ST ALBANS
EDUCATION GROUP

Safeguarding & Child Protection

August 2026

A group of sector-leading Independent Schools

STAHS

PREP SENIOR SIXTH

PART OF

ST ALBANS EDUCATION GROUP

P01: Safeguarding and Child Protection

Owner/s: School DSL	Date reviewed: August 2026
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Key Contact Details – External Agencies

Agency/Service	Contact Details
Disclosure and Barring Service	Address: DBS Customer Services PO Box 3961 Royal Wootton Bassett SN4 4HF Telephone: 0300 0200 190 customerservices@dbs.gov.uk
Teaching Regulation Agency	Address: Teacher Regulation Agency Cheylesmore House 5 Quinton Road Coventry CV1 2WT Misconduct.teacher@education.gov.uk
OFSTED Safeguarding Children	Telephone: 0300 1231 231 enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership	Address: Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Team Farnham House Stevenage SG1 2FQ Telephone: 030 0123 4043
Hertfordshire Designated Officer (LADO)	Telephone: 01992 555420 LADO.Referral@hertfordshire.gov.uk
Forced Marriage Unit	020 7008 0151 fmu@fcdo.gov.uk
Reporting Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)	Police 101
NSPCC Helpline	For adults who are concerned about a child: 0808 800 5000 For children and young people (Childline): 0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk/get-support/contacting-childline/

Key Contact Details – STAEG and STAHS

Governors		
Chair of Governors	Mrs Alison Arnold	01727 853800 ext. 219 (via the School) Arnold.Alison@STAEG.org.uk
Nominated Safeguarding Governor	Mrs Liz Gregory	01727 853800 ext. 219 (via the School) Gregory.Liz@STAEG.org.uk
STAEG Executive Team		
Principal	Mrs Amber Waite	01727 853800 ext. 219 Principal@STAEG.org.uk
Out-of-hours contact for referring urgent safeguarding concerns regarding staff	Email the Head of the relevant school. If they are unavailable, contact the Principal, the Nominated Safeguarding Governor or the Chair of Governors; otherwise contact Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership.	

Role	STAHS Prep	STAHS Senior
Head	Mr Mike Bryant 01582 839270 BryantM@STAHS.org.uk	Mrs Ann Massey 01582 839270 MasseyA@STAHS.org.uk
Designated School Safeguarding Lead (School DSL)	Mrs Catherine Kordel Acting Deputy Head Pastoral (based at Senior School) 07714 248873 01727 792510 KordelC@STAHS.org.uk	Mrs Catherine Kordel Acting Deputy Head Pastoral 07714 248873 01727 792510 KordelC@STAHS.org.uk
Designated Teacher for Looked after Children	The School's DSL	The School's DSL
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs)	Mrs Lucy Still Deputy Head Pastoral (Prep) 01582 839270 StillL@STAHS.org.uk Miss Francesca Pay Head of Pre-Prep (EYFS) 01582 839270 PayF@STAHS.org.uk	Miss Hannah Woods Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead 01727 853800 WoodsH@STAHS.org.uk Mrs Helen Monighan Head of Sixth Form 01727 853800 MonighanHW@STAHS.org.uk

List of Terms/Acronyms

AI	Artificial Intelligence. Computer systems and software that are able to perform tasks that ordinarily require human intelligence, such as decision-making and the creation of images.
CCE	Child criminal exploitation. A form of abuse where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into taking part in criminal activity in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, for the financial advantage or other advantage of the perpetrator or facilitator, and/or through violence or the threat of violence.
CSCS	Children's Social Care Services. The branch of the local authority that deals with children's social care.
CSE	Child sexual exploitation. A form of sexual abuse where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into sexual activity in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, for the financial advantage, increased status, or other advantage of the perpetrator or facilitator, and/or through violence or the threat of violence.
CPOMS	CPOMS is the cloud-based safeguarding software used across STAEG schools to record, track and monitor safeguarding issues.
DBS	Disclosure and Barring Service. The service that performs the statutory check of criminal records for anyone working or volunteering in a school.
Designated Officer	The Officer who has overall responsibility at the Local Authority for the oversight of the procedures for dealing with safeguarding allegations against professionals or volunteers working with children. Also known as the LADO.
DfE	Department for Education. The national government body with responsibility for children's services, policy and education, including early years, schools, higher and further education policy, apprenticeships and wider skills in England.
DPO	Data Protection Officer. The appointed person in school with responsibility for overseeing data protection strategy and implementation to ensure compliance with the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act.
DSL	Designated Safeguarding Lead. A member of the senior leadership team who has lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection throughout the school.
EHCP	Education, Health and Care Plan. A funded intervention plan which coordinates the educational, health and care needs for pupils who have significant needs that impact on their learning and access to education. The plan identifies any additional support needs or interventions and the intended impact they will have for the pupil.
EYFS	Early Years Foundation Stage. A framework that sets standards for the learning, development, and care of children from birth to age 5 in England. It applies to all registered early years providers, including nurseries, childminders, preschools, and school reception classes.
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation. All procedures involving the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs. FGM is illegal in the UK and a form of child abuse with long-lasting harmful consequences.
HBA	'Honour-based' abuse. So-called 'honour-based' abuse involves crimes that have been committed to defend the honour of the family and/or community.
HSCP	Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
ISSR	Independent School Standards Regulations
KCSIE	*Keeping Children Safe in Education*. Statutory guidance setting out schools and colleges' duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
LA	Local Authority. A local government agency responsible for the provision of a range of services in a specified local area, including education.
LAC	Looked-after children. Children who have been placed in local authority care or where children's services have looked after children for more than a period of 24 hours.
PLAC	Children who were previously in local authority care or were looked after by children's services for more than a period of 24 hours. PLAC are also known as care leavers.
LADO	Local Area Designated Officer. Also known as the Designated Officer.

LGBTQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Queer plus. Term relating to a community of people, protected by the Equality Act 2010, who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender, or other protected sexual or gender identities.
PSHE	Personal, social and health education. A non-statutory subject in which pupils learn about themselves, other people, rights, responsibilities and relationships.
RSHE	Relationships, sex and health education. A compulsory subject from Year 7 for all pupils. Includes the teaching of sexual health, reproduction and sexuality, as well as promoting positive relationships.
SCR	Single central record. A statutory secure record of recruitment and identity checks for all permanent and temporary staff, proprietors, contractors, external coaches and instructors, and volunteers who attend the school in a non-visitor capacity.
SENDCo	Special educational needs and disabilities coordinator. A statutory role within all schools maintaining oversight and coordinating the implementation of the school's special educational needs policy and provision of education to pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
SLT	Senior Leadership Team. Staff members who have been delegated leadership responsibilities in a school.
STAEG	St Albans Education Group. The charitable company which operates STAHS Prep, STAHS Senior, St George's Windsor Castle, St George's Ascot and Stormont School.
STAHS	St Albans High School for Girls
TRA	Teaching Regulation Agency. An executive agency of the DfE with responsibility for the regulation of the teaching profession.
UK GDPR	UK General Data Protection Regulation. Legislative provision designed to strengthen the safety and security of all data held within an organization and ensure that procedures relating to personal data are fair and consistent.
VSH	Virtual School Head. VSHs are in charge of promoting the educational achievement of all the children looked after by the local authority they work for, and all children who currently have, or previously had, a social worker.

Definitions

The terms "STAEG" and "the Group" refer to all schools within the St Albans Education Group collectively and individually.

The terms "school" and "schools" refer individually or collectively to all schools within the St Albans Education Group.

The "School DSL" is the member of an individual school's SLT who has been appointed to take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection (including online safety and understanding and reviewing annually the filtering and monitoring systems and processes in place). This function is explicit in the role-holder's job description.

The "Deputy DSLs" are members of an individual school's staff who have received School DSL-level safeguarding training and support the School DSL in overseeing safeguarding and child protection within the school. This function is explicit in the role-holders' job descriptions.

The "Head" is the seniormost member of teaching staff in an individual STAEG school, and may be known locally by another term such as Head Teacher, Headmaster, Headmistress, etc. The Heads of STAEG schools are members of the STAEG Executive Team, and are appointed by the STAEG Principal and Governors.

The terms "children" and "child" refer to anyone under the age of 18.

For the purposes of this policy, "safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children" is defined as:

- Providing help and support to meet the needs of pupils as soon as problems emerge.
- Protecting pupils from maltreatment, whether that is within or outside the home, including online.
- Preventing the impairment of pupils' mental and physical 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.

For the purposes of this policy, harmful sexual behaviour is developmentally inappropriate sexual behaviour displayed by children which is harmful or abusive, including but not limited to sexual violence and sexual harassment. Harmful sexual behaviour can occur online and/or face to face.

For the purposes of this policy, "consent" is defined as having the freedom and capacity to choose to engage in sexual activity. Consent may be given to one sort of sexual activity but not another, and can be withdrawn at any time during sexual activity and each time activity occurs. A person only consents to a sexual activity if they agree by choice to that activity, and has the freedom and capacity to make that choice. Children under the age of 13 can never consent to any sexual activity. The age of consent is 16.

For the purposes of this policy, "sexual violence" refers to the following offences as defined under the Sexual Offences Act 2003:

- Rape: A person (A) commits an offence of rape if they intentionally penetrate the vagina, anus or mouth of another person (B) with their penis, B does not consent to the penetration, and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.
- Assault by penetration: A person (A) commits an offence if they intentionally penetrate the vagina or anus of another person (B) with a part of their body or anything else, the penetration is sexual, B does not consent to the penetration, and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.
- Sexual assault: A person (A) commits an offence of sexual assault if they intentionally touch another person (B), the touching is sexual, B does not consent to the touching, and A does not reasonably believe that B consents.
- Causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent: A person (A) commits an offence if they intentionally cause another person (B) to engage in an activity, the activity is sexual, B does not consent to engaging in the activity, and A does not reasonably believe that B consents. This could include forcing someone to strip, touch themselves sexually, or to engage in sexual activity with a third party.

For the purposes of this policy, "sexual harassment" refers to unwanted conduct of a sexual nature that occurs online or offline, inside or outside of school. Sexual harassment is likely to violate a pupil's dignity, make them feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated, and create a hostile, offensive, or sexualised environment. If left unchallenged, sexual harassment can create an atmosphere that normalises inappropriate behaviour and may lead to sexual violence. Sexual harassment can include, but is not limited to:

- Sexual comments, such as sexual stories, lewd comments, sexual remarks about clothes and appearance, and sexualised name-calling.
- Sexual "jokes" and taunting.
- Physical behaviour, such as deliberately brushing against someone, interfering with someone's clothes, and displaying images of a sexual nature.
- Online sexual harassment, which may be standalone or part of a wider pattern of sexual harassment and/or sexual violence. This includes:
    - Making or sharing nudes or semi-nudes. Sharing unwanted explicit content.
    - Upskirting.
    - Sexualised online bullying.
    - Unwanted sexual comments and messages, including on social media.
    - Sexual exploitation, coercion, and threats.

For the purposes of this policy, "upskirting" refers to the act, as identified the Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019, of taking a picture or video under another person's clothing, without their knowledge or consent, with the intention of viewing that person's genitals or buttocks, with or without clothing, to obtain sexual gratification, or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm. Upskirting is a criminal offence. Anyone, including pupils and staff, of any gender can be a victim of upskirting.

For the purposes of this policy, "making or sharing of nude or semi-nude images and/or videos" refers to the creation, possession or sharing of nude or semi-nude images and/or videos involving anyone under the age of 18. This includes consensual and non-consensual sharing, AI-generated content where it depicts a child, and content shared online or offline.

“Deep fakes” and “deep nudes” refer to digitally manipulated and AI-generated images, audio or videos that falsely depict a person. Where these involve nude or semi-nude images of a child, they will be managed in accordance with the school’s procedures for responding to the making or sharing of nude or semi-nude images and/or videos.

For the purposes of this policy, “indecent imagery” is defined as an image which meets one or more of the following criteria:

- Nude or semi-nude sexual posing
- A child touching themselves in a sexual way
- Any sexual activity involving a child
- Someone hurting a child sexually
- Sexual activity that involves animals

Indecent images also include indecent “pseudo-images”, which are images have been created or manipulated using computer software and/or AI.

For the purposes of this policy, “abuse” is defined as a form of maltreatment of a child which involves inflicting harm or failing to act to prevent harm. Harm can include ill treatment that is not physical as well as the impact of witnessing the ill treatment of others – this can be particularly relevant, for example, in relation to the impact on children of all forms of domestic abuse. Children may be abused in a family, institutional or community setting by those known to them or by others, e.g. via the internet. Abuse can take place wholly online, or technology may be used to facilitate offline abuse. Children may be abused by one or multiple adults or other children.

For the purposes of this policy, “physical abuse” is defined as a form of abuse which may involve actions such as hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical abuse can also be caused when a parent fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child.

For the purposes of this policy, “emotional abuse” is defined as the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and adverse effects on the child’s emotional development. This may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless, unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It can include persistent criticism. It may include not giving the child the opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them, ‘making fun’ of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age- or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children, such as interactions that are beyond their developmental capability, overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child from participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying, including cyberbullying, causing the child to frequently feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, but it may also occur alone.

For the purposes of this policy, “sexual abuse” is defined as abuse that involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving violence, and regardless of whether the child is aware of what is happening. This may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration, or non-penetrative acts, such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing, and touching outside of clothing. It may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse. Sexual abuse can be perpetrated by people of any gender and age.

For the purposes of this policy, “neglect” is defined as 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 a parent or carer failing to provide a child with adequate food, clothing or shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment); failing to protect a child from physical or emotional harm or danger; failing to ensure adequate supervision (including through the use of inappropriate caregivers); or failing to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child’s basic emotional needs.

1. This Policy

1.1 St Albans Education Group ("STAEG"/the "Group") is a group of independent preparatory and senior schools educating children aged 4 to 18 years. It currently comprises St Albans High School for Girls (STAHS) Senior and Prep, St George's Windsor, St George's Ascot and Stormont School.

1.2 This policy refers to STAHS, a member of STAEG.

1.3 STAEG is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the physical, mental and emotional welfare of every pupil, both inside and outside school premises. We implement a group-wide preventative approach to managing safeguarding concerns, ensuring that the wellbeing of pupils is at the forefront of all action taken.

1.4 This policy applies to all pupils at STAHS including those in EYFS settings and all staff (including full-time, part-time, contracted and volunteer) working in STAHS and to the Governors of the Group.

2. Legal Framework

2.1 This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

a. Legislation

a. Children Act 1989
b. Sexual Offences Act 2003
c. Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 (as inserted by the Serious Crime Act 2015)
d. Children Act 2004
e. Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
f. Apprenticeships, Children and Learning Act 2009
g. Equality Act 2010
h. The Education (School Teachers' Appraisal) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)
i. Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014
j. Crime and Policing Act 2026
k. Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015
l. The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
m. Data Protection Act 2018
n. Data (Use and Access) Act 2025
o. The Childcare (Disqualification) and Childcare (Early Years Provision Free of Charge) (Extended Entitlement) (Amendment) Regulations 2018
p. Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019
q. Domestic Abuse Act 2021
r. Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act 2022
s. Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026

b. Statutory Guidance

a. Home Office (2023) 'Prevent duty guidance: Guidance for specified authorities in England and Wales'
b. DfE (2026) 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2026'
c. DfE (2018) 'Disqualification under the Childcare Act 2006'
d. DfE (2026) 'Keeping children safe in education 2026'
e. DfE (2022, updated 2026) 'Working together to improve school attendance'
f. DfE (2026) 'Early years foundation stage statutory framework for group and school-based providers'
g. HM Government (2020) 'Multi-agency statutory guidance on female genital mutilation'
h. HM Government (2023) 'Channel Duty Guidance: Protecting people susceptible to radicalisation'
i. Home Office and Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (2023) 'Multi-agency statutory guidance for dealing with forced marriage and Multi-agency practice guidelines: Handling cases of forced marriage'

c. Non-statutory Guidance

a. DfE (2015) 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused'
b. DfE (2017) 'Child sexual exploitation'
c. DfE (2024) 'Information sharing'
d. DfE (2024) 'Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people'
e. DfE (2021) 'Teachers' Standards'
f. DfE (2024) 'Recruit teachers from overseas'
g. DfE (2026) 'Meeting digital and technology standards in schools and colleges'
h. Department of Health and Social Care (2025) 'Virginity testing and hymenoplasty: multi-agency guidance'
i. DfE (2026) 'Restrictive interventions, including use of reasonable force, in schools'

2.2 This policy and its related documents operate in conjunction with the following School policies and their related documents:

a. P03 Pastoral Care and Personal Development Policy (including PSHE and RSE)
b. P04 Pupil Behaviour Policy
c. P05 Anti-bullying Policy
d. P14 Data Protection Policy
e. P15 Internet Enabled Devices Policy
f. P16 HR and Employment Policy

3. Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 All STAEG staff have a responsibility to:

a. Consider, at all times, what is in the best interests of the pupil.
b. Maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned.
c. Provide a safe environment in which pupils can learn.
d. Read and understand at least 'Part one' of KCSIE.
e. Be prepared to identify pupils who may benefit from early help.
f. Be aware of the systems which support safeguarding, including any policies, procedures, information and training provided upon induction.
g. Be aware of the role and identity of the School DSLs and Deputy DSLs for the school in which they work.
h. Undertake safeguarding training, including online safety training (which, amongst other things, includes an understanding of the expectations and responsibilities relating to filtering and monitoring), during their induction – this will be regularly updated.
i. Receive and understand child protection and safeguarding (including online safety) updates, as required, including reading the STAEG Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, the Behaviour Policy, the Child Missing in Education Policy, the Staff Code of Conduct and Part 1 of KCSIE annually and participating in testing to show understanding of the policies at least annually.
j. Be aware of the school's arrangements for community-based early help and targeted family help and understand their role in identifying pupils who may benefit from support before statutory intervention.
k. Be aware of local safeguarding partnership arrangements and understand referral pathways to CSCS, including being aware of the criteria for referring a case to community-based Family Help and the criteria for referrals for an assessment under section 47 of the Children Act 1989.
l. Make a referral to CSCS and/or the police immediately, if at any point there is a risk of immediate serious harm to a child.
m. Support social workers in making decisions about individual children, in collaboration with the DSL.
n. Be aware of and understand the procedure to follow in the event that a child confides they are being abused, exploited or neglected.

o. Be aware that a pupil may not feel ready or know how to tell someone that they are being abused, exploited or neglected, and/or may not recognise their experiences as harmful.
p. Promote dialogue and understanding, and ensure all pupils feel listened to and understood.
q. Empower pupils and allow them to understand their rights to safety and privacy, and to help them understand what they can do to keep themselves protected from harm.
r. Avoid victim-blaming attitudes and challenge it in a professional way if it occurs.
s. Maintain appropriate levels of confidentiality when dealing with individual cases.
t. Reassure victims that they are being taken seriously, that they will be supported, and that they will be kept safe.
u. Speak to the DSL if they are unsure about how to handle safeguarding matters.
v. Be aware of safeguarding issues that, including technology-facilitated abuse, can put pupils at risk of harm.
w. Be aware of behaviours that could potentially be a sign that a pupil may be at risk of harm.

3.2 Teachers, including the Heads of STAEG schools, have a responsibility to:

a. Safeguard pupils' wellbeing and maintain public trust in the teaching profession as part of their professional duties, as outlined in the 'Teachers' Standards'.
b. Personally report any cases to the police where it appears that an act of FGM has been carried out, also referred to as 'known' cases, as soon as possible.

3.3 STAEG Governors have a duty to:

a. Take strategic leadership responsibility for the Group's safeguarding arrangements.
b. Ensure that STAEG schools each comply with their duties under the above child protection and safeguarding legislation.
c. Guarantee that the policies, procedures and training opportunities within STAEG schools are effective and comply with the law at all times.
d. Guarantee that STAEG schools contribute to multi-agency working in line with the statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children'.
e. Confirm that STAEG schools' safeguarding arrangements take into account the procedures and practices of the relevant LA as part of the inter-agency safeguarding procedures.
f. Understand the local criteria for action and the local protocol for assessment, and ensure these are reflected in each STAEG school's policies and procedures.
g. Comply with their obligations under section 14B of the Children Act 2004 to supply the local safeguarding arrangements with information to fulfil the functions of the governing board.
h. Ensure that all staff read at least Part one of KCSIE.
i. Ensure that mechanisms are in place to assist staff to understand and discharge their role and responsibilities in regard to safeguarding children.
j. Ensure a named governor takes responsibility for safeguarding arrangements within the board (the Safeguarding Governor).
k. Appoint, or ensure the appointment of, a member of staff with the appropriate skills and experience from each school's SLT to the role of School DSL as an explicit part of the role-holder's job description.
l. Appoint, or ensure the appointment of, one or more deputy DSLs within each STAEG school to provide support to the School DSL, ensure that they are trained to the same standard as the School DSL and that the role is explicit in their job descriptions.
m. Facilitate a whole-Group approach to safeguarding; this includes ensuring that safeguarding and child protection are at the forefront and underpin all relevant aspects of Group-wide and School-specific process and policy development.

n. Where there is a safeguarding concern, ensure the child's wishes and feelings are taken into account when determining what action to take and what services to provide.
o. Ensure systems are in place that enable children to confidently report abuse, knowing that their concerns will be treated seriously, and they can safely express their views and give feedback; these systems will be well-promoted, easily understood, and easily accessible.
p. Ensure that staff have due regard to relevant data protection principles that allow them to share and withhold personal information.
q. Ensure that a member of the governing board 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 another governor (the Safeguarding Governor).
r. Guarantee that there are effective and appropriate policies and procedures in place.
s. Ensure all relevant persons are aware of each school's local safeguarding arrangements, including the governing board itself, the Schools' SLTs and School DSLs.
t. Make sure that pupils are taught about safeguarding, including protection against dangers online (including when they are online at home), through teaching and learning opportunities, as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum.
u. Adhere to statutory responsibilities by conducting pre-employment checks on staff who work with children, taking proportionate decisions on whether to ask for any checks beyond what is required.
v. Ensure that staff are appropriately trained to support pupils to be themselves at school, e.g. if they are LGBTQ+.
w. Ensure each school has clear systems and processes in place for identifying possible mental health problems in pupils, including clear routes to escalate concerns and clear referral and accountability systems.
x. Guarantee that volunteers are appropriately supervised.
y. Make sure that at least one person on any appointment panel has undertaken safer recruitment training.
z. Ensure that all staff receive safeguarding and child protection training updates, e.g. emails, as required, but at least annually.
aa. Have overall strategic responsibility for filtering and monitoring, seek assurance that the filtering and monitoring standards for schools are being met, and that the effectiveness of filtering and monitoring systems is reviewed at least annually, including that appropriate checks are undertaken on all internet-connected devices and a record of those checks is maintained.
bb. Ensure that all governors receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training upon their induction and that this training is updated regularly.
cc. Certify that there are procedures in place to handle allegations against staff, supply staff, trainee teachers, volunteers and contractors.
dd. Confirm that there are procedures in place to make a referral to the DBS and the Teaching Regulation Agency (TRA), and other relevant bodies where appropriate, if a person in regulated activity has been dismissed or removed due to safeguarding concerns or would have been had they not resigned.
ee. Guarantee that there are procedures in place to handle pupils' allegations against other pupils.
ff. Ensure that appropriate disciplinary procedures are in place, as well as policies pertaining to the behaviour of pupils and staff.
gg. Ensure that procedures are in place to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, including those in relation to child-on-child abuse.
hh. Guarantee that there are systems in place for pupils to express their views and give feedback.
ii. Ensure that the school has effective arrangements in place for community-based early help and targeted family help, and that staff understand their role in identifying pupils who may benefit from support before statutory intervention.

jj. Ensure that the DSL within each school fulfils their responsibility as the Designated Teacher for Looked after Children to promote the educational achievement of LAC and ensure that this person has undergone appropriate training.

kk. Ensure that each school's DSL, in their capacity as the Designated Teacher for Looked after Children, liaises with the LA's VSH to discuss how the pupil premium funding can best be used to support LAC.

ll. Introduce mechanisms to assist staff in understanding and discharging their roles and responsibilities.

mm. 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.

nn. Put in place appropriate safeguarding responses for pupils who become absent from education, particularly on repeat occasions and/or for prolonged periods, to help identify any risk of abuse, neglect or exploitation, and prevent the risk of their disappearance in future.

oo. Ensure that all members of the governing board have been subject to an enhanced DBS check.

pp. Create a culture where staff are confident to challenge senior leaders over any safeguarding concerns.

qq. Be aware of their obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equality Act 2010 (including the Public Sector Equality Duty), the Data Protection Act 2018, the UK GDPR, and the local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements, the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025, and the local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements

rr. Ensure the appropriate arrangements are in place to provide effective DSL cover during school hours so that safeguarding concerns can always be responded to promptly.

3.4 The Head has a duty to:

a. Ensure that the policies and procedures adopted by the governing board, particularly concerning referrals of cases of suspected abuse and neglect, are followed by staff.

b. Provide staff with the appropriate policies and information upon induction.

3.5 The School DSL has a duty to:

a. Take lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection, including online safety and understanding the filtering and monitoring systems and processes in place.

b. Coordinating the school's approach to community-based early help and targeted family help.

c. Provide advice and support to other staff on child welfare, safeguarding and child protection matters.

d. Take part in strategy discussions and inter-agency meetings, and/or support other staff to do so.

e. Contribute to the assessment of children, and/or support other staff to do so.

f. During term time, be available during school hours for staff to discuss any safeguarding concerns. NB: Individual schools, working with the DSL, define what "available" means and whether, in exceptional circumstances, availability via phone, videocall, or other media is an acceptable substitution for in-person availability.

g. Arrange adequate and robust safeguarding cover for any activities outside of school hours or terms, as well as during periods when the DSL is unavailable due to illness, leaver or other circumstances. When this occurs, these arrangements will be made clear to all staff.

h. Refer cases:

    i. To CSCS where abuse and neglect are suspected, and support staff who make referrals to CSCS.

    ii. To the Channel programme where radicalisation concerns arise, and support staff who make referrals to the Channel programme.

    iii. To the DBS where a person is dismissed or has left due to harm, or risk of harm, to a child.

    iv. To the police where a crime may have been committed, in line with the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) guidance.

i. Act as a source of support, advice and expertise for all staff within their school.

j. Act as a point of contact with the safeguarding partners.

k. Liaise with the Head to inform them of issues, especially regarding ongoing enquiries under section 47 of the Children Act 1989 and police investigations.
l. Liaise with the deputy DSLs to ensure effective safeguarding outcomes.
m. Liaise with the case manager and the LA designated officers (LADOs) for child protection concerns in cases concerning staff.
n. Liaise with school staff on matters of safety, safeguarding and welfare, including online and digital safety.
o. Liaise with school staff when deciding whether to make a referral by liaising with relevant agencies so that children's needs are considered holistically, including through community-based early help, family help and statutory services where appropriate.
p. Liaise with the school's senior mental health lead and, where available, the mental health support team, where safeguarding concerns are linked to mental health.
q. Promote supportive engagement with parents in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, including where families may be facing challenging circumstances.
r. Work with the Head, and relevant strategic leads, taking lead responsibility for promoting educational outcomes by knowing the welfare, safeguarding and child protection issues that children in need are experiencing, or have experienced, and identifying the impact that these issues might be having on their attendance, engagement and achievement at school. This includes:
    i. Ensuring that the school knows which pupils have or had a social worker.
    ii. Understanding the academic progress and attainment of these pupils.
    iii. Maintaining a culture of high aspirations for these pupils.
    iv. Supporting teachers to provide additional academic support or reasonable adjustments to help these pupils reach their potential.
    v. Helping to promote educational outcomes by sharing the information about the welfare, safeguarding and child protection issues these pupils are experiencing with teachers and the SLT.
s. Ensure that child protection files are kept up-to-date and only accessed by those who need to do so.
t. Ensure that a pupil's child protection file is transferred as soon as possible, and within five days, when transferring to a new school, and consider any additional information that should be shared.
u. Ensure each member of staff has access to and understands the school's local Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and procedures – this will be discussed during the staff induction process.
v. Ensure School's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is available publicly via the school's website, and that parents are aware that the schools may make referrals for suspected cases of abuse or neglect, as well as the role the school plays in these referrals.
w. Link with safeguarding partner arrangements to make sure that staff are aware of the training opportunities available and the latest local policies on safeguarding.
x. Undergo training and update this training at least every two years.
y. Obtain access to resources and attend any relevant or refresher training courses.
z. Encourage a culture of listening to children and taking account of their wishes and feelings; this includes understanding the difficulties pupils may have in approaching staff about their circumstances and considering how to build trusted relationships that facilitate communication.
aa. Support and advise staff and help them feel confident on welfare, safeguarding and child protection matters: specifically, to ensure that staff are supported during the referrals processes; and to support staff to consider how safeguarding, welfare and educational outcomes are linked, including to inform the provision of academic and pastoral support.
bb. Understand the importance of information sharing, including within school, with other schools, and with the safeguarding partners, other agencies, organisations and practitioners.
cc. Understand relevant data protection legislation and regulations, especially the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK GDPR, and the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025.

dd. Keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of safeguarding concerns, decisions made, and whether or not referrals have been made, and understand the purpose of this record-keeping.
ee. As the designated teacher for LAC, the DSL has a responsibility for promoting the educational achievement of LAC and PLAC, and for children who have left care through adoption, special guardianship or child arrangement orders or who were adopted from state care outside England and Wales.
ff. Ensure that appropriate contact with pupils does not prevent staff members from using reasonable force and other restrictive interventions.
gg. Work with the Principal to ensure the School's Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is reviewed annually, and the procedures are updated and reviewed regularly.
hh. Ensure that the School is following its stated safeguarding and child protection procedures.
ii. Report on trends and provide updates on safeguarding matters to the Principal, STAEG Governors and School Governing Body.

The School will ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to provide effective DSL cover during school hours. Safeguarding information will be shared securely where necessary to ensure continuity of safeguarding arrangements and timely responses to concerns.

4. Multi-agency working

4.1 The schools within the Group contribute to multi-agency working as part of their statutory duty. The schools are aware of and will follow the local safeguarding arrangements.
4.2 The School will be fully engaged, involved, and included in the child-centred approach towards local safeguarding arrangements. Once a school is named as a relevant agency by local safeguarding partners, it will follow its statutory duty to cooperate with the published arrangements in the same way as other relevant agencies.
4.3 The School will work collaboratively with families and partner agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of their pupils, through community-based early help and by contributing to coordinated multi-agency plans to support children and families.
4.4 Where a child may benefit from family help, the school will work with partner agencies and contribute to multi-agency assessments and plants.
4.5 The School will allow CSCS from the host LA and, where appropriate, the placing LA, access to pupils to enable them to undertake or consider assessments under Section 17 or 47 of the Children Act 1989.
4.6 The School will also be mindful of the importance of inter-agency working in identifying and preventing CSE, CCE and other forms of extra-familial harm.
4.7 The School will reflect the DfE's expectations to secure strong multi-agency working by:
a. Collaborating with services to achieve shared goals and share information.
b. Learning from evidence and sharing perspective to evaluate provision.
c. Prioritising and sharing resources depending on pupils' needs.
d. Understanding its role within the local safeguarding arrangements.
e. Celebrating inclusivity and diversity and challenging discrimination.
f. Mutually and constructively challenging other's assumptions in a respectful manner.
4.8 Information sharing
a. The School recognises the importance of proactive information sharing between professionals and local agencies in order to effectively meet pupils' needs and identify any need for community-based early help or family help.
b. Considering the above, staff will be aware that whilst the UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 place a duty on schools to process personal information fairly and lawfully, they also allow for information to be stored and shared for safeguarding purposes – data protection regulations do not act as a barrier to sharing information where failure to do so would result in the pupil being placed at risk of harm.
c. Staff members will be made aware that there may be legal or statutory requirements to share

information for safeguarding purposes when requested by relevant agencies.

d. 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. If staff members are in doubt about sharing information, they will speak to the DSL or deputy DSLs.
e. Where decisions are made about sharing or withholding information, these will be based on consideration of the risks to the pupil and, where appropriate, the rationale for decisions will be recorded.

5. Support before statutory intervention

5.1 . Support before statutory intervention means providing early help as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life. This may include support from universal services, community-based early help, or targeted family help, depending on the child's level of need.

5.2 The School will be proactive in ensuring that every pupil is able to access full-time education to aid their development and protect them from harm whilst utilising the unique position of having regular daily contact with pupils to identify concerns as early as possible.

5.3 Any pupil may benefit from support before statutory intervention; however, staff will be particularly alert to the potential need for community-based early help or family help for pupils who:

a. Are disabled, have certain health conditions, or have specific additional needs.
b. Have SEND, regardless of whether they have a statutory EHC plan.
c. Have a mental health need.
d. Are young carers.
e. Show signs of being drawn into anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups or county lines.
f. Are frequently missing or going missing from care or from home.
g. Are at risk of exploitation, modern slavery, trafficking, or sexual or criminal exploitation.
h. Are at risk of being radicalised into terrorism.
i. Have family members in custody or is affected by parental offending.
j. Are in a family circumstance presenting challenges for them, such as drug and alcohol misuse, adult mental health problems, or domestic abuse.
k. Are misusing drugs or alcohol.
l. Are at risk of honour based abuse (HBA), such as FGM or forced marriage.
m. Are privately fostered.
n. Have experienced multiple suspensions and are at risk of, or have been, permanently excluded from school, alternative provision or a PRU.
o. Are pregnant and/or are a parent themselves.
p. Young people who have shown early signs of abusive, violent or harmful behaviours towards others.
q. Have been repeatedly removed from the classroom.

5.4 The School will not limit their support to pupils affected by the above and will be mindful of a variety of additional circumstances in which pupils may benefit from community-based early help or family help, for example, if they are:

a. Bereaved.
b. Viewing problematic or inappropriate online content or developing inappropriate relationships online.
c. Have recently returned home to their family from care.
d. Missing education, or are persistently absent from school, or not in receipt of full-time education.

5.5 Staff will be mindful of all signs of abuse, neglect and exploitation and use their professional curiosity to raise concerns to the School DSL.

5.6 The School DSL will take the lead where family help or community-based early help is appropriate. This includes liaising with other agencies and arranging a multi-agency family help assessment as appropriate, following local safeguarding partnership procedures.

5.7 Staff may be required to support other agencies and professionals during a community-based early help or family assessment and, in some cases acting as the lead practitioner, where appropriate and in accordance

with local arrangements. Any such cases will be kept under constant review and consideration given to a referral to CSCS for assessment for statutory services if the pupil's situation is not improving or is worsening.

5.8 Staff will be familiar with the local thresholds for community-based early help, family help, Section 17 (Children in Need) and Section 47 (Child Protection) and will follow local safeguarding partnership procedures when making referrals.

6. Abuse, neglect and exploitation

6.1 All staff will be aware of the indicators of abuse, neglect, exploitation (including CCE and CSE) and modern slavery and will understand that children can be at risk of harm inside and outside of the school, inside and outside of home, and online. Staff will also be aware that pupils can be affected by seeing, hearing or experiencing the effects of abuse.

6.2 All staff will understand that abuse, neglect, exploitation, modern slavery and other safeguarding issues are rarely standalone events that can be given a specific definition or one label alone. Staff will understand that, in most cases, multiple issues will overlap one another; therefore, staff will be vigilant and always raise concerns with the School DSL.

6.3 All staff, especially the School DSL and deputy DSLs, will be aware that safeguarding incidents and/or behaviours can be associated with factors outside the school and/or can occur between children outside of these environments; this includes being aware that pupils can at risk of abuse or exploitation in situations outside their families (extra-familial harms).

6.4 These harms include, but are not limited to:

a. Sexual abuse, including harassment and exploitation.
b. Domestic abuse in their own intimate relationships, including physical, sexual, emotional abuse, and stalking.
c. Criminal exploitation, including financial exploitation.
d. Serious youth violence.
e. County lines.
f. Radicalisation.

6.5 All staff will be aware of the appropriate action to take following a pupil being identified as at potential risk of abuse and, in all cases, will speak to the School DSL if they are unsure.

6.6 All staff will be aware that technology is a significant component in many safeguarding and wellbeing issues, including online abuse, cyberbullying, and the sharing of indecent images.

6.7 Staff will also understand that child-on-child abuse can occur online and take the form of:

a. Abusive, harassing, misogynistic or misandrist messages,
b. the non-consensual making or sharing or nudes or semi-nudes, particularly within group chats.
c. Sharing of abusive images and pornography to those who do not wish to receive such content.

6.8 Staff will always speak to the DSL or deputy if they are unsure about something in relation to abuse, neglect or exploitation.

7. Specific safeguarding issues

7.1 There are certain specific safeguarding issues that can put children at risk of harm and can often overlap – staff will be aware of these issues.

7.2 Appendix B of this policy sets out details about specific safeguarding issues that pupils may experience and outlines specific actions that would be taken in relation to individual issues.

8. Child-on-child abuse

8.1 For the purposes of this policy, "child-on-child abuse" is defined as abuse between children.

8.2 The School has a zero-tolerance approach to abuse, including child-on-child abuse.

8.3 All staff will be aware that child-on-child abuse can occur between pupils of any age and gender, both inside and outside of school, as well as online.

8.4 All staff will be aware of the indicators of child-on-child abuse, how to identify it, and how to respond to reports.

8.5 All staff will also recognise that even if no cases have been reported, this is not an indicator that child-on-child abuse is not occurring.
8.6 All staff will speak to the School DSL if they have any concerns about child-on-child abuse.
8.7 All incidents of child on child abuse will be treated as a safeguarding concern and will be met with a safeguarding response for all children involved, proportionate to the circumstances of the incident
8.8 All staff will understand the importance of challenge inappropriate behaviour between peers and will not tolerate abuse as "banter" or "part of growing up".
8.9 All staff with recognise that all incidents of child-on-child abuse will be treated as a safeguarding concern and will be met with a safeguarding response proportionate to the circumstances of the incident.
8.10 Child-on-child abuse can be manifested in many ways including:
a. Bullying, including cyberbullying and prejudice-based or discriminatory bullying.
b. Abuse in intimate personal relationships between peers – sometimes known as 'teenage relationship abuse'.
c. Physical abuse – this may include an online element which facilitates, threatens and/or encourages physical abuse.
d. Harmful sexual behaviours including:

i. Sexual violence – this may include an online element which facilitates, threatens and/or encourages sexual violence.
ii. Sexual harassment, including online sexual harassment, which may be standalone or part of a broader pattern of abuse.
iii. Causing someone to engage in sexual activity without consent.
iv. Making or sharing nudes and semi-nudes.
v. Upskirting.
vi. Promoting misogynistic views which degrade and/or dehumanise women and girls.

a. Initiation- and hazing-type violence and rituals, which can include activities involving harassment, abuse or humiliation used as a way of initiating a person into a group and may also include an online element.

8.11 The School DSL will ensure they appropriately assess all instances of child-on-child abuse, including in cases of image-based abuse, to help determine whether the alleged perpetrator(s) is under the age of 18 or is an adult posing as a child.
8.12 The School DSL will immediately refer the case if it is found that a so-called child-on-child abuse incident involves an adult, e.g. where an adult poses as a child online to groom a child or young person.
a. All staff will be clear as to the School's policy and procedures regarding child-on-child abuse and the role they have to play in preventing it and responding where they believe a child may be at risk from it.
8.13 Pupils will be made aware of how to raise concerns or make a report and how any reports will be handled. This includes the process for reporting concerns about friends or peers.
8.14 Pupils will also be reassured that they will be taken seriously, be supported, and kept safe.
8.15 The School's procedures for managing allegations of child-on-child abuse are outlined in the Child-on-child Abuse Procedures (a related document under the STAEG Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy). Staff will follow these procedures, as well as the procedures outlined in the School's Anti-bullying Policy, Pupil Behaviour Policy and Suspension and Exclusion Policy, where relevant.

9. Online safety

9.1 The School will adhere to its Online Safety guidance (a related document under the Internet-enabled Devices Policy) at all times.
9.2 As part of a broad and balanced curriculum, all pupils will be made aware of online risks and taught how to stay safe online, including misinformation, disinformation ('fake news') and conspiracy theories and including the risks of generative AI.
9.3 Through training, all staff members will be made aware of:
a. Pupil attitudes and behaviours which may indicate they are at risk of potential harm online.
b. The procedure to follow when they have a concern regarding a pupil's online activity.

9.4 The school will ensure that appropriate filtering systems are in place on school devices and school networks to prevent children accessing inappropriate material, in accordance with the Internet-Enabled Devices Policy.
9.5 The School will, however, ensure that the use of filtering and monitoring systems does not cause "over blocking", which may lead to unreasonable restrictions as to what pupils can be taught online. The School will also ensure that it meets the filtering and monitoring standards published by the DfE.
9.6 Staff will be aware of the filtering and monitoring systems in place and will know how to escalate concerns where they are identified.
9.7 Staff will be made aware of their expectations and responsibilities relating to filtering and monitoring systems during their induction.
9.8 Further information regarding the School's approach to online safety can be found in its Online Safety Guidance.
9.9 As part of the usual communication with parents, the School will reinforce the importance of pupils being safe online and inform parents that they will find it helpful to understand what systems the school uses to filter and monitor internet use.
9.10 The School will also make it clear to parents what their children are being asked to do online for school.
9.11 Filtering and monitoring systems will undergo at least an annual review to assess their effectiveness and relevance.
9.12 The School recognises the specific risks that can be posed by mobile phones and cameras and in accordance with KCSIE and the EYFS Statutory Framework and has appropriate policies in place. These are shared and understood by all members of the School community. Further information about specific approached to the aforementioned can be found in the School's Online Safety Policies which can be found on the School website or on request.

10. Personal electronic devices

10.1 The use of personal electronic devices, including mobile phones and cameras, by staff and pupils is closely monitored by the school, in accordance with the school's Acceptable Use Policy, Pupils' Internet-enabled Devices Policy, and Staff Internet-enabled Devices Policy.
10.2 The school site is a mobile phone-free environment between 8.15am and 4pm for pupils in Year 11 and below.
10.3 Photographs and videos of pupils will be carefully planned before any activity with particular regard to consent and adhering to the school's Data Protection Policy and Photography and Images of Pupils, a related document under the Data Protection Policy.
10.4 Where photographs and videos will involve pupils who are LAC, adopted pupils, or pupils for whom there are security concerns, the headteacher will liaise with the DSL to determine the steps involved. The DSL will, in known cases of pupils who are LAC or who have been adopted, liaise with the pupils' social workers, carers or adoptive parents to assess the needs and risks associated with the pupils.
10.5 Staff will report any concerns about pupils' or other staff members' use of personal electronic devices to the DSL, following the appropriate procedures.
10.6 Personal phones, cameras and electronic devices with imaging and sharing capabilities should not be used in the classrooms or in the presence of children. For staff working in the EYFS, any device capable of communication, internet access, or the storing, displaying or sharing of images, audio, video or data must only be accessed during authorised break times and away from children. All use of personal devices and wearable technology must be in accordance with the School's safeguarding and staff conduct policies.
10.7 When signing in, staff ensure visitors are aware that personal phones, cameras and electronic devices with imaging and sharing capabilities, must not be used on the School site in the presence of children including those in EYFS.

11. Upskirting

11.1 Under the Voyeurism (Offences) Act 2019, it is an offence to operate equipment for the purpose of upskirting. **"Operating equipment"** includes enabling, or securing, activation by another person without that person's knowledge, e.g. a motion-activated camera.
11.2 Upskirting will not be tolerated by any STAEG school. Any incidents of upskirting will be reported to the DSL, who will then decide on the next steps to take, which may include police involvement.

12. Making or sharing nudes or semi-nudes

12.1 The School will ensure that staff are aware to treat the consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos as a safeguarding concern, including where these images are generated by AI.

12.2 Staff will receive appropriate training regarding child sexual development and will understand the difference between sexual behaviour that is considered normal and expected for the age of the pupil, and sexual behaviour that is inappropriate and harmful. Staff will receive appropriate training around how to deal with instances of sharing nudes and semi-nudes in the school community, including understanding motivations, assessing risks posed to pupils depicted in the images, and how and when to report instances of this behaviour.

12.3 Staff will be aware that making or sharing imagery depicting nudes of semi-nudes of children is a criminal offence, regardless of whether the imagery is created, possessed, and distributed by the individual depicted; however, staff will ensure that pupils are not unnecessarily criminalised.

12.4 Staff will also be made aware that the laws imposed on the sharing of nudes and semi-nudes applies to digitally manipulated and AI-generated imagery.

12.5 Where a member of staff becomes aware of an incidence of sharing nudes and/or semi-nudes, they will refer this to the DSL as soon as possible. The DSL will work to support the affected pupils and inform them of the reporting routes to remove a nude or semi-nude that has been shared online or to prevent an image from being shared online.

12.6 The school's full response to incidents of consensual and non-consensual sharing of indecent images and videos can be found in this policy's related document Youth-produced Sexual Imagery, including the appropriate reporting routes for both staff and pupils.

13. Appropriate physical contact with pupils

13.1 The School will not operate a 'no contact' policy. The School will also not agree to any request from parents or staff that would prevent the use of reasonable force and other restrictive interventions where these may be necessary and lawful. A 'no contact' approach could leave staff unable to intervene appropriately to safeguard pupils and others.

13.2 Use of physical intervention will be managed in line with the school's Use of Reasonable Force Policy.

a. All incidents involving the use of physical restraint should be recorded in writing, in the physical intervention log and reported immediately to the Head, DSL or a member of the DDSL team who will consider any further action required. Where this relates to the School's Early Years Foundation Stage ("EYFS") setting, parents will be informed of any physical restraint used on their child the same day or as soon as reasonably practicable.

13.3 The School will adopt sensible policies and practices which will allow and support staff to make appropriate physical contact with pupils where this is necessary, proportionate and in the best interests of the child. There will be circumstances in which physical contact will be appropriate and will not give rise to concerns about the use of reasonable force or restrictive interventions. The use of reasonable force means to use no more force than is necessary for the least amount of time.

13.4 Examples of circumstances where physical contact will generally be appropriate include:

a. Providing first aid.
b. Guiding or escorting pupils, e.g. holding the hand of a younger pupil when moving around the school or on a school trip, supporting a pupil to move to a space they have chosen to access in order to self-regulate, or assisting pupils to move safely.
c. Comforting a distressed pupil at Prep School level.
d. Congratulating or praising a pupil, e.g. a handshake or a brief pat on the back.
e. Demonstrating how to use a musical instrument.
f. Demonstrating exercises or techniques during PE lessons or sports coaching.
g. When there is a need for use of physical intervention in line with the school's Physical Intervention Policy.

13.5 When deciding whether physical contact will be appropriate in a particular situation, staff will use their professional judgement and will have regard to:

a. This policy and any other relevant policy.

b. The context and circumstances, including whether other adults are present.
c. The individual pupil's age and level of understanding.
d. Any other relevant factors, including, but not limited to:
    a. Whether the pupil has SEND or other vulnerabilities.
    b. Whether alternative strategies that do not involve physical contact could be used.

14. Context of safeguarding incidents

14.1 Safeguarding incidents can occur outside of school and can be associated with outside factors. All staff, particularly the DSL and deputy DSLs, will always consider the context of safeguarding incidents. Assessment of pupils' behaviour will consider whether there are wider environmental factors that are a threat to their safety and/or welfare. The school will provide as much contextual information as possible when making referrals to CSCS.

15. Pupils potentially at greater risk of harm

15.1 The School recognises that some groups of pupils can face additional safeguarding challenges, both online and offline, and understands that further barriers may exist when determining abuse and neglect in these groups of pupils. Additional considerations for managing safeguarding concerns and incidents amongst these groups are outlined below.

Pupils who need social workers

15.2 Pupils may need social workers due to safeguarding or welfare needs. These needs can leave pupils vulnerable to further harm and educational disadvantage.

15.3 As a matter of routine, the DSL will hold and use information from the LA about whether a pupil has a social worker in order to make decisions in the best interests of the pupil's safety, welfare, and educational outcomes.

15.4 Where a pupil needs a social worker, this will inform decisions about safeguarding, e.g. responding to unauthorised absence, and promoting welfare, e.g. considering the provision pastoral or academic support.

Home-educated children

15.5 Parents may choose elective home education (EHE) for their children. In some cases, EHE can mean that children are less visible to the services needed to safeguard and support them.

15.6 In line with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006, the school will inform the LA of all deletions from the admissions register when a pupil is taken off roll.

15.7 Where a parent has expressed their intention to remove a pupil from school for EHE, the school, in collaboration with the LA and other key professionals, will coordinate a meeting with the parent, where possible, before the final decision has been made, particularly if the pupil has SEND, is vulnerable, and/or has a social worker.

LAC and PLAC

15.8 Children most commonly become looked after because of abuse and/or neglect. Because of this, they can be at potentially greater risk in relation to safeguarding. PLAC, also known as care leavers, can also remain vulnerable after leaving care.

15.9 The governing board will ensure that staff have the skills, knowledge and understanding to keep LAC and PLAC safe. This includes ensuring that the appropriate staff have the information they need, such as:

a. Looked after legal status, i.e. whether they are looked after under voluntary arrangements with consent of parents, or on an interim or full care order.
b. Contact arrangements with parents or those with parental responsibility.
c. Care arrangements and the levels of authority delegated to the carer by the authority looking after the pupil.

15.10 The DSL will be provided with the necessary details of pupils' social workers and the VSH, and, for PLAC,

personal advisers.

Pupils with SEND

15.11 When managing safeguarding in relation to pupils with SEND, staff will be aware of the following:

a. Certain indicators of abuse, such as behaviour, mood and injury, may relate to the pupil's disability without further exploration; however, it should never be assumed that a pupil's indicators relate only to their disability

b. Pupils with SEND can be disproportionally impacted by issues such as bullying, without outwardly showing any signs

c. Communication barriers may exist, as well as difficulties in overcoming these barriers

d. Pupils with SEND are more likely to be dependant on adults for care.

e. Pupils with SEND may have issues over cognitive understanding, being unable to understand differences between fact and fictions in online content and then repeating the content/behaviours in school.

15.12 When reporting concerns or making referrals for pupils with SEND, the above factors will always be taken into consideration. When managing a safeguarding issue relating to a pupil with SEND, the DSL will liaise with the school's SENCO, as well as the pupil's parents where appropriate, to ensure that the pupil's needs are met effectively.

LGBTQ+ pupils

15.13 The fact that a pupil may be LGBTQ+ is not in itself an inherent risk factor for harm; however, staff will be aware that LGBTQ+ pupils can be targeted by other individuals. Staff will also be aware that, in some cases, a pupil who is perceived by others to be LGBTQ+ (whether they are or not) can be just as vulnerable as pupils who identify as LGBTQ+.

15.14 Staff will also be aware that the risks to these pupils can be compounded when they do not have a trusted adult with whom they can speak openly with. Staff will endeavour to reduce the additional barriers faced by these pupils and provide a safe space for them to speak out and share any concerns they have.

15.15 Staff will be aware that it is not the place of the School to initiate any action on behalf of gender questioning pupils. Where a child or their parent raises a request to socially transition, the parents will be involved as a matter of priority and their views will be properly considered. The DSL will determine the appropriate course of action in the rare circumstances where involving parents would pose a risk to the safety of the child.

Pupils requiring mental health support

15.16 All staff will be made aware that mental health problems can, in some cases, be an indicator that a pupil has suffered, or is at risk of suffering, abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Pupils with medical conditions

15.17 The fact that a pupil has a medical condition is not in itself an inherent risk factor for harm; however, staff will be made aware that pupils with medical conditions may have an increased risk of being neglected, abused or exploited by persons inside or outside of their family unit because of their medical condition. Staff will also be made aware that mismanaged medical conditions can be indicators of abuse or neglect, for example if a child is repeatedly sent to school without essential medication.

16. Use of the school premises for non-school activities

16.1 Where the School hires or rents out school facilities or school premises to organisations or individuals, e.g. for providers to run community or extracurricular activities, it will ensure that appropriate safeguarding arrangements are in place to keep pupils safe. The School will refer to the DfE's guidance on keeping children safe in out-of-school settings in these circumstances.

16.2 Where the School provides the activities under the direct supervision or management of school staff, child protection arrangements will apply. Where activities are provided separately by another body, this may not be the case; therefore, the School will seek assurance that the body concerned has appropriate safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures in place, including inspecting these as needed.

16.3 The School will also ensure that there are arrangements in place to liaise with the school on these matters where appropriate. The School will ensure safeguarding requirements are included in any transfer of control agreement, i.e. a lease or hire agreement, as a condition of use and occupation of the premises, and specify that failure to comply with this would lead to termination of the agreement.

Extracurricular activities and clubs

16.4 External bodies that host extracurricular activities and clubs at the school, e.g. charities or companies, will work in collaboration with the school to effectively safeguard pupils and adhere to local safeguarding arrangements.

16.5 Staff and volunteers running extracurricular activities and clubs are aware of their safeguarding responsibilities and promote the welfare of pupils. Paid and volunteer staff understand how they should respond to child protection concerns and how to make a referral to CSCS or the police, if necessary.

16.6 All national governing bodies of sport that receive funding from either Sport England or UK Sport must aim to meet the Standards for Safeguarding and Protecting Children in Sport.

17. Alternative provision

17.1 The School will maintain responsibility for safeguarding their pupils during their time at an alternative provider. The School should obtain written information from the provider that safeguarding checks on staff have been carried out and confirmation that the provider will inform the school of any arrangements that might put the child at risk. The school should regularly review the alternative provision arrangements, at least every half term and in response to a safeguarding concern. Those responsible for the commissioning of alternative provision will be aware that pupils in alternative provision will often have complex needs – they will be mindful of the additional risk of harm that these pupils may be vulnerable to.

18. Work experience

18.1 When a pupil is sent on work experience, the School will ensure that the provider has appropriate safeguarding policies and procedures in place.

18.2 The School will not allow someone on the barred list to engage in regulated activity with a pupil on a work experience placement.

18.3 Where a school has pupils conduct work experience at the school, an enhanced DBS check will be obtained if the pupil is over the age of 16.

19. Homestay exchange visits

School-arranged homestays in UK

19.1 Where a school is arranging for a visiting child to be provided with care and accommodation in the UK in the home of a family to which the child is not related, the responsible adults are considered to be in regulated activity for the period of the stay. In such cases, the school is the regulated activity provider; therefore, the school will obtain all the necessary information required, including a DBS enhanced certificate with barred list information, to inform its assessment of the suitability of the responsible adults.

19.2 Where criminal record information is disclosed, the school will consider, alongside all other information, whether the adult is a suitable host. In addition to the responsible adults, the school will consider whether a DBS enhanced certificate should be obtained for anyone else aged over 16 in the household.

School-arranged homestays abroad

19.3 The school will liaise with partner schools to discuss and agree the arrangements in place for the visit. The school will consider, on a case-by-case basis, whether to contact the relevant foreign embassy or High Commission of the country in question to ascertain what checks may be possible in respect of those providing homestay outside of the UK. The school will use its professional judgement to assess whether the arrangements are appropriate and sufficient to safeguard every child involved in the exchange.

19.4 Pupils will be provided with emergency contact details to use where an emergency occurs or a situation arises that makes them feel uncomfortable.

Privately arranged homestays

19.5 Where a parent or pupil arranges their own homestay, this is a private arrangement and the school is not the regulated activity provider.

Private fostering

19.6 Where a period of UK homestay lasts 28 days or more for a child aged under 16, or under 18 for a child with SEND, this may amount to private fostering under the Children Act 1989. Where the school becomes aware of a pupil being privately fostered, they will notify the LA as soon as possible to allow the LA to conduct any necessary checks.

20. Procedures for dealing with concerns about a child

20.1 If a member of staff has any concern about a pupil's welfare, or a pupil has reported a safeguarding concern in relation to themselves or a peer, they will act on them immediately by speaking to the DSL or deputy DSLs.

20.2 All safeguarding concerns must be recorded on CPOMS as soon as possible after being identified and/or reported.

20.3 Staff will be aware that pupils may not feel ready or know how to tell someone that they are being abused, exploited or neglected, and/or they may not recognise their experiences as harmful. Staff will be aware that this must not prevent them from having professional curiosity and speaking to the DSL, or deputy DSL, if they have a concern about a pupil.

20.4 All staff members are aware of the procedure for reporting concerns and understand their responsibilities in relation to confidentiality and information sharing, as outlined in the Communication and confidentiality section of this policy.

20.5 Where the DSL is not available to discuss the concern, staff members will contact the deputy DSLs with the matter. If a referral is made about a pupil by anyone other than the DSL, the DSL will be informed as soon as possible.

20.6 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.

20.7 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. All concerns, discussions and decisions made, as well as the reasons for making those decisions, will be recorded in writing by the DSL and kept securely in CPOMS.

20.8 If a pupil is in immediate danger, a referral will be made to CSCS and/or the police immediately. If a pupil has committed a crime, such as sexual violence, the police will be notified without delay.

20.9 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. When responding to safeguarding concerns, staff members will act calmly and supportively, ensuring that the pupil feels like they are being listened to and believed.

20.10 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.

20.11 The school will consider whether a family group decision-making forum is appropriate to determine the help and support the family network can provide for a pupil where concerns have been raised about their safety or wellbeing.

21. Managing referrals

21.1 The reporting and referral process outlined in the Reporting Safeguarding Concerns Flowchart will be followed accordingly.

21.2 All staff members, in particular the DSL, will be aware of the LA's arrangements in place for managing

referrals. The DSL will provide staff members with clarity and support where needed. When making a referral to CSCS or other external agencies, information will be shared in line with confidentiality requirements and will only be shared where necessary to do so.

21.3 The DSL will work alongside external agencies, maintaining continuous liaison, including multi-agency liaison where appropriate, in order to ensure the wellbeing of the pupils involved. The DSL will work closely with the police to ensure the school does not jeopardise any criminal proceedings, and to obtain help and support as necessary.

21.4 Where a pupil has been harmed or is in immediate danger or at risk of harm, the referrer will be notified of the action that will be taken within one working day of a referral being made. Where this information is not forthcoming, the referrer will contact the assigned social worker for more information.

21.5 The school will not wait for the start or outcome of an investigation before protecting the victim and other pupils: this applies to criminal investigations as well as those made by CSCS. Where CSCS decide that a statutory investigation is not appropriate, the school will consider referring the incident again if it is believed that the pupil is at risk of harm. Where CSCS decide that a statutory investigation is not appropriate and the school agrees with this decision, the school will consider the use of other support mechanisms, such as early help and pastoral support.

21.6 At all stages of the reporting and referral process, the pupil will be informed of the decisions made, actions taken and reasons for doing so. Discussions of concerns with parents will only take place where this would not put the pupil or others at potential risk of harm. The school will work closely with parents to ensure that the pupil, as well as their family, understands the arrangements in place, such as in-school interventions, is effectively supported, and knows where they can access additional support.

22. Concerns about school safeguarding practice

22.1 Any concerns regarding the safeguarding practices at the 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).

23. Safeguarding concerns and allegations of abuse against staff

23.1 All allegations against staff, supply staff, trainee teachers, volunteers and contractors will be managed in line with the School's Allegations of Abuse Against Staff related document, a copy of which will be provided to, and understood by, all staff. The School will ensure all allegations against staff, including those who are not employees of the School, are dealt with appropriately and that the School liaises with the relevant parties.

23.2 When managing allegations against staff, the School will recognise the distinction between allegations that meet the harms threshold and allegations that do not, also known as "low-level concerns", as defined in the Allegations of Abuse Against Staff related document. Allegations that meet the harms threshold include instances where staff have:

a. Behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child.
b. Committed or possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child.
c. Behaved towards a child in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children.
d. Behaved, or may have behaved, in a way that indicates they may not be suitable to work with children.

23.3 Low-level concerns will be handled in line with this policy's related document Low-level Concerns.

23.4 When a safeguarding concern concerning a member of staff is referred to the Headteacher, the Head will consider whether a LADO referral is appropriate.

24. Communication and confidentiality

24.1 When recording, holding, using and sharing information, the DSL will ensure that they:

a. Understand the importance of information sharing, both within the school and with other schools on transfer including in-year and between primary and secondary education, and with safeguarding partners, other agencies, organisations and practitioners.
b. Understand relevant data protection legislation and regulations, in particular the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK GDPR.
c. Are able to keep detailed, accurate, secure written records of all concerns, discussions and decisions made including the rationale of those decisions. This will include instances where referrals were and were not made to another agency such as LA children's social care or the Prevent program.

24.2 All child protection and safeguarding concerns will be treated in the strictest of confidence in accordance with Group data protection policies.

24.3 Where there is an allegation or incident of sexual abuse or sexual violence, the victim is entitled to anonymity by law; therefore, the school will consult its policy and agree on what information will be disclosed to staff and others, in particular the alleged perpetrator and their parents. Where a report of sexual violence or sexual harassment is progressing through the criminal justice system, the school will do all it can to protect the anonymity of the pupils involved in the case.

24.4 Concerns will only be reported to those necessary for its progression and reports will only be shared amongst staff members and with external agencies on a need-to-know basis. During the disclosure of a concern by a pupil, staff members will not promise the pupil confidentiality and will ensure that they are aware of what information will be shared, with whom and why.

24.5 Where it is in the public interest, and protects pupils from harm, information can be lawfully shared without the victim's consent, e.g. if doing so would assist the prevention, detection or prosecution of a serious crime. Before doing so, the DSL will weigh the victim's wishes against their duty to protect the victim and others. Where a referral is made against the victim's wishes, it is done so carefully with the reasons for the referral explained to the victim and specialist support offered.

24.6 Depending on the nature of a concern, the DSL will discuss the concern with the parents of the pupils involved. Discussions with parents will not take place where they could potentially put a pupil at risk of harm. Discussion with the victim's parents will relate to the arrangements being put in place to safeguard the victim, with the aim of understanding their wishes in terms of support arrangements and the progression of the report. Discussion with the alleged perpetrator's parents will have regards to the arrangements that will impact their child, such as moving classes, with the reasons behind decisions being explained and the available support discussed. External agencies will be invited to these discussions where necessary.

24.7 Where confidentiality or anonymity has been breached, the school will implement the appropriate disciplinary procedures as necessary and will analyse how damage can be minimised and future breaches be prevented.

24.8 Where a pupil is leaving the school, the DSL will consider whether it is appropriate to share any information with the pupil's new provider, in addition to the child protection file, that will allow the new provider to support the pupil and arrange appropriate support for their arrival.

25. Safer recruitment

25.1 The Group's full policy and procedures for safer recruitment are outlined in the Safer Recruitment related document.

25.2 An enhanced DBS check with barred list information will be undertaken for all staff members and volunteers engaged in regulated activity. A person will be considered to be in 'regulated activity' if, as a result of their work, they:
a. Are responsible on a daily basis for the care or supervision of children.
b. Regularly work in the school at times when children are on the premises.
c. Regularly come into contact with children under 18 years of age.

25.3 The school will determine whether a role constitutes regulated activity in accordance with current legislation and DfE guidance, including the DBS Workforce Guides. This will include; staff, volunteers and third-party personnel engaged in regulated activity. Where a role constitutes regulated activity, an enhanced DBS certificate with barred list information will be obtained before the individual begins work. At the Senior School, if the DBS certificate is not available prior to the individual starting work, the individual will be supervised at all other times and a separate children's bared list check will be made. At the Prep

school, which has an EYFS provision, individuals will not be allowed to being working or volunteering until both the barred list check and an enhanced DBS check has been received.

25.4 The DfE's DBS Workforce Guides will be consulted when determining whether a position fits the child workforce criteria.

25.5 The Group will conduct the appropriate pre-employment checks for al prospective employees, including internal candidates and candidates who have lived or worked outside the UK.

25.6 The appropriate DBS and suitability checks will be carried out for all governors, volunteers, and contractors regardless of whether the person will be supervised on site.

25.7 The school will also ensure that trainee teachers and other individuals undertaking placements are subject to the appropriate safeguarding and recruitment checks in accordance with KCSIE and the Safer Recruitment Policy.

Staff suitability

25.8 All STAEG schools providing care for pupils under the age of eight must ensure that staff and volunteers working in these settings are not disqualified from doing so under the Childcare (Disqualification) and Childcare (Early Years Provision Free of Charge) (Extended Entitlement) (Amendment) Regulations 2018. The School will use the DfE Check a teacher's record service to make GTCE, prohibition, direction, restriction, and children's barred list checks. A person may be disqualified if they:

a. Have certain orders or other restrictions placed upon them.
b. Have committed certain offences.

25.9 All staff members are required to sign the Staff Disqualification Declaration Form confirming that they are not disqualified from working in a schooling environment. A disqualified person will not be permitted to continue working at the school, unless they apply for and are granted a waiver from Ofsted. The school will provide support with this process.

Ongoing suitability

25.10 Following appointment, consideration will be given to staff and volunteers' ongoing suitability – to prevent the opportunity for harm to children or placing children at risk.

Referral to the DBS

25.11 The Group will refer to the DBS anyone who has harmed a child or 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. The duty will also apply in circumstances where an individual is deployed to another area of work that is not in regulated activity or they are suspended.

26. Single central record (SCR)

26.1 The School holds a central SCR containing information that is easily accessible and recorded in such a way that allows for details for each individual school to be provided separately, and without delay, to all who need to see it, including ISI and Ofsted.

26.2 The following information is recorded on the SCR:

a. An identity check
b. A barred list check
c. An enhanced DBS check
d. A prohibition from teaching check
e. A check of professional qualifications, where required
f. A check to determine the individual's right to work in the UK
g. Additional checks for those who have lived or worked outside of the UK
h. Whether the employee's position involves relevant activity, i.e. regularly caring for, training, supervising or being solely in charge of persons aged under 18
i. A section 128 check for those in management positions

26.3 For agency and third-party 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 the necessary checks have been conducted (i.e. all the same checks the school would perform on any individual working in the Group or who will be providing education on the Group's behalf, including through online

delivery) and the date that confirmation was received.

26.4 If any checks have been conducted for volunteers, this will also be recorded on the SCR. If risk assessments are conducted to assess whether a volunteer should be subject to an enhanced DBS check, the risk assessment will be recorded.

26.5 Written confirmation that supply agencies have completed all relevant checks will also be included.

26.6 The School is free to record any other information it deems relevant.

26.7 The details of an individual will be removed from the SCR once they no longer work at the School.

27. Training

27.1 Staff members will undergo safeguarding and child protection training at induction, which will be updated on an annual basis and/or whenever there is a change in legislation.

27.2 The induction training will cover:

a. The Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy.
b. The Child-on-child Abuse Policy and procedures.
c. The Staff Code of Conduct.
d. Part one of 'Keeping children safe in education' (KCSIE).
e. The Behaviour Policy.
f. The Children Missing from Education Policy, including the safeguarding response to children who are absent from education.
g. Appropriate child protection and safeguarding training, including online safety training – which, amongst other things, includes an understanding of expectations, applicable roles and responsibilities in relation to filtering and monitoring.
h. Information about the role and identity of the DSL and deputy DSLs.

27.3 All staff members will also receive regular safeguarding and child protection updates as required, but at least annually. Training will cover, at a minimum:

a. The issues surrounding sexual violence and sexual harassment.
b. Contextual safeguarding.
c. How to keep LAC and PLAC safe.
d. CCE and the need to refer cases to the National Referral Mechanism.
e. Updated online safety training.

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

27.5 The School DSLs and deputy DSLs will undergo child protection and safeguarding training which is updated at least every two years. The School DSLs and deputy DSLs will also obtain access to resources and attend any relevant or refresher training courses, ensuring they keep up-to-date with any developments relevant to their role. This will include training to understand:

a. The assessment process for providing early help and statutory intervention, including local criteria for action and CSCS referral arrangements.
b. How LAs conduct child protection case conferences and a child protection review conference, to enable the DSL to attend and contribute to these effectively when required.
c. The importance of providing information and support to CSCS.
d. The lasting impact that adversity and trauma can have.
e. How to be alert to the specific needs of children in need, pupils with SEND (who may not recognise, for example, that they are being abused) and/or relevant health conditions, and young carers.
f. The importance of internal and external information sharing.
g. The Prevent duty.
h. The risks associated with online safety, including the additional risks faced online by pupils with SEND.

27.6 Safeguarding training for staff, including online safety training, will be integrated, aligned and considered as part of the whole-school approach to safeguarding and wider staff training and curriculum planning.

27.7 Staff members will be supported with their understanding of safeguarding issues and how to deal with them from their induction and throughout their time at the school. Staff members will be encouraged to participate in additional CPD alongside mandatory safeguarding training activities.

28. Monitoring and review

28.1 This policy is reviewed at least annually by the Principal, Head of School, DSL and School DDSLs. This policy will be updated as needed to ensure it is up-to-date with safeguarding issues as they emerge and evolve, including any lessons learnt.

28.2 Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff. All members of staff are required to familiarise themselves with all processes and procedures outlined in this policy as part of their induction programme.

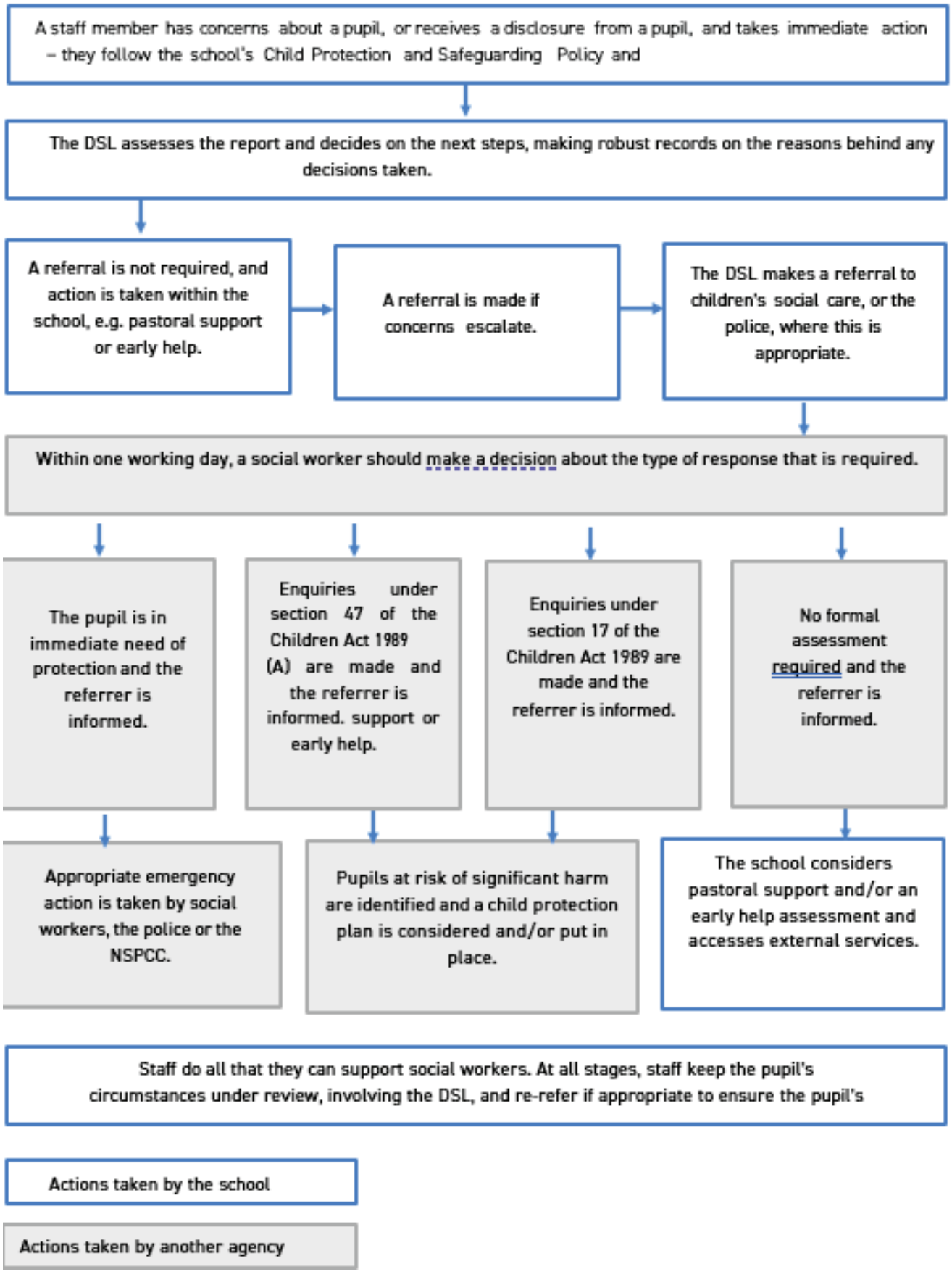
29. Policy information

Policy and related documents	
Document title	Availability to Parents
P01: Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy	Website and parent portal
Child Missing in Education	On request
Child-on-child abuse procedures	On request
Code of Conduct for Staff and Volunteers (HR and Employment Policies)	On request
Intimate Care: Guidelines Regarding Children	On request
Keeping Safe – a Pupil's Guide to Safeguarding	Website and parent portal
Low Level Concerns	On request
Missing Pupil	On request
New Staff Induction (HR and Employment Policies)	On request
Procedures for Handling Allegations of Abuse Against Staff	On request
Pupil Supervision	On request
Recruitment and Selection Procedures (HR and Employment Policies)	On request
Safeguarding at STAHS – a Guide for Prep School Visitors	Website and parent portal
Safeguarding at STAHS – a Guide for Senior School Visitors	Website and parent portal
Safeguarding at Stormont – a Guide for Visitors	Website and parent portal
Single Central Record of Recruitment and Vetting Checks (HR and Employment Policies)	Not available
Suitability to Work with Children Self-Declaration Form (HR and Employment Policies)	Not available
Visiting the School	Website and parent portal
Whistleblowing (HR and Employment Policies)	

Policies and related documents as indicated are available request from info@STAHS.org.uk

This policy can be made available in large print or other accessible format if required.

Appendix A: Reporting Safeguarding Concerns Process Flowchart



Appendix B: Specific Safeguarding Issues

This appendix sets out details about specific safeguarding issues that pupils may experience and outlines specific actions that would be taken in relation to individual issues.

The school recognises that many of the safeguarding issues described in this appendix may be facilitated by technology or occur wholly online. Staff will remain alert to online indicators of abuse, exploitation and harm and respond in accordance with this policy.

Domestic abuse

For the purposes of this policy, and in line with the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, "domestic abuse" is defined as abusive behaviour of a person towards another person (including conduct directed at someone else, e.g. the person's child) where both are aged 16 or over and are personally connected. "Abusive behaviour" includes physical or sexual abuse, violent or threatening behaviour, controlling or coercive behaviour, economic abuse, psychological or emotional abuse, or another form of abuse. "Personally connected" includes people who:

- Are, have been, or have agreed to be married to each other.
- Are, have been, or have agreed to be in a civil partnership with each other.
- Are, or have been, in an intimate personal relationship with each other.
- Each have, or had, a parental relationship towards the same child.
- Are relatives.

The school will recognise the impact of domestic abuse on children, as victims in their own right, if they see, hear or experience the effects of domestic abuse. All staff will be aware of the signs of domestic abuse and follow the appropriate safeguarding procedures where concerns arise.

Homelessness

The DSL and deputy DSLs will be aware of the contact details and referral routes into the Local Housing Authority so that concerns over homelessness can be raised as early as possible.

Indicators that a family may be at risk of homelessness include:

- Household debt.
- Rent arrears.
- Domestic abuse.
- Anti-social behaviour.
- Any mention of a family moving home because "they have to".

Referrals to the Local Housing Authority do not replace referrals to Children's Services where a child is being harmed or at risk of harm. For 16- and 17-year-olds, homelessness may not be family-based and referrals to CSCS will be made as necessary where concerns are raised.

Children missing from education

A child going missing from school is a potential indicator of abuse, neglect or exploitation 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, in accordance with the Children Missing Education Related Document The school will inform the LA 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 5

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 when any changes occur. Two emergency contacts will be held for each pupil where possible.

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 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 with whom the pupil will live
- The new address
- The date from when the pupil will live at that address

If a parent notifies the school that their child will be attending a different school, or is already registered at 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 a secure internet system to securely transfer pupils' data.

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, 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 their parent has not indicated the intention to the pupil continuing to attend 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 with whom the pupil lives
- At least one telephone number of the parent with whom the pupil lives
- The full name and address of the parent 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, e.g. where an address is unknown. The school will also highlight any other necessary contextual information, including safeguarding concerns.

Child abduction and community safety incidents

For the purposes of this policy, "child abduction" is defined as the unauthorised removal or retention of a child from a parent or anyone with legal responsibility for the child. Child abduction can be committed by parents and other relatives, other people known to the victim, and strangers.

All staff will be alert to community safety incidents taking place in the vicinity of the school that may raise concerns regarding child abduction, e.g. people loitering nearby or unknown adults conversing with pupils.

Pupils will be provided with practical advice and lessons to ensure they can keep themselves safe outdoors.

Child criminal exploitation (CCE)

For the purposes of this policy, "child criminal exploitation" is defined as a form of abuse where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into taking part in criminal activity, for any of the following reasons:

- In exchange for something the victim needs or wants
- For the financial advantage or other advantage of the perpetrator or facilitator
- Through violence or the threat of violence
- Specific forms of CCE can include:
- Being forced or manipulated into transporting drugs or money through county lines.
- Working in cannabis factories.
- Shoplifting or pickpocketing.
- Committing vehicle crime.
- Committing, or threatening to commit, serious violence to others.

The School will recognise that pupils involved in CCE are victims themselves, regardless of whether they have committed crimes, and even if the criminal activity appears consensual and/or if the victim identifies as being part of the group. The school also recognises that CCE may constitute modern slavery and an appropriate modern slavery referral should be completed where a victim is identified. The school will also recognise that pupils of any gender are at risk of CCE.

School staff will be aware of the indicators that a pupil is the victim of CCE, including:

- Appearing with unexplained gifts, money or new possessions.
- Associating with other children involved in exploitation.
- Suffering from changes in emotional wellbeing.
- Misusing drugs or alcohol.
- Going missing for periods of time or regularly coming home late.
- Regularly missing school or education or not taking part.

County lines

For the purposes of this policy, "county lines" refers to gangs and organised criminal networks exploiting children to move, store or sell drugs and money into one or more areas, locally and/or across the UK.

As well as the general indicators for CCE, school staff will be aware of the specific indicators that a pupil may be involved in county lines, including:

- Going missing and subsequently being found in areas away from their home.
- Having been the victim or perpetrator of serious violence, e.g. knife crime.
- Receiving requests for drugs via a phone line.
- Moving drugs.
- Handing over and collecting money for drugs.
- Being exposed to techniques such as 'plugging', where drugs are concealed internally to avoid detection.

- Being found in accommodation they have no connection with or a hotel room where there is drug activity.
- Owing a 'debt bond' to their exploiters.
- Having their bank account used to facilitate drug dealing.

Staff will be made aware of pupils with missing episodes who may have been trafficked for the purpose of transporting drugs. Staff members who suspect a pupil may be vulnerable to, or involved in, county lines activity will immediately report all concerns to the DSL.

The DSL will consider referral to the National Referral Mechanism on a case-by-case basis and consider involving local services and providers who offer support to victims of county lines exploitation.

Cyber-crime

For the purposes of this policy, "cyber-crime" is defined as criminal activity committed using computers and/or the internet. This includes 'cyber-enabled' crimes, i.e. crimes that can happen offline but are enabled at scale and at speed online, and 'cyber-dependent' crimes, i.e. crimes that can be committed only by using a computer. Crimes include:

- Unauthorised access to computers, known as 'hacking'.
- Denial of Service attacks, known as 'booting'.
- Making, supplying or obtaining malicious software, or 'malware', e.g. viruses, spyware, ransomware, botnets and Remote Access Trojans with the intent to commit further offence.

All staff will be aware of the signs of cyber-crime and follow the appropriate safeguarding procedures where concerns arise. This may include the DSL referring pupils to the National Crime Agency's Cyber Choices programme.

Child sexual exploitation (CSE)

For the purposes of this policy, "child sexual exploitation" is defined as a form of sexual abuse where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into sexual activity, for any of the following reasons:

- In exchange for something the victim needs or wants
- For the financial advantage, increased status or other advantage of the perpetrator or facilitator
- Through violence or the threat of violence

The school will recognise that CSE can occur over time or be a one-off occurrence, and may happen without the pupil's immediate knowledge, e.g. through others sharing videos or images of them on social media. The school will recognise that CSE can affect any pupil who has been coerced into engaging in sexual activities, even if the activity appears consensual or it appears that the victim may be part of the group perpetrating CSE; this includes pupils aged 16 and above who can legally consent to sexual activity. The school will recognise that CSE is commonly committed by those previously known to the victim. The school will also recognise that pupils may not realise they are being exploited, e.g. they believe they are in a genuine romantic relationship.

School staff will be aware of the key indicators that a pupil is the victim of CSE, including:

- Appearing with unexplained gifts, money or new possessions.
- Associating with other children involved in exploitation.
- Suffering from changes in emotional wellbeing.
- Misusing drugs or alcohol.
- Going missing for periods of time or regularly coming home late.
- Regularly missing school or education or not taking part.
- Having older partners.
- Suffering from sexually transmitted infections.
- Displaying sexual behaviours beyond expected sexual development.

- Becoming pregnant.

All concerns related to CSE will be managed in line with the school's Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Policy.

Where CSE, or the risk of it, is suspected, staff will discuss the case with the DSL. If after discussion a concern remains, local safeguarding procedures will be triggered, including referral to the LA. The LA and all other necessary authorities will then handle the matter to conclusion. The school will cooperate as needed.

The school recognises that CCE may constitute modern slavery and an appropriate modern slavery referral should be completed where a victim is identified.

Modern slavery

For the purposes of this policy, "modern slavery" encompasses human trafficking and slavery, servitude, and forced or compulsory labour. This can include CCE, CSE, and other forms of exploitation.

All staff will be aware of and alert to the signs that a pupil may be the victim of modern slavery. Staff will also be aware of the support available to victims of modern slavery and how to refer them to the National Referral Mechanism.

FGM

For the purposes of this policy, "FGM" is defined as all procedures involving the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs. FGM is illegal in the UK and a form of child abuse with long-lasting harmful consequences.

All staff will be alert to the possibility of a pupil being at risk of FGM, or already having suffered FGM. If staff 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 CSCS and/or the police. The school's procedures relating to managing cases of FGM and protecting pupils will reflect multi-agency working arrangements.

As outlined in Section 5B of the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 (as inserted by section 74 of the Serious Crime Act 2015), teachers are legally required to report to the police any discovery, whether through disclosure by the victim or visual evidence, of FGM on a pupil under the age of 18. Teachers failing to report such cases may face disciplinary action. Teachers will not examine pupils, and so it is rare that they will see any visual evidence, but they must personally 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 CSCS as appropriate. NB: This 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.

All staff will be aware of the indicators that pupils may be at risk of FGM. While some individual indicators they may not indicate risk, the presence of two or more indicators could signal a risk to the pupil. 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 staff will be sensitive when broaching the subject.

Indicators that a pupil may be at heightened risk of undergoing FGM include:

- The socio-economic position of the family and their level of integration into UK society.
- The pupil coming from a community known to adopt FGM.
- Any girl with a mother or sister who has been subjected to FGM.
- Any girl withdrawn from PSHE.

Indicators that FGM may take place soon include:

- When a female family elder is visiting from a country of origin.
- A girl confiding that she is to have a 'special procedure' or a ceremony to 'become a woman'.
- A girl requesting help from a teacher if she is aware or suspects that she is at immediate risk.

- A girl, or her family member, talking about a long holiday to her country of origin or another country where FGM is prevalent.

All staff will be vigilant to the 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 pupil:

- Having 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.
- Having prolonged or repeated absences from school, followed by withdrawal or depression.
- Being reluctant to undergo normal medical examinations.
- Asking for help, but not being explicit about the problem due to embarrassment or fear.

FGM is included in the definition of "'honour-based' abuse (HBA)", which involves crimes that have been committed to defend the honour of the family and/or community. All forms of HBA are forms of abuse and will be treated and escalated as such. Staff will be alert to the signs of HBA, including concerns that a child is at risk of HBA, or has already suffered from HBA, and will consult with the DSL who will activate local safeguarding procedures if concerns arise.

Forced marriage

Forced marriage is a marriage where one or both spouses do not consent to the marriage but are coerced into it. Force can be physical, psychological, financial, sexual and emotional pressure. A lack of full and free consent can be where a person does not consent or where they cannot consent, e.g. due to some forms of SEND. Where an individual lacks the capacity to consent to marriage, coercion is not required for a marriage to be forced.

All staff will be alert to the indicators that a pupil is at risk of, or has undergone, forced marriage, including, but not limited to, the pupil:

- Being absent from school – particularly where this is persistent.
- Requesting for extended leave of absence and failure to return from visits to country of origin.
- Being fearful about forthcoming school holidays.
- Being subjected to surveillance by siblings or cousins at school.
- Demonstrating a decline in behaviour, engagement, performance, exam results or punctuality.
- Being withdrawn from school by their parents.
- Being removed from a day centre when they have a physical or learning disability.
- Not being allowed to attend extracurricular activities.
- Suddenly announcing that they are engaged to a stranger, e.g. to friends or on social media.
- Having a family history of forced marriage, e.g. their older siblings have been forced to marry.
- Being prevented from going on to further or higher education.
- Showing signs of mental health disorders and behaviours, e.g. depression, self-harm, anorexia.
- Displaying a sudden decline in their educational performance, aspirations or motivation.

Staff who have any concerns regarding a pupil who may have undergone, is currently undergoing, or is at risk of forced marriage will speak to the DSL or headteacher and local safeguarding procedures will be followed – this could include referral to CSCS, the police or the Forced Marriage Unit. The DSL or headteacher will ensure the pupil is spoken to privately about these concerns and further action taken as appropriate. Pupils will always be listened to and their comments taken seriously.

It will be made clear to staff members that they should not approach the pupil's family or those with influence in the community, without the express consent of the pupil, as this will alert them to the concerns and may place the pupil in further danger.

Advice will be sought from the Forced Marriage Unit following any suspicion of forced marriage among pupils.

If a pupil is being forced to marry, or is fearful of being forced to, the school will be especially vigilant for signs of mental health disorders and self-harm. The pupil will be supported by the DSL and senior mental health lead and referrals will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Staff members will make themselves aware of how they can support victims of forced marriage in order to respond to the victims needs at an early stage, and be aware of the practical help they can offer, e.g. referral to social services and local and national support groups.

Local child safeguarding procedures will be activated following concerns regarding forced marriage – the school will use existing national and local protocols for multi-agency liaison with police and children's social care.

The school will support any victims to seek help by:

- Making them aware of their rights and choices to seek legal advice and representation.
- Recording injuries and making referrals for medical examination where necessary.
- Providing personal safety advice.
- Developing a safety plan in case they are seen, e.g. by preparing another reason for why the victim is seeking help.

The school will establish where possible whether pupils at risk of forced marriage have a dual nationality or two passports.

The school will aim to create an open environment where pupils feel comfortable and safe to discuss the problems they are facing – this means creating an environment where forced marriage is discussed openly within the curriculum and support and counselling are provided routinely.

The school will take a whole school approach towards educating on forced marriage in the school curriculum and environment – in particular, the school's RSHE curriculum will incorporate teaching about the signs of forced marriage and how to obtain help. Appropriate materials and sources of further support will be signposted to pupils. Pupils will be encouraged to access appropriate advice, information and support.

Teachers and other staff members will be educated through CPD about the issues surrounding forced marriage and the signs to look out for.

Radicalisation

For the purposes of this policy, "radicalisation" refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

For the purposes of this policy, "extremism" refers to the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

For the purposes of this policy, "terrorism" refers to an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person or people, serious damage to property, or seriously interferes with or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat of these actions must be designed to influence the government or intimidate the public, and be made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

Protecting pupils from the risk of radicalisation is part of the school's wider safeguarding duties. The school will actively assess the risk of pupils being radicalised and drawn into extremism and/or terrorism. Staff will be alert to changes in pupils' behaviour which could indicate that they may need 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 contacting the DSL or making a Prevent referral. The school will work with local safeguarding arrangements as appropriate.

The school will ensure that they engage with parents 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 the pupil's parents, unless the school has reason to believe that the child would be placed at risk as a result.

The DSL will undertake Prevent awareness training to be able to provide advice and support to other staff on how to protect pupils 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.

The Prevent duty

Under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, all schools are subject to a duty to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism", known as "the Prevent duty". The Prevent duty will form part of the school's wider safeguarding obligations.

The school's procedures for carrying out the Prevent duty, including how it will engage and implement the Channel programme, are outlined in the Prevent Duty Policy.

Pupils with family members in prison

Pupils with a family member in prison will be offered pastoral support as necessary. They will receive a copy of 'Are you a young person with a family member in prison?' from Action for Prisoners' Families where appropriate and allowed the opportunity to discuss questions and concerns.

Pupils required to give evidence in court

Pupils required to give evidence in criminal courts, either for crimes committed against them or crimes they have witnessed, will be offered appropriate pastoral support.

Prep School Pupils will be provided with the booklet 'Going to Court' from HMCTS where appropriate and allowed the opportunity to discuss questions and concerns.

Senior School Pupils will be provided with the booklet 'Going to Court and being a witness' from HMCTS where appropriate and allowed the opportunity to discuss questions and concerns.

Mental health

The school takes a whole-school approach to mental health and emotional wellbeing. All staff will be made aware that mental health problems can, in some cases, be an indicator that a pupil has suffered, or is susceptible of suffering, abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Staff will not attempt to make a diagnosis of mental health problems – the school will ensure this is done by a trained mental health professional. Staff will, however, be encouraged to identify pupils whose behaviour suggests they may be experiencing a mental health problem or may be susceptible of developing one. Staff are trained to recognise changes in behaviour, sleep difficulties, withdrawal from social situations and loss of interest in activities as potential warning signs that a child is suffering with a serious mental health problem. Staff will also be aware of how pupils' experiences can impact on their mental health, behaviour, and education. Staff will recognise that mental health problems may develop into safeguarding concerns.

Staff who have a mental health concern about a pupil that is also a safeguarding concern will act in line with this policy and speak to the DSL or deputy DSLs. The school recognises that self-harm, suicidal ideas and risk of suicide are standalone safeguarding concerns and will be treated as such.

The school will access a range of advice to help them identify pupils in need of additional mental health support, including working with external agencies. In all cases of mental health difficulties, the school's Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Policy will be consulted and adhered to at all times.

Serious violence

Through training, all staff will be made aware of the indicators which may signal a pupil is at risk from, or is involved with, serious violent crime which includes assault and also the carrying, threatening to use, or actually using weapons. These indicators include, but are not limited to:

- Increased absence from school.
- A change in friendships.
- Relationships with older individuals or groups.
- A significant decline in academic performance.
- Signs of self-harm.
- A significant change in wellbeing.
- Signs of assault.
- Unexplained injuries.
- Unexplained gifts or new possessions.

Staff will be made aware of some of the most significant risk factors that could increase a pupil's vulnerability to becoming involved in serious violence. These risk factors include, but are not limited to:

- Having been frequently absent from school.
- Having been suspended or permanently excluded from school.
- Having experienced child maltreatment, including having been victims of serious violence themselves
- Having been involved in offending, such as theft or robbery.

Staff members who suspect a pupil may be vulnerable to, or involved in, serious violent crime will immediately report their concerns to the DSL.

The school will cooperate with safeguarding partners, CSCS, the police and other relevant agencies where appropriate.

Appendix C: Safeguarding training criteria

This appendix outlines the safeguarding training requirements for all staff members, governors, and volunteers to ensure compliance with statutory guidance and best practices in safeguarding children.

Core training requirements

The School DSLs and Deputy DSLs will:

- Complete advanced safeguarding training every two years, which covers:
- Their specific roles and responsibilities.
- Multi-agency working.
- Identifying, understanding and responding to specific needs that can increase the vulnerability of pupils.
- Specific harms that can put pupils at risk.
- Undertake training that enables them to develop expertise so that they can support and advise staff and help them feel confident on welfare and safeguarding matters, particularly in relation to:
- Ensuring that staff are supported during the referrals process.
- Supporting staff to consider how safeguarding, welfare and educational outcomes are linked, including to inform the provision of academic and pastoral support.
- Receive regular updates throughout the year to remain informed of any changes in legislation and best practices.
- Undertake Prevent awareness training.

All staff will:

- Complete safeguarding and child protection training at induction.
- Undertake refresher training annually, including updates on recognising signs of abuse, reporting

procedures, and understanding the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, Behaviour Policy, Staff Code of Conduct and Safeguarding response to pupils who are absent from education.
- Read at least part one of KCSIE and ensure that they are aware of:
- The local early help process and their role in it.
- The process for making referrals to LA children's social care and for statutory assessments.
- The indicators of abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- Safeguarding issues that can put pupils at risk of harm.
- Child-on-child abuse, including how it can happen, the schools procedures for dealing with it and how to prevent and respond to it.
- What to do if a pupil tells them they are being abused, exploited or neglected and how to manage confidentiality.
- How to support victims of abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- Receive ongoing updates throughout the academic year via emails, bulletins and/or staff briefings, including updates to safeguarding guidance and legislation and changes to the Group and/or School's safeguarding policies and procedures.

Members of the governing board will:

- Complete appropriate safeguarding and child protection training at induction which equips them with the knowledge to provide strategic challenge to test and assure themselves that the safeguarding policies and procedures in place are effective and support the delivery of a robust whole school approach to safeguarding.
- Undertake updated safeguarding training relevant to their strategic role, including awareness of their responsibilities under KCSIE.
- Be trained on their obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equality Act 2010, and the local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements
- Receive enhanced training to effectively oversee the Group's safeguarding arrangements if their role on the board has a specific safeguarding responsibility.

Specialist training

All staff members will receive awareness training on specific safeguarding issues and the school's procedures for dealing with them as outlined in Appendix A. Specialist training will be undertaken as outlined below:

- **Safer recruitment training:**
  Will be required for all staff members involved with the recruitment and employment of staff to work with pupils, the substance of which covers part three of KCSIE at a minimum.
- **Online safety training:**
  It is mandatory for all staff and governors to understand the risks associated with online activity and how to educate pupils about online safety.
- Online safety training will include, amongst other aspects, understanding the expectations, applicable roles and responsibilities in relation to filtering and monitoring.
- **Prevent duty training:**
  All staff will be trained to understand their role in preventing radicalisation and extremism and how to maintain due regard to the need to prevent people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorists.
- **Child-on-child abuse awareness:**
  Staff will receive specialist training on recognising and addressing child-on-child abuse, including bullying, sexual violence, and harassment.

Training Delivery

In line with any advice from local safeguarding partners, all staff members will receive safeguarding training during their induction and will be supported to understand the school's policies and procedures in relation to dealing with safeguarding concerns.

Training will be delivered with due regard to the Teachers' Standards.

Training will be delivered through a combination of face-to-face sessions, online modules, and external courses

accredited by recognised safeguarding bodies.

Records of all training, including dates, content, and attendees, will be maintained securely.

Reviewing training

The DSL will be responsible for ensuring that all staff receive appropriate training and that records are up-to-date. The effectiveness of safeguarding training will be reviewed annually as part of the school's safeguarding audit.

Compliance

All staff will be required to confirm that they have read and understood Part One of KCSIE and any other safeguarding guidance relevant to their role. Failure to complete mandatory training may result in disciplinary action.