



Broad Oak Sports College
EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO ACHIEVE

POLICY

Child Protection

Committee responsible	Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare
Member of SLT responsible	Mr P Greenhalgh / Mrs K. Hugill
Review cycle	Annual update
Status	Current / Statutory
Revision number	3
First review by committee	Term 1 2011
Last review by committee	Term 3 2017/18
Approved by full governing body	Term 3 2017/18
Next review by committee	Term 3 2018/19
Signed by the chair of governors	Date of signature



CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 (Department for Education) makes it clear that safeguarding children and promoting their welfare is the responsibility of all professionals working with children and that they should understand the criteria for sharing information and taking action across a continuum of need.

We also take into consideration the guidance from Keeping Children Safe in Education (2015) with regard to early identification and assessment of need.

The designated senior member of staff (designated person) for child protection in this school is SLT Student Welfare and Guidance

In their absence, these matters is be dealt with by the Headteacher, supported by the members of the Pastoral Team.

There is a Designated Governor for Child Protection who can be contacted through the school

Rationale:

This policy specifically sets out to:

- protect pupils within our care
- identify and report cases, or suspected cases, of abuse
- identify and report cases, or suspected cases, of extremism or radicalisation
- support pupils who have been abused
- equip pupils to feel safe and adopt safe practices via the curriculum and extended services

Objectives:

- To allow nominated staff governor to have current knowledge to ensure that the Headteacher is held to account for the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements in school
- To ensure we practice safe recruitment in checking the suitability of staff and volunteers who work with our pupils.
- To raise awareness of child protection issues and equip all pupils with the skills needed to keep them safe.
- To develop and implement procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse.
- To develop and implement procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of extremism or radicalisation.
- To support pupils who have been abused in accordance with his/her agreed CP care plan.
- To support pupils who are young carers
- To support pupils who are returning to parental care from foster care or Local Authority accommodation.

- To establish a safe environment in which pupils can learn and develop.
- To establish and maintain an environment where pupils feel secure and are encouraged to talk to, and are listened to.
- To ensure that pupils are aware of the adults whom they can approach if they have any concerns.
- To include opportunities in the curriculum for pupils to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse, child sexual exploitation, extremism or radicalisation, eg via PSHCE, Science lessons, PE lessons and through Form time and assemblies and extra-curricular days, such as BSafe BCool.
- To develop an awareness of the need to stay safe via Pastoral work and through assemblies.
- To regularly review the care and education of Looked After Children on roll.
- To educate pupils in the broader areas of Health and Safety through initiatives such as Safer Schools Initiative' and Healthy Schools Initiative'

Procedures:

- All members of staff are made aware of the designated senior person responsible for CP and their role.
- All members of staff understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the designated senior person responsible for Child Protection.
- All temporary staff are made aware of procedures for Child Protection.
- We notify Social Services if there is an unexplained absence of more than two days of a pupil who is on the Child Protection register.
- We have developed, and continue to develop effective links with relevant agencies and cooperate as required with their enquiries regarding CP matters including attendance at Case Conferences and reviews.
- We keep written records of concerns about children, even where there is no need to refer the matter immediately.
- We ensure that the designated Child Protection Officer has relevant annual updates in training and that all staff of the school undergo safeguarding training at least once every three years.
- We ensure that records are kept securely, separate from the main pupil file, and in a locked location.
- We follow robust procedures where an allegation is made about a member of staff or volunteer.
- We recognise that children who are abused or witness violence may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth and of trust. They may feel helplessness, humiliation and some sense of blame. When at school their behaviour may be challenging.
- **NOTIFICATIONS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE INCIDENTS VIA OPERATION ENCOMPASS**
- When the police have been called to an incident of domestic abuse, they will notify a Key Adult in school by 9am the following school day so that the child may be supported on their return to school. Key Adult is Mrs K Hugill who has

received training from officers at Operation Encompass, and she will notify the relevant Pastoral Manager supporting the child. Notifications will be stored securely in the child's safeguarding file.

- Pupils are made aware of whom they can approach if they have concerns, and that they are confident of being referred to the appropriate person for their need.
- Pupils do feel safe in the school environment.
- We ensure that our behaviour policy is supporting vulnerable pupils within school
- The designated Child Protection Officer will report once per month to the Senior Leadership Team regarding Child Protection Issues.
- We ensure that we contact parents/carers of pupils who wish to sign out of school for any reason, prior to allowing them to leave the premises.

Staff members:

If a child discloses or begins to disclose information about abuse. The following actions need to be taken:

- Make a note of what the child says and how they present themselves.
- DO NOT question the child as this may jeopardise any investigations into the allegations.
- NEVER promise confidentiality to the pupil, as we have a duty to safeguard all pupils by passing on information to the relevant agencies, but reassure them that it is to ensure their safety and well-being.
- Try to calm the pupil and inform them that you will need to take him/her to see the person with responsibility for Child Protection in school and that he/she can give more details then. Some cases of abuse need to be dealt with immediately as it may be unsafe to allow the child to return home that day.
- In cases of suspected neglect, write down concerns and pass them on to the designated Child Protection officer.
- Please do not discuss information about the pupil with other staff or other pupils.
- Please do not enter into further discussions with the pupil after you have referred it to the CP officer.

Monitoring:

Child protection officer keeps records of discussions, concerns and referrals in a folder with the pupil's name in a locked cabinet.

Minutes of CP review meetings are kept within the folder.

Staff are aware of the procedures to be taken in the event of a pupil disclosing information to them.

We ensure that, if a pupil subject to a CP Plan leaves the school, the information is passed on to the school they begin to attend.

Safeguarding is a standing agenda item on Governors' Pupils and community Sub-committee and minutes distributed to all Governors

Parents have access to the Child Protection Policy via our website or on request.

- **We review and update our policies and practice**
 - In line with the governor's policy review calendar which meets statutory guidance
 - As statutory guidance changes
 - In the light of analysis of data and specific incidents