority, there is no duty for anyone, including the private foster carer or social workers to inform the school. However, it should be clear to the school who has parental responsibility.

School staff should notify the DSL when they become aware of private fostering arrangements. The DSL will speak to the family of the child involved to check that they are aware of their duty to inform the LA. The school itself has a duty to inform the local authority of the private fostering arrangements.

### Homelessness

Being homeless or at risk of becoming homeless prevents a significant risk to welfare. The Safeguarding team are able to raise concerns with Barnet Housing and a referral to MASH would also be made where appropriate. Indicators that a family may be at risk of homelessness include debt, rent arrears, domestic abuse, anti social behaviour.

### Children with family members in prison

These children are at risk of poor outcomes and mental health concerns and will be a priority for monitoring and support

# Handling a sexting / nude selfie incident

UKCCIS "Sexting in schools and colleges" should be used. This extract gives the initial actions that should be taken:

There should always be an initial review meeting, led by the DSL. This should consider the initial evidence and aim to establish:

- Whether there is an immediate risk to a young person or young people. When assessing the risks the following should be considered:
- ✓ Why was the imagery shared? Was the young person coerced or put under pressure to produce the imagery?
- ✓ Who has shared the imagery? Where has the imagery been shared? Was it shared and received with the knowledge of the pupil in the imagery?
- ✓ Are there any adults involved in the sharing of imagery?
- ✓ What is the impact on the pupils involved?
- ✓ Do the pupils involved have additional vulnerabilities?
- ✓ Does the young person understand consent?
- ✓ Has the young person taken part in this kind of activity before?
  - If a referral should be made to the police and/or MASH

**Safer recruitment** (Please also see the Safer Recruitment Policy)

An enhanced DBS check with barred list information will be undertaken for all staff members engaged in regulated activity. A person will be considered to be in 'regulated activity' if, as a result of their work, they:

- Are responsible on a daily basis for the care or supervision of children.
- Regularly work in the school at times when children are on the premises.
- Regularly come into contact with children under 18 years of age.

### Pre-employment checks

The governing body will ensure the school administrator carries out the following checks on prospective employees:

- Verifying the candidate's identity, preferably from current photographic ID and proof of address except where, for exceptional reasons, none is available.
- Obtaining a certificate for an enhanced DBS check with barred list information where the person will be engaged in regulated activity.
- Obtaining a separate barred list check if an individual will start work in regulated activity before the DBS certificate is available.
- Checking that a candidate to be employed as a teacher is not subject to a prohibition order issued by the Secretary of State, using the <u>Teacher Services'</u> <u>System</u>.
- Verifying the candidate's mental and physical fitness to undertake their working responsibilities, including asking relevant questions about disability and health to establish whether they have the physical and mental capacity for the specific role.
- Checking the person's right to work in the UK. If there is uncertainty about whether an individual needs permission to work in the UK, the advice set out on the Gov.UK website will be followed.
- If the person has lived or worked outside the UK, making any further checks that
  the school considers appropriate; this includes checking for any teacher
  sanctions or restrictions that an EEA professional regulating authority has
  imposed.
- Checking professional experience and qualifications as appropriate.

A DBS certificate will be obtained from candidates before or as soon as practicable after appointment. An online update check may be undertaken through the DBS update service if an applicant has subscribed to it and gives their permission.

An enhanced DBS certificate and barred list check will be obtained for all trainee teachers.

An enhanced criminal records DBS check will be carried out for each member of the governing body.

The school will refer to the DBS anyone who has harmed a child, poses a risk of harm to a child, or if there is reason to believe the member of staff has committed an offence and has been removed from working in regulated activity. A supervised volunteer who regularly teaches or looks after children is not in regulated activity.

For those who have lived or worked outside of the UK, additional checks regarding teacher sanctions or restrictions will be conducted; this includes checking for any teacher sanctions or restrictions that an EEA professional regulating authority has imposed.

#### Barred list check

An enhanced DBS check may be requested for anyone working in the school that is not in regulated activity, but not with a barred list check.

If there are concerns about an applicant, an enhanced DBS check with barred list information may be requested, even if he/she has worked in regulated activity in the three months prior to appointment.

Written information about their previous employment history will be obtained from candidates and the appropriate checks undertaken to ensure information is not contradictory or incomplete.

#### References

References will be obtained directly from referees and scrutinised, with all concerns satisfactorily resolved prior to confirmation of employment.

References will be sought on all short-listed candidates, including internal ones, before interview and checked on receipt to ensure that all specific questions were answered satisfactorily.

Information about past disciplinary action or allegations will be considered carefully when assessing an applicant's suitability for a post.

Checks will be conducted to ensure that the contractor presenting themselves for work is the same person on whom the checks have been made.

### Volunteers

No volunteer will be left unsupervised or allowed to work in regulated activity until the necessary checks have been obtained.

An enhanced DBS certificate with barred list check will be obtained for all new volunteers in regulated activity that will regularly teach or look after children on an unsupervised basis or provide personal care on a one-off basis.

An enhanced DBS certificate will be obtained for new volunteers not in regulated activity.

The school will consider obtaining an enhanced DBS certificate with barred list check for existing volunteers that provide pastoral care.

Unless there is cause for concern, the school will not request a DBS certificate with barred list check for other unsupervised volunteers that are continuing with their current studies, as the volunteer should already have been checked.

A risk assessment will be undertaken for volunteers not engaged in regulated activity when deciding whether to seek an enhanced DBS check.

The school will ensure that policies and procedures are in place to protect pupils from harm during work experience placements.

The school will ensure that any contractor or employee of the contractor working on the premises has been subject to the appropriate level of DBS check.

Contractors without a DBS check will be supervised if they will have contact with children. The identity of the contractor will be checked upon their arrival at the school.

DBS certificates will be securely destroyed as soon as practicable, but not retained for longer than six months from receipt, as outlined in The Data Protection Act 1998. A copy of the other documents used to verify the successful candidate's identity, right to work and required qualifications will be kept for the personnel file.

### Visitors

All visitors who come into school between 8.45 am and 3.30 pm report to the secretary, signing their name in the visitors book with their time of arrival and departure. Visitors are given a badge to wear. Parents are also asked to come to the office during school hours in order to collect, return or give messages to children.

# Single central record (SCR)

The school keeps an SCR which records all staff, including supply staff and teacher trainees on salaried routes, who work at the school.

The following information is recorded on the SCR:

- An identity check
- A barred list check
- An enhanced DBS check
- A prohibition from teaching check
- A check of professional qualifications
- A check to determine the individual's right to work in the UK
- Additional checks for those who have lived or worked outside of the UK

For supply staff, the school will also record whether written confirmation from the employment business supplying the member of staff has been received, which indicates that all of the necessary checks have been conducted and the date that confirmation was received.

If any checks have been conducted for volunteers, this will also be recorded on the SCR.

# **Training**

Staff members will undergo safeguarding and child protection training at induction, which will be regularly updated, and will be in line with advice from the LSCB.

All staff members will also receive regular safeguarding and child protection updates as required, but at least annually.

At the beginning of each academic year the staff will be reminded of and asked to sign that they have read and understood the following: Child Protection and Safeguarding policy, staff code of conduct, Acceptable use of ICT, guidelines regarding disqualification by association. Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018 including Annex A

The school administrator keeps a record of all safeguarding training as part of our Single Central Record.

All staff are required to attend level 1 child protection training every 2 years

Staff will receive opportunities to contribute towards and inform the safeguarding arrangements in the school.

The DSL will undergo updated child protection training every two years, as well as additional training to refresh their skills and knowledge at regular intervals (at least annually) to allow them to keep up with any developments relevant to their role.

The DSL will also undergo regular Prevent awareness training which will enable them to understand and support the school with regards to the Prevent duty, and equip them with the knowledge needed to advise staff.

If the school decides to appoint a deputy DSL, they will also undergo the same training as the DSL and, therefore, will be trained to the same standard, though ultimately, the DSL will lead safeguarding practices at the school.

Online training may also be conducted for all staff members as part of the overall safeguarding approach.

It is recognised that involvement in cases of child protection can be stressful and distressing for members of staff. Nominated DSLs will endeavour to provide 'debriefing' sessions for colleagues as required.

All governors should be aware of their responsibilities with regard to safeguarding and will be kept up to date through the safeguarding committee. The safeguarding

governor will attend relevant training, including level 3 safeguarding to support their role.

# **Monitoring and review**

This policy is reviewed annually by the safeguarding committee supported by the Designated Safeguarding Lead (headteachers). Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of the school community.

All members of staff are required to familiarise themselves with all processes and procedures outlined in this policy as part of their induction programme.

# **Legal framework**

This policy has consideration for, and be is compliant with, the following legislation and statutory guidance:

#### Legislation

- The Children Act 1989
- The Children Act 2004
- The Education Act 2002
- The Education (Health Standards) (England) Regulations 2003
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- School Staffing (England) Regulations 2009 (As amended)
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- The Education (School Teachers' Appraisal) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)
- The Children and Families Act 2014
- The Sexual Offences Act 2003
- The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

# Statutory guidance

- DfE (2018) 'Working together to safeguard children'
- DfE (2018) 'Keeping children safe in education'
- DfE (2015) 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused'
- DfE (2015) 'Information sharing'
- DfE (2015) 'The Prevent duty'
- HM Government (2014) 'Multi-agency practice guidelines: Handling cases of Forced