



**Buckinghamshire
College Group**

Safeguarding, Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults and Prevent Policy 2024-25

Designated Senior Lead:	Nicola Ellis, Assistant Principal Student Engagement and Support
Link Governor for Safeguarding:	Vice Chair
Responsible Officer: DDSL	Director of Student Services
Date Reviewed:	June 2024
Next Review Date:	June 2025
Policy Available:	Intranet and Website
Authorised by:	Executive (subject to Corporation approval October 2024)

1 Introduction

Buckinghamshire College Group is committed to protecting all our students and staff. The fundamental principles of this policy are based on legislation and also a moral duty to safeguard the welfare of students and staff at the College.

Through this policy the College aims to:

- Minimise the risks to health and well-being of students and staff.
- Promote safe practices and challenge poor and unsafe practice.
- Identify instances in which there are grounds for concern about the welfare of students and staff at risk and take action to keep them safe.
- Enable students and staff at risk to raise concerns relating to safety and for those concerns to be actioned.
- Take appropriate action to prevent unsuitable people working with our students.
- Ensure staff receive adequate training and supervision in relation to Child Protection, Safeguarding, e-Safety and Prevent.

In pursuit of these aims, the Corporation, Executive and College Leadership Team (CLT) will approve and annually review policies and procedures with the aim of:

- Raising awareness of issues relating to the welfare and the promotion of a safe environment for the students at risk learning.
- Aiding the identification of students and adults at risk of significant harm and providing procedures for reporting concerns.
- Establishing procedures for reporting and dealing with allegations of abuse against a member of staff.
- Safeguarding students at risk covers more than Child Protection. Issues including Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), peer on peer abuse, health and safety, online safety, radicalised behaviour, Young Carers, mental health and wellbeing, dealing with bullying, sexual harassment arrangements.
- All staff and governors are responsible for complying with this policy, reporting incidents and co-operating with any investigations or incidents in-line with procedures.
- A Safeguarding and Prevent Board (reporting to the College Leadership Team) meets termly to oversee the wider responsibilities of the Safeguarding Policy and Procedure and review statutory guidance.

2 Scope of this policy

This policy applies primarily to students (those under the age of 18 in our care or 25 if considered at risk; for example, students with disabilities and/or learning disabilities and those with mental health concerns) and applies, with appropriate adaptations, to allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation and the protection of adults at risk. The safer recruitment aspects of this policy relate to all staff, volunteers and Agency workers. Procedures are also in place with sub-contractors and partners. All staff must read and understand Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024 part 1. This is a statutory guidance from the Department

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6650a1967b792ffff71a83e8/Keeping_children_safe_in_education_2024.pdf

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following:

- Health & Safety Policy
- Recruitment and Selection Policy and Procedure
- Grievance Policy
- Student Performance Management Procedure

- Acceptable Use of Computing Facilities Policy
- Guidelines on Professional Boundaries and Standards
- Whistleblowing Statement and Policy
- DBS Policy and Procedure
- Staff Disciplinary Policy
- Students Attendance Procedures

3 Statutory responsibilities and background

This policy is underpinned and informed by the following legislation:

- The Children’s Act 2014, which is fundamental to people working with children and young people in the UK.
- The Education Act 2002 requires that governing bodies of FE providers have a statutory duty to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of students and adults at risk.
- The Sexual Offences Act 2003 makes it an offence for a person over 18 (e.g., a member of staff) to have a sexual relationship with a child under 18 where that person is in a position of trust in respect of that child, even if the relationship is consensual. This applies where the child is in full-time education and the person works in the same establishment as the child, even if she/he does not teach the child.
- The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 which sets out the type of activity in relation to students and adults at risk for which employers and individuals will be subject.
- The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 which changed the definition of Regulated Activity including who is eligible for a barred check list.
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024 and Working together to Safeguard Children. This is statutory guidance from the Department for Education. Schools and colleges must have regard to it when carrying out their duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- The Equality Act 2010 is significant to safeguarding around unlawfully discriminating against students because of their protected characteristics, how to support those with protected characteristics and where proportional dealing with the disadvantages these students face.
- FGM Act 2003 Section 5B of this Act introduces a mandatory reporting duty, which requires regulated health and social care professionals and teachers in England and Wales to report “known” cases of FGM in under 18s which they identify in the course of their professional work to the Police. The Duty came into force on 31st October 2015. Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges (2018). This guidance highlights the advice to prevent and deal with sexual violence and sexual harassment between students.
- In addition, the College takes account of guidance issued by the Department for Education, the Disclosure and Barring Service and other relevant bodies and groups.

4 Definition of Abuse

Please see Appendix 1.

Students can self-refer to the safeguarding team either in person or via our raise a concern button on the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Staff can refer a student either in person or online.

5 Disclosures

Where a member of staff suspects that a student at risk is being abused, they must:

- Allow the individual to speak without interruption.
- Never trivialise or exaggerate the issue.
- Never make suggestions.
- Not coach or lead in any way.
- Reassure the individual and let them know they were right to report the matter.
- Always ask enough questions to clarify understanding but not probe or interrogate.

- Be honest – the staff member should let the individual know that it cannot be kept a secret and someone else will need to be told.
- Try to remain calm, remembering that this is not an easy thing for them to do.
- Not show emotions – to show anger, disgust or disbelief may stop the individual talking. This may be because the individual feels they are upsetting the staff member or feel the staff member's negative feelings are directed towards them.
- Let the individual know they are taking the matter very seriously.
- Make them feel secure and safe without causing them any further anxiety.
- Make a written record as soon as it is practically possible of what has happened.

If the member of staff believes the concern needs immediate attention, they should contact the Safeguarding team safeguarding@buckscollegegrouop.ac.uk.

A staff member must raise a concern on CPMOS and assign the concern to a campus specific safeguarding team. The concern must be factual and not contain the staff member's opinions or analysis. Terms such as "I think..." and "In my opinion..." must be avoided. The Safeguarding Officer will advise and provide support to the member of staff; the Counselling Team is also available.

The Designated Safeguarding Officers:

- Will know how to make an appropriate referral.
- Will be available to provide advice and support to other staff on issues relating to Child Protection, Safeguarding, e-Safety and Prevent.
- Have responsibility to be available to listen to students at risk who are studying at the College.
- Will deal with individual cases, including attending case conferences and review meetings, as appropriate.

In the event the Designated Safeguarding Officers are unavailable, the Head of Student Services should be contacted. The College Designated safeguarding lead will notify the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) when:

- A safeguarding concern related to sexual violence.
- An allegation of abuse made against a teacher, lecturer or other member of staff.

The LADO will confirm whether it is, or is scheduled to be, investigated by the Local Authority and/or the Police).

The College is committed to working with and assisting the local children's departments regarding child protection matters and is committed to liaison with the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB).

6 Procedure for dealing with 14-16 students

The overall responsibility for the safeguarding of 14-16 students remains with the Local Authority. This does not, however, negate the responsibility placed on staff to act immediately and appropriately if a disclosure is made. Local authorities must be informed immediately to ensure a collaborative and transparent approach. The first point of contact is Head of Student Services who will liaise with the Home School Elective manager at the Local Authority and the College's Lead Designated Safeguarding Officer.

Looked after children, previously looked after children 'care leavers', children with social workers and students with special educational needs up to the age of 25 may also need additional services, assistance, protection and consideration. They are supported through the scope of this policy by the dedicated lead for looked after children and care leavers, the learning support team and the wider student support team.

7 Allegations against staff

The primary concern of the College is to ensure the safety of its students. It is essential that in all cases of suspected abuse by a member of staff, action is taken quickly and professionally, whatever the validity. It must be made clear however that suspension is not an indicator of guilt. In the event that any member of staff suspects any other member of staff of abusing a student, it is their responsibility to bring these concerns to the Lead or Deputy Safeguarding Lead, except where they themselves are the suspect. The Executive Director of HR must be informed. The LADO must be informed within 24 hours of a concern/allegation being raised. If the allegation concerns the CEO, the matter should be referred to the Designated Governor who will discuss it with the Chair of Governors, in addition to following the normal procedure for safeguarding. In line with KCSIE 2024 low level concerns regarding staff are recorded through Human Resources and actioned appropriately.

8 Allegations about employers

Employers and their staff play a key and growing role in supporting and delivering education, training and assessment. Any cases of suspected abuse by an employer or their staff must be investigated quickly and professionally, whatever the validity. The CEO has the right to pause engagement with an employer whilst an investigation takes place. In the event that suspected abuse by an employer is reported to any member of the College team, that team member is responsible to bring these concerns to the Lead or Deputy Lead for safeguarding. The LADO must be informed within 24 hours of a concern/allegation being raised. Depending on the outcome of the investigation, the CEO has the authority to suspend or terminate employer contracts as well as blacklist the employer from future apprenticeships, placements or College engagement activities.

9 Designated staff with responsibility for safeguarding

The Designated Lead for safeguarding for the College is the Assistant Principal for Student Engagement and Support, in the absence of the Assistant Principal, this role will be fulfilled by the College Deputy Safeguarding Lead which is the Director of Student Services. All members of the Student Service Team are designated Safeguarding Officers. The team is fully trained on all aspects of safeguarding and receives refresher training every two years. Further training has been undertaken on aspects such as transgender awareness, mental health, substance and alcohol abuse, Prevent and trauma related practice.

The Designated Safeguarding Officers are responsible for:

- Overseeing the referral of cases of suspected abuse or allegations to the relevant investigating agencies.
- Providing advice and support to other staff on issues relating to safeguarding.
- Maintaining a proper record of any safeguarding referral, complaint or concern (even where that concern does not lead to a referral).
- Liaising with the Local Authority, LSCB and LADO and other appropriate agencies.
- Liaising with employers and training organisations – who host students from the College on placements to ensure appropriate safeguards are put in place.
- Ensuring staff receive basic training in safeguarding issues, including Prevent, appropriate to their roles and are aware of the College's safeguarding procedures.
- Liaising with secondary schools to ensure that appropriate arrangements are made for pupils who may be at risk or who are subject to a CP or CIN plan.
- Ensuring the College is represented at case conferences and review meetings as appropriate.
- The Assistant Principal for Student Engagement and Support will compile a termly report for the Governing Body setting out how the College has discharged its duties (supported by contribution from the lead Governor for Safeguarding). This report will include emerging themes and any changes to legislation.

- The Designated Safeguarding Leads will make sure structures and processes are in place to ensure the College holds contact details for parents, guardians and carers of all students up to the age of 18 (or 25 for students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities). It is the responsibility of the DSL to work closely with strategic leads to provide oversight of the outcomes of safeguarded students and ensure that all staff receive appropriate safeguarding, child protection (including online) and prevent training during induction. The training should be regularly updated.

10 Designated Governor

The College will appoint a Designated member of the Governing Body with responsibility for Child Protection, Safeguarding, e-Safety and Prevent implementation. All Governors receive appropriate safeguarding and child protection training at induction, and then at regular intervals. The Designated Governor is responsible for liaising with the designated person with lead responsibility over matters regarding Child Protection, Safeguarding, e-Safety and Prevent, ensuring that:

- The Group has procedures and policies which are consistent with the LSCB procedure.
- The Governing Body considers the Group policy on Child Protection, Safeguarding, e-Safety and Prevent on an annual basis.
- Each year the Governing Body is informed of how the Group and its staff have complied with the policy including, but not limited to, a report on the training staff have undertaken.
- The Designated Governor is responsible for overseeing the liaison between agencies, such as the Police and Social Services, in connection with allegations against the CEO. This will not involve undertaking any form of investigation but will ensure good communication between parties and provide information to assist enquiries.
- To assist in these duties, the Designated Governor shall receive appropriate training and is invited to attend Safeguarding and Prevent Committee meetings.

11 Confidentiality

Confidentiality and trust should be maintained as far as possible, but staff must act on the basis that the safety of the person disclosing is the overriding concern. The degree of confidentiality will be governed by the need to protect those concerned. The young person or vulnerable adult should be informed at the earliest possible stage of the disclosure the information will be passed on. The College complies with DPA/UKGDPR requirements, which allows for disclosure of personal data where this is necessary to protect the vital interests of a student or adult at risk.

12 Safer recruitment

Safer recruitment is part of the College's Recruitment and Selection Policy. There is also a Disclosure and Barring Service Policy and a procedure for dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff, all of which are relating to safeguarding and are located on the intranet. KCSIE 2023 highlights that educational settings should consider online searches as part of their due diligence checks on shortlisted candidates.

The Human Resources Department will maintain a single central register of all checks carried out on all staff and volunteers who will work with anyone within the scope of this policy. KCSIE 2023 clarifies that a CV should only be accepted alongside a full application from and is not sufficient on its own to support safer recruitment.

13 Communication

The policy is displayed on the College website, staff intranet and the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) for students.

Prevent Policy

Buckinghamshire College Group is committed to providing students with the necessary skills and knowledge to keep themselves and others safe. Education like other key sectors has a responsibility to promote values of openness and tolerance and to facilitate free debate which is characteristic of being a British citizen. The College's approach is informed by the national strategy known as Contest including four key elements of Pursue, Prevent, Protect and Prepare.

All concerns under the Prevent Duty will be addressed by College DSLs in collaboration with the Assistant Principal as senior lead. Procedures are in place to report concerns to the Prevent teams at the Local Authority and the Department for Education. Training in Channel general awareness and Prevent will be undertaken by all College staff and governors. All staff are expected to undertake awareness training and will be supported by the Safeguarding Officers when concerns arise under the Prevent Duty. Reporting on incidents of safeguarding including Prevent as well as reviewing the College Prevent action plan and risk assessment are monitored through the Safeguarding committee and presented on an annual basis to Governors.

The new KCSIE 2023 offers updated definitions of the following:

Extremism is the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. This also includes calling for the death of members of the armed forces.

Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and extremist ideologies associated with terrorist groups.

Terrorism an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people; causes serious damage to property; or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.

The Prevent Duty is seen as part of the College's wider safeguarding obligations. Designated safeguarding leads and other senior leaders should familiarise themselves with the revised Prevent Duty guidance: for England and Wales, especially paragraphs 57-76, which are specifically concerned with schools (and also covers childcare). The guidance is set out in terms of four general themes: risk assessment, working in partnership, staff training, and IT policies

There is additional guidance; Prevent duty guidance: for further education institutions in England and Wales that applies to colleges. All extremists aim to develop destructive relationships between different communities by promoting division, fear and mistrust of others based on ignorance or prejudice and thereby limiting the life chances of young people. Education is a powerful weapon against this; equipping young people with the knowledge, skills and critical thinking, to challenge and debate in an informed way.

The College does not tolerate extremist views of any kind whether from internal sources; students, staff or governors, or external sources; College community, external agencies or individuals. Students see our College as a safe place, free from harm or risk of harm and where necessary we will action referrals or processes to ensure the College remains a safe place for all. As a College, we recognise that extremism and exposure to extremist materials and influences can lead to poor outcomes for students and so should be addressed as a safeguarding concern as set out in this policy. We also recognise that if we fail to challenge extremist views, we are failing to protect our students. Therefore, at the College we will provide a broad and balanced tutorial programme (WISPA), delivered by skilled progress coaches so that our students understand and become tolerant of difference and diversity. We will ensure that they feel valued and not marginalized. By delivering a broad and balanced tutorial programme, augmented by the use of external sources where appropriate, we will strive to ensure our students recognise risk and build resilience to manage any such risk themselves where appropriate to their age and ability but also to help them develop the critical thinking skills needed to engage in informed debate. Any prejudice, discrimination or extremist views, including derogatory language,

displayed by students or staff will always be challenged and where appropriate dealt with in accordance with our student performance management policy.

As part of wider safeguarding responsibilities, College staff will be alert to:

- The importance of promoting British Values through both the curriculum and as part of the student engagement team (SET).
- Disclosures by students, of their exposure to the extremist actions, views or materials of others outside, such as in their homes or community groups, especially where students have not actively sought these out.
- Graffiti symbols, writing or art work promoting extremist messages or images.
- Students accessing extremist material online, including through social networking sites.
- Parental reports of changes in behaviour, friendship or actions and requests for assistance.
- Partner colleges, Local Authority services, and Police reports of issues affecting students in other colleges or settings.
- Students voicing opinions drawn from extremist ideologies and narratives.
- Use of extremist or 'hate' terms to exclude others or incite violence.
- Intolerance of difference, whether secular or religious or views based on, but not exclusive to, gender, disability, homophobia, race, colour or culture.
- Attempts to impose extremist views or practices on others.
- Anti-Western or Anti-British views.
- Emerging groups such as INCELS or MUUR.
- Tackle the ideological causes of terrorism

The College will closely follow any locally agreed procedure as set out by the Local Authority including agreed processes and criteria for safeguarding individuals vulnerable to extremism and radicalisation. We will actively engage with the Police, and regional DfE Further Education Prevent Co-coordinators. As a College we reserve the right to initiate our own internal policies in light of a safeguarding concern that may put the student, other students, or staff at risk of harm.

We will help support students who may be vulnerable to such influences as part of our wider safeguarding responsibilities and where we believe a student is being directly affected by extremist materials or influences. We will ensure that we follow procedure as directed by the Local Authority, Prevent coordinator, Police, social care and any other agency necessary to safeguard and support that student and others. Additionally, in such instances our internal policies may be actioned to prevent risk of harm.

Equality Impact Statement

Section One	
College:	Buckinghamshire College Group
Departments Effected:	Whole College
Who is responsible for the Equality Impact Assessment?	Nicky Ellis
Title (of the policy/practice/decision)	Assistant Principal Student Engagement & Support
Description (Provide a brief description of the policy/practice/decision)	Buckinghamshire College Group is committed to protecting all our students and staff. The fundamental principles of this policy are based on legislation and also a moral duty to safeguard the welfare of students and staff at the College

Section Two – Stakeholder Consultation		
2	Who are the main stakeholders and what consultation exercise are you planning to undertake, if required (e.g. consultation with Employee Voice, Trades Unions, Staff groups, Student groups?)	Executive
3	Are there concerns that this could result in differential or adverse impact on any Equality Groups (Protected Characteristics as identified by the Equality Act 2010)	No

Section Three
Please identify how the policy may impact the following protected characteristics:

- Identify any positive impacts the policy/practice/decision may have on equality groups.
- Identify any negative impacts the policy/practice/decision may have on equality groups.
- Propose measures to mitigate or eliminate identified negative impacts.

Protected Characteristics	Impact High/Medium/Low/N/A	Action(s) you will take to mitigate or remove the negative or adverse impact if identified? <small>Propose measures to mitigate or eliminate identified negative impacts</small>
1. Age <small>(e.g. are there ways older or younger people may find it difficult to engage?)</small>	Low	This policy is applicable to all.
2. Disability <small>(eg do you need to consider large print or easy read?)</small>	Low	This policy is applicable to all
3. Gender identification <small>(eg is your language inclusive of LGBTQ+ groups?)</small>	Low	This policy is applicable to all
4. Gender Re-assignment <small>(eg is your language inclusive of trans and non-binary people?)</small>	Low	This policy is applicable to all
5. Marriage and civil partnership <small>(eg does it treat marriage and civil partnerships equally?)</small>	Low	This policy is applicable to all
6. Pregnancy & Maternity <small>(eg with this have an impact on pregnant or those on family leave; breastfeeding services?)</small>	Low	This policy is applicable to all

7. Race / Ethnicity <i>(eg does it take into account the needs of people from different groups)</i>	Low	This policy is applicable to all
8. Religion or Belief <i>(eg do people from faith groups experience any specific disadvantage)</i>	Low	This policy is applicable to all
9. Sexual Orientation <i>(eg is your language inclusive of LGBTQ+ groups?)</i>	Low	This policy is applicable to all

Section Four – Monitoring and Review	
<p>Does your criteria and procedure promote fairness and equal opportunities? <i>Utilize relevant data sources, such as demographic information, student feedback, or staff surveys, to inform the analysis as necessary</i></p>	<p>Yes we adhere to the KCISE 2024 statutory guidance. Regular training is delivered to all students and staff Regular reporting to governors</p>
<p>How will you monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of these measures to determine whether it has been effectively and fairly applied</p>	<p>We monitor through deep dives of records Safeguarding training is planned and monitored Executive Director for HR works closely with DSL Adhere to the KCISE 2024 statutory guidance.</p>

Section Five – Outcome, Sign-off and Authorisation	
<p>Equality Impact Assessment Outcome Select one of the four options below to indicate how the development/review of the policy/practice will be progressed and state the rationale for the decision</p>	
<p>Option 1: No change required – the assessment is that the policy/practice is/will be robust.</p>	x
<p>Option 2: Adjust the policy or practice – this involves taking steps to remove any barriers, to better advance equality and/or to foster good relations.</p>	
<p>Option 3: Continue the policy or practice despite the potential for adverse impact, and which can be mitigated/or justified</p>	
<p>Option 4: Stop the policy or practice as there are adverse effects cannot be prevented/mitigated/or justified.</p>	
Name & job title of authorised person	Nicola Ellis DSL
Equality Impact Assessment was completed on:	3-7-24
Date of next review, and by whom? <i>This may include regular reviews, data analysis, and stakeholder feedback</i>	July 25 DSL

Appendices

APPENDIX 1 - Definitions of Abuse

In respect of the policy the College recognises the following as definitions of abuse:

- **Bullying:** Bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.
- **Physical abuse:** Physical abuse causes harm. It may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, scalding, drowning or suffocating. It may be done deliberately or recklessly or be the result of a deliberate failure to prevent injury occurring. Physical abuse can also be when a parent, guardian or carer fabricates symptoms or induces illness in a student. .
- **Neglect:** Neglect is the persistent or severe failure to meet a student's or adult at risk's basic physical and/or psychological needs. It will result in serious impairment of the student's and/or adults at risk's health or development.
- **Sexual abuse:** Sexual abuse involves a student or adult at risk being forced or coerced into participating in or watching sexual activity. It is not necessary for the student or adult at risk to be aware that the activity is sexual and the apparent consent of the student or adult at risk is irrelevant. It also relates to sexual abuse in terms of e-safety and child sexual exploitation, such as inappropriate images, film and evidence of grooming.
- **Exploitation** is the deliberate manipulation or abuse of power used to have control over another person, usually for some form of gain. This can be for a range of reasons including personal, financial or sexual. This can occur outside the home environment, including online. Exploitation can include instances where a child or young person may be groomed to become involved in sexual or criminal activity. This is a significant distinction where previously they may have been viewed as an offender instead of a victim.
- **Non-contact abuse:** Non-contact abuse is when abusive acts do not involve actual physical contact, i.e., pornographic or violent films, sexual acts performed in front of the victim, violent acts with the abused present.
- **Emotional abuse:** Emotional abuse occurs when there is persistent emotional ill treatment or rejection. It causes severe and adverse effects on the student or adult at risk's behaviour and emotional development, resulting in low self-worth. Some level of emotional abuse is present in all forms of abuse.
- **Financial abuse:** Financial abuse is the misuse of a person's funds and assets; obtaining property and funds without his/her knowledge and full consent, or in the case of an elderly person who is not competent, not in his/her best interests. This is also known as material abuse. Financial or material abuse can involve the theft or misuse of a person's money or property.
- **Radicalisation and extremism:** Radicalisation refer to the process of supporting terrorism and extremist ideologies and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist activity. Extremism is defined as vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.
- **Terrorism:** Terrorism is an action that endangers or causes serious violence to a person/people, causes serious damage to property or seriously interferes or disrupts an electronic system. The use or threat must be designed to influence the government or to intimidate the public and is made for advancing a political, religious or ideological cause.
- **Discriminatory abuse:** Discriminatory abuse is motivated by oppressive and discriminatory attitudes. Examples of discriminatory abuse may include:
 - Disability - physical or learning disability, mental, ill-health or sensory impairment
 - Race
 - Gender
 - Age
 - Religion
 - Cultural background

- Sexual orientation
- Political convictions
- Appearance
- **Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Child Crime Exploitation (CCE):** Both Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Crime Exploitation are forms of abuse where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into sexual or criminal activity. Individuals or groups, male or females, children or adults can carry out this abuse. It can be a one-off occurrence or over a long period. County Lines – Criminal exploitation is a geographically widespread form of harm, that is a typical feature of County Lines criminal activity; drug networks or gangs groom children and young people to carry drugs and money from urban areas to suburban and rural areas.
- **Grooming:** Grooming is when someone builds an emotional connection with a child to gain their trust for the purposes of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or trafficking. Children and young people can be groomed online or face-to-face, by a stranger or by someone they know – for example a family member, friend or professional.
- **Cyber-bullying:** Cyber-bullying is bullying that takes place over digital devices like mobile phones, computers, and tablets. Cyberbullying can occur through SMS, text and apps, or online in social media, forums, or gaming where people can view, participate in, or share content. Cyberbullying includes sending, posting, or sharing negative, harmful, false, or mean content about someone else. It can include sharing personal or private information about someone else causing embarrassment or humiliation. Some cyberbullying crosses the line into unlawful or criminal behaviour.
- **Forced Marriage:** Forced marriage is where one or both people do not consent to the marriage and pressure or abuse is used. Pressure can include threats, physical or sexual violence, and financial pressure. All child marriages are forced, because a child cannot provide informed consent, and is therefore a violation of children's rights.
- **Female Genital Mutilation (FGM):** Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a human rights violation, torture and an extreme form of violence and discrimination against girls and women. It is most often carried out on girls between infancy and age 15, though adult women are occasionally subjected.
- **Significant Harm:** Some children may be in need because they are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. The Children Act introduced the concept of significant harm as the threshold that justifies compulsory intervention in family life in the best interest of the children.
- **Child on Child Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment:** Further guidance has been published in the sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges (May 2018). The referral process is as per any safeguarding concern, but the College must act swiftly and ensure a risk assessment is carried out. The risk assessment must consider:
 - The victim
 - The alleged perpetrator
 - All other children and, if appropriate, other adults, children and staff.
- **Children Missing in Education:** Children missing in education is often an indicator for other potential safeguarding concerns. The Group should have measures, through its attendance reporting and follow up procedures, to ensure it is following up on students, who could potentially be “missing in education”.
- **Domestic Abuse:** Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender of sexuality. The Police are committed to tackling crime and disorder and supporting public protection across Buckinghamshire and work on a regular basis with education establishments. Domestic abuse can be, but is not limited to, psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional. Children can be victims of domestic abuse. Domestic abuse can impact on a child who sees or hears, or experiences the effects of the abuse and it treats such children as victims of domestic abuse in their own right where they are related to or under parental responsibility of either the abuser or the abused.

- **Child on Child Abuse:** This can include, but is not limited to bullying (including cyberbullying), sexual violence and sexual harassment, physical abuse such as hitting, kicking, shaking, biting, hair pulling, or otherwise causing physical harm; sexting and initiating/hazing type violence and rituals between students; sexual violence such as rape, assault by penetration and sexual assault; sexual harassment such as sexual comments, remarks, jokes and online sexual harassment which may be stand-alone or part of a broader pattern of abuse. The Department of Education has published advice for governing bodies, proprietors, headteachers, principals, senior leadership teams and designated safeguarding leads in the document: Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges. (September 2021).
- **Upskirting:** The Voyeurism (offences) Act, which is commonly known as the Upskirting Act, came into force on the 12th April 2019. Upskirting typically involves taking a picture under a person's clothing without them knowing, with the intention of viewing their genitals or buttocks to obtain sexual gratification or cause the victim humiliation, distress or alarm.
- **Homelessness:** Being homeless or being at risk of becoming homeless presents a real risk to a student's welfare. The DSL, and any deputies, should be aware of contact details and referral routes into the Local Housing Authority so they can raise/progress concerns at the earliest opportunity.
- **Fabricated or Induced Illness:** (FII) is a form of abuse associated with a range of poor outcomes for children and young people extending to the serious harm or even death of the child. Behaviours by a parent or carer may result in harm to a child or young person. FII can occur when a child or young person also has a confirmed diagnosis of illness or disability and the two may coexist, but the health seeking behaviour or presentation is outside that expected for the condition or disability.
- **Honour based abuse:** This can be a form of abuse that may be linked to certain practices that are related to culture, faith, beliefs, and that may put young people at the risk of abuse.
- **Serious Violence:** There are indicators, which may signal that a child is at risk from, or involved with serious violent crime. These may include increased absence from school, a change in friendships or relationships with older individuals or groups, a significant decline in performance, signs of self-harm or a significant change in wellbeing, signs of assault or unexplained injuries. Unexplained gifts or new possessions could also indicate children have been approached by, or are involved with, individuals associated with criminal networks or guns. All staff should be aware of the associated risks and understand the measure in place to manage these. Advice is provided in the Home Office's Preventing Youth Violence and Gang Involvement and Criminal Exploitation of Children and Vulnerable Adults: County Lines Guidance.

Appendix 2 - Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSiE) – Translations

It is the responsibility of everyone to keep children safe and to read Part One of the statutory guidance "Keeping Children Safe in Education". The London Grid for Learning (LGfL) have had KCSiE part one translated into a number of languages; Arabic, Bengali, Cantonese, Gujarati, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Spanish and Urdu.

The translations can be downloaded here: <https://national.lgfl.net/digisafe/kcsie/kcsietranslate>

Vulnerable Adult – someone who is over 18 who is, or may be, in need of community services due to age, illness or a mental or physical disability, who is, or may be unable to take care of himself/herself, or unable to protect himself/herself against significant harm or exploitation.

Information on recognising abuse What is Neglect?

Neglect is the ongoing failure to meet a child's basic needs and the most common form of child abuse. A child might be left hungry or dirty, or without proper clothing, shelter, supervision or health care. This

can put children and young people in danger. And it can also have long term effects on their physical and mental wellbeing.

Signs of abuse Poor appearance and hygiene:

- Being smelly or dirty
- Being hungry or not given money for food
- Having unwashed clothes, having the wrong clothing, such as no warm clothes in winter
- Health and development problems; eg, anaemia
- Body issues, such as poor muscle tone or prominent joints
- Medical or dental issues
- Missed medical appointments, such as for vaccinations
- Not given the correct medicines
- Poor language or social skills
- Regular illness or infections or repeated accidental injuries, often caused by lack of supervision.
- Skin issues, such as sores, rashes, flea bites, scabies or ringworm
- Thin or swollen tummy
- Tiredness
- Untreated injuries
- Weight or growth issues.
- Housing and family issues; living in an unsuitable home environment, such as having no heating
- Being left alone for a long time
- Taking on the role of carer for other family members.

Changes in behaviour such as:

- Becoming aggressive
- Being withdrawn, depressed or anxious
- Changes in eating habits
- Displaying obsessive behaviour
- Finding it hard to concentrate or take part in activities
- Poor attendance
- Showing signs of self-harm
- Using drugs or alcohol

What is physical abuse?

Physical abuse is when someone hurts or harms a child or young person on purpose. It includes; hitting with hands or objects, slapping and punching, kicking, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning and scalding, biting and scratching. It is important to remember that physical abuse is any way of intentionally causing physical harm to a child or young person. It also includes making up the symptoms of an illness or causing a child to become unwell. Signs of abuse; bumps and bruises do not always mean a child is being physically abused. All children have accidents, trips and falls. And there is not just one sign or symptom to look out for. But it is important to be aware of the signs. If a child regularly has injuries, there seems to be a pattern to the injuries or the explanation does not match the injuries, then this should be reported.

Symptoms include:

- Bruises
- Broken or fractured bones
- Burns or scalds
- Bite marks

It can also include other injuries and health problems, such as:

- Scarring
- The effects of poisoning, such as vomiting, drowsiness or seizures

- Breathing problems from drowning, suffocation or poisoning.

What is sexual abuse?

When a child or young person is sexually abused, they are forced or tricked into sexual activities. They might not understand that what is happening is abuse or that it is wrong. And they might be afraid to tell someone. Sexual abuse can happen anywhere – and it can happen in person or online. It is never a child's fault they were sexually abused – it is important to make sure children know this. Types of sexual abuse. There are 2 types of sexual abuse – contact and non-contact abuse. And sexual abuse can happen in person or online. Contact abuse is where an abuser makes physical contact with a child.

This includes:

- Sexual touching of any part of a child's body, whether they are clothed or not.
- Using a body part or object to rape or penetrate a child.
- Forcing a child to take part in sexual activities.
- Making a child undress or touch someone else.

Contact abuse can include touching, kissing and oral sex – sexual abuse is not just penetrative. Noncontact abuse is where a child is abused without being touched by the abuser.

This can be in person or online and includes:

- Exposing or flashing.
- Showing pornography.
- Exposing a child to sexual acts.
- Making them masturbate.
- Forcing a child to make, view or share child abuse images or videos.
- Making, viewing or distributing child abuse images or videos.
- Forcing a child to take part in sexual activities or conversations online or through a smartphone.

Emotional and behavioural signs:

- Avoiding being alone with or frightened of people or a person they know.
- Language or sexual behaviour you wouldn't expect them to know.
- Having nightmares or bed-wetting.
- Alcohol or drug misuse.
- Self-harm.
- Changes in eating habits or developing an eating problem.
- Changes in their mood, feeling irritable and angry, or anything out of the ordinary

Physical signs:

- Bruises.
- Bleeding, discharge, pains or soreness in their genital or anal area.
- Sexually transmitted infections.
- Pregnancy.

What is emotional abuse?

Emotional abuse is any type of abuse that involves the continual emotional mistreatment of a child or young person. It's sometimes called psychological abuse. Emotional abuse can involve deliberately trying to scare, humiliate, isolate or ignore a child or young person. Emotional abuse is often a part of other kinds of abuse, which means it can be difficult to spot the signs or tell the difference, though it can also happen on its own.

Types of emotional abuse include:

- Humiliating or constantly criticising the child.

- Threatening behaviour including shouting.
- Using sarcasm or making the child the subject of jokes.
- Blaming the child for situations.
- Making a child perform degrading acts.
- Pushing a child or trying to control their lives.
- Exposing a child to events or situations such as domestic abuse or drug taking.
- Not allowing a child to have friends.
- Failing to promote a child's social development.
- Making a child perform degrading acts.
- Persistently ignoring a child.
- Being absent.
- Manipulating a child.
- Being constantly negative about the child.
- Never showing any emotion to a child.

Signs of emotional abuse

With emotional abuse there may not be any obvious physical signs and a child may not tell anyone what is happening until they reach a crisis point. It is therefore important you look at how the child is acting and behaving.

Signs may include:

- Unconfident or lacking in self-assurance.
- Struggling to control their emotions.
- Having difficulty in maintaining relationships.
- Acting in a way that is inappropriate for their age.
- Use of inappropriate language.
- Being isolated from their parents.
- Lacking social skills.
- Have few or no friends.

Unexplainable and or persistent absences from education

Staff receive training on awareness of safeguarding issues that can put children at risk of harm. Behaviours linked to issues such as drug taking and/or alcohol misuse, unexplainable and/or persistent absences from education, serious violence (including that linked to county lines), radicalisation and consensual and non-consensual sharing of nude and semi-nude images and/or videos. (Part one – Paragraph 29 KCSIE 24).

This should not be confused with Emotional based School Non-attendance (EBSNA).

<https://familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/improving-your-childs-school-attendance/emotionally-based-school-avoidance-ebnsa/>

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Safeguarding is a term, which is broader than “child protection” and relates to the action taken to promote the welfare of children and young people and protect them from harm. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Children and Young People – throughout the document, references are made to “children and young people”. These terms are interchangeable and refer to children to have not yet reached 18 or vulnerable adults up to the age of 25.

Staff – includes any adult who is employed, commissioned or contracted to work with children or young people, including volunteers and guest speakers in either a paid or an unpaid capacity.

Designated Safeguarding Lead – a senior member of staff with overall responsibility for children protection within the Group.

Duty of Care – the duty which rests upon an individual or organisation to ensure the safety of a child or young person involved in any activity or interaction for which that individual or organisation is responsible.

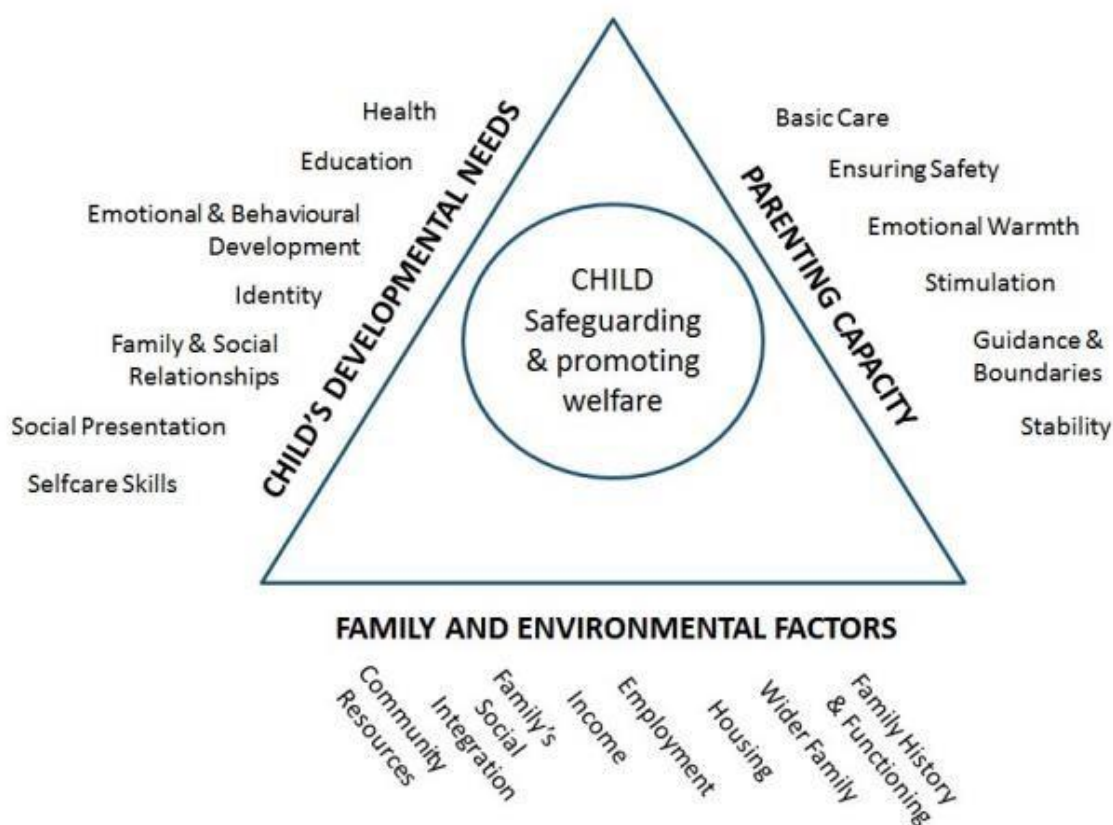
External Agencies – including Children’s Services, Independent Safeguarding Authority, Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Board, Police, etc.

External Contractors – including building or maintenance contractors who are required to work at the Group for a given period.

APPENDIX 3

Assessment Framework

(Taken from Working Together to Safeguard Children, July 2018)



Every assessment should draw together relevant information gathered from the child and their family and from relevant practitioners including teachers and College staff, early years workers, health practitioners, the Police and adult social care.

Every assessment of a child should reflect the unique characteristics of the child within their family and community context.

Each child whose referral has been accepted by children's social care should have their individual needs assessed, including an analysis of the parental capacity to meet those needs, whether they arise from issues within the family or the wider community.

Frequently, more than one child from the same family is referred and siblings within the family should always be considered.

Appendix 4 - Useful links

Bucks Local Authority procedures for safeguarding

<https://www.buckssafeguarding.org.uk/childrenpartnership/>

Forced marriage <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/forced-marriage>

EBSNA <https://familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/improving-your-childs-school-attendance/emotionally-based-school-avoidance-epsna/>

NSPCC <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection-schools/safeguarding-children-with-special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send>

Appendix 5 – Nursery - Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy

This appendix should be read in conjunction with Buckinghamshire College Group safeguarding policy and guidelines.

Purpose: This policy deals with the protection of all children at Aylesbury College Day Nursery.

Scope: Children and young people are defined as those under the age of 18 years. Therefore, will include students on work placements in the nursery.

Statement of Policy:

- Aylesbury College Day Nursery holds as one of its highest priorities the health, safety and welfare of all children and young people involved in courses or activities, which come under the responsibility of the nursery.
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery will have a child protection policy and procedures in place, which are made available to parents, students and staff, this will include a policy on the use of mobile telephones, cameras and smart watches.
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery will operate safe recruitment procedures and make sure appropriate checks are carried out on staff and volunteers who work with children and young people. Please refer to recruitment policy.
- All Nursery staff will take responsibility to ensure that all children and staff interact well with one another and feel safe and comfortable within the nursery.
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery expect all staff to lead by example and to play a full part in promoting an awareness that is age appropriate for all our children on issues relating to health, safety and well-being.
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery will establish and maintain an environment where children feel safe.
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery will ensure children know that there are adults in the nursery whom they can speak to if they are worried or upset about anything.
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery will include opportunities in the daily routine for children to develop the skills they need to recognise how to keep themselves safe.

- Aylesbury College Day Nursery will promote awareness by teaching children how to keep themselves safe, help children to adjust their behaviours in order to reduce risks and build confidence.
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery Staff acknowledge the need for a culture of vigilance to be present in the nursery to support safeguarding.
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery staff will be mindful / respectful and take into consideration cultural differences.
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery will have procedures in place for dealing with allegations of abuse against members of staff and volunteers. In all instances of an allegation made against a member of staff, it should be reported to the LADO, as per College Safeguarding and Prevent Policy.
- Allegations made against children by other children will be dealt with as part of our behaviour management policy section strategies to promote positive behaviour (see behaviour management policy)
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery will provide a senior member of staff designated to take lead responsibility for dealing with child protection issues, providing advice and support to staff, and liaising with agencies. Carol Carlin, Head of Early Years Nursery / PreSchool, is the lead member of staff for these purposes.
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery will provide regular mandatory training to ensure all staff are aware of the arrangements for child protection and Prevent and their responsibilities for both.
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery will undertake an annual review of its policies and procedures relating to safeguarding children and young people.
- Aylesbury College Day Nursery is fully aware of its legal responsibilities.

The Child Protection Manager and Prevent Lead for children in Aylesbury College Day Nursery is:
 Carol Carlin Head of Early Years Nursery / Pre-school – 01296 588594
ccarlin@buckscollegegroup.ac.uk

Individuals may also contact the first response team at Buckinghamshire County Council on the following number, with any concerns they have.

Telephone 01296 383962: Out of hours number 08009997677

Website: buckssafeguarding.org.uk/childpartnership/

Email: secure-cypfirstresponse2@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Reviewed June 2024

Next review date June 2025

Name: Carol Carlin

Signature:

